

**Special points of interest:**

Sunday Worship  
8:00 AM Traditional  
10:00 AM Praise Worship  
with Children's Church  
10:00 AM YouTube Live

Church Office Hours  
Mon.—Thurs.  
8:30 AM—4:30 PM  
(Lunch 12:30—1:30 PM)

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Monday, September 16, 2024

Volume 51, Issue 17

## The Spiritual Housing Market

Anyone looking to buy a home lately has found rising prices and shrinking inventory. (I know, those two things are usually correlated.) Even relatively high borrowing costs have not done much to reduce demand. When there is not enough of something to go around, prices remain high until supply catches up.

The spiritual housing market doesn't seem to follow the same dynamics. Last Sunday was Homecoming Sunday at Alpine. In the sermon I described how many years ago I realized that home for me was not a place, not people, but God. Our origin is in God, our eternity is in God. And every moment in between belongs to God, whether we realize it or not.

But there are plenty of alternatives on the spiritual housing market. Not all have the formal structure or established neighborhood of world religions. Some would say that the way to go is to live as nomads, not staying too long in any one place. Others may live in the shadow of God as home while choosing options that promise more, better, smarter, stronger, richer, thinner, more influential, etc. With such an abundant supply of spiritual options, what happens to the value of God as our home?

Thankfully, God values us enough to have made His home within and among us, and has paid the full price for us to reside with Him. There is no outstanding mortgage, and interest rates have no impact on us.

I'll see you at home.

Pastor Don

**BY THE NUMBERS**

8/25/24 Outdoor Worship	72	9/1/24	30 + 49	79	9/8/24	36 + 65	101
		Online Views		10	Online Views		10

Required total receipts weekly.....\$8,332.98

Gen Fund 8/25/24	\$5,170.00	Gen Fund 8/1/24	\$5,506.87	Gen Fund 8/8/24	\$2,915.00
Forward in Faith	\$1,065.00	Forward in Faith	\$921.00	Forward in Faith	\$1,010.00
Surplus/Deficit	-\$2,027.98	Surplus/Deficit	-\$1,905.11	Surplus/Deficit	-\$4,407.98

Unexpected Blessings.....\$60.00



**Pray for Alpine members:**

Wendy Barton, Roger Bastian, Diane Billert, Donna Brenner, Cindy Bulthaus, Scott Christiansen, Mary DeNale, Rolly Greenland, Jan Hill, Pam Hodges, Les Johnson, John McCue, Glen McDonald, Valerie Miller, JR Stropes, Jeanne Tengen, and Pat Turmo.

**Pray for our friends and family of Alpine:**

Sally Atkinson, Wally Bastian, Angela Boogard, Kim Braun, Cornelia Foley, Daniel Hendrickson, Darlene Johnson, Ron Johnson, Ralph Latai family, Tomas Leitzinger, Haley Miller's parents, Maryann Moorhouse, Peggy Moorhouse, Brenda Newcomb, Rev. Willard Olson, Judy Osiwalla, Bob Schult, Derek Sisson, Bob Slothower, Bob Swenson, Don Tennant, Penny Wendling, Michael White, Deb Williams, Ali Younglove, and all those in the Ukraine & Israel-Gaza conflicts.

**All in the Family**

Many thanks from Darrell & Donna Brenner for the birthday greetings for Darrell, the anniversary well wishes and cards, and the flowers they received.

**Worship Schedule :**

- **Sunday Worship:**  
8:00 AM Traditional Worship  
10:00 AM Praise Worship/ YouTube-Facebook Live
- **Children's Church** will meet at the 10 AM worship during the service, resuming September 8<sup>th</sup>, seasonal Grab & Go packets will continue to be available for pick-up.
- **Adult Forums** will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, between worship services.
- **Academy Chapel:** 2:15 PM every Tuesday, Everyone is invited.
- **Rejoicing Spirits: Every 1<sup>st</sup> (in person) & 3<sup>rd</sup> (Zoom) Thursday,** 6:00 PM This service is for those with developmental disabilities, their families, caregivers, and others.
- **Tuesday Bible Breakfast:** 8:00 AM Tuesdays, Sunrise Restaurant
- **Thursday Bible & Brews:** 7:00 PM, Brewsky's - meeting every Thursday.

**Pastoral Needs:** Pastor Wink plans to be in his office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, He will be working from home on Mondays and can be contacted through the office on that day or when he is not in the office.



**Praying weekly for Alpine's membership** has had a very positive effect on our church! We have had many positive and thankful responses from those we have been praying for. The benefits are so great that we have decided to make this an ongoing part of Alpine's church life. Some comments we've received are "power of prayer - it works!", "just what we needed", and loads of thanks! Even though we are praying for a few families each week, please call the office whenever the need arises for extra prayers you may have.

**Together we worship, together we pray,  
together we love.**

**Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>** — Don Gugliemetti; Betty Davis; and Rich & Linda Rimkus

**Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>** — Michael & Tina Speaker; Todd, Kristine, Kylie, & Kinsley Cloyd; Joan Greeny; and Shawn & Judy Lee

## Sunday, September 22, 2024

Ushers: (8) Gene & Donna Seefeldt (10) John Linde, Marge Rakoczy  
Ambassadors: (8) Gwyn Brechtel, Volunteer (10) Mike Schultz, Aaron Ayen  
Lector: (8) Donna Seefeldt (10) Becky Toro  
Lay Assistant: (8) David DeNale (10) Dick Nelson  
Praise Singers: Chuck & Lynn Valentine

## September 29, 2024

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, ONE Service @ 10 AM

Ushers: Jim Burnett, John Linde  
Ambassadors: Les & Carol Johnson  
Lector: Allen Neumann  
Lay Assistant: Allen & Matt Neumann  
Praise Singer: Jaime Doubek



**It's that time of year!** The annual Alpine Chili Shoot-Out is back and is planned for September 28<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM (NOTE TIME CHANGE). It will be held at the Walker Workshop. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex. This has always been an Alpine favorite. Hope to see you there. (Sharon Walker)

**Thursday Bible Study:** Prior to "Covid" Alpine had a Bible study group that met on Wednesday mornings in the conference room. Pastor Don has started that group up again only it meets on **Thursday mornings at 10 AM**. This group is for everyone, not just women. Our first study discussion was on the Sermon on the Mount. We will be talking about various lessons from the Bible. Come with your Bible and join our discussion. (Pastor Don Wink)

**Bible & Brew** has resumed our weekly schedule. We meet at Brewskys at 7 PM. We will be using one of two choices decided upon this summer. We will discuss the choice on the first week back. We welcome all new members to our group. (Outreach Committee)

**Adult Forum** - Our adult forums have begun. They will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month between services, starting at 9:15 in Fellowship Hall. If you have any topics that you would like to see, please contact Lisa Slothower, 815-289-6933, or any member from the Christian Ed Committee.

**Confirmation Class:** Alpine students and friends in grades 6-8 are encouraged to be part of monthly confirmation gatherings. We'll be working collaboratively with three other ELCA churches: Our Savior's, Salem, and Good Shepherd. As I write this I do not have the exact times and locations, but the first four Saturdays are September 21<sup>st</sup>, October 19<sup>th</sup>, November 16<sup>th</sup>, and December 7<sup>th</sup>. Please contact me (Pastor Don) for more details.

**Sunday Morning Coffee Hour**—It's great spending time between services enjoying conversations with other members and visitors. It's especially nice when you can share a bite to eat and a beverage. We need volunteers to provide those snacks. All you need to bring are some treats (purchased or home baked) and a cold beverage. Everything else is provided. Just sign up on the poster by the coffee. Thank you.

As we review our **SCRIP program**, it has been decided to only order local cards until the holiday season approaches. We will continue to order from Woodman's, Culver's, Linos, Beef-a-Roo, Chick-fil-A, and Farm & Fleet. The shipping price for ordering other cards has depleted the return we receive on those cards so we have not made any money. We will make orders after Thanksgiving for your holiday gifts if we receive enough orders to justify the shipping cost.

**26th Annual Catholic/Lutheran Ecumenical Benefit Brunch:** You are invited to join us in at the Ecumenical Benefit Brunch on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, at St. Bernadette Catholic Church. This event is co-sponsored by and the Rockford Deanery Council of Catholic Women and the No. Conference of NIS Women. Registration at 8:30 AM, brunch at 9. The theme this year is "When Shattered Lives Become Whole". There will be a Silent Auction to raise money for NAMI. Cost is \$20 and registration forms must be in by Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. Please make checks payable to NISWO, forms are in the office.



**The time is now!** Our list of volunteers for our worship services has been slowly depleting especially when it comes time for our "snow birds" to fly south. Have you ever thought of helping during our services; ushering, greeting, reading or lay assisting? Our new schedule goes through the beginning of December. There are many areas that still need to be filled. If you would like to volunteer for a particular opening, please contact Lynn in the office and she can add your name to fill the volunteer position. We hope to have a group meeting in October or November to update current volunteers and give information to new volunteers. (Lynn Valentine)



Children's Church has returned from our summer break. All kids are invited to join us during our 10 AM worship service. We will learn about the lessons from the worship service through crafts and a children's worship folder. Come and invite your friends!



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Sun. Worship Times**  
**8:00 & 10:00 AM**



See what Alpine has to  
offer you on the Web!  
alpinelutheran.com

**Called by Christ, our mission is to share God's love.**

**Property Committee Help Needed**

As the Property Committee continues to work to maintain and improve the property at Alpine we are in need of some assistance. Please see the list below or talk with Scott Dabson or Jack Phillips about areas we are in need of some volunteers

- Watering of landscaping plant areas (remainder of the summer) once or twice a week
- Weeding in landscaping plant areas
- Volunteers to help complete demo of floors in Fellowship Hall Bathrooms
- Painting of walls

**We are also asking Alpine's Committee's to clean out/organize any storage areas you are using by September 13<sup>th</sup>.** We will be putting a volunteer board with ongoing projects into the coat room. We appreciate all the volunteers who have been helping and those that will find something that suits them going forward.

**Music Director Update**

Our Personnel Committee took time to review and update the Music Director job description as we prepare to begin our search to find new Music Director at Alpine.

The Alpine Church Council was asked to create a Search Committee and that committee has been formed. They will be meeting soon to begin the process of seeking a new Music Director. The members of this committee will be Gwyn Brechtel (Council VP and Search Committee Chair), Jamie Doubek, Cary Ralston, Nancy Matthews, Lynn Valentine and Bob McVinnie. Please keep them in your prayers as they begin this process.