



**Special points of interest:**

Sunday Worship  
 8:00 AM Traditional  
 10:00 AM Praise  
 10:00 AM Facebook Live

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

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Monday, December 6, 2021

Volume 48, Issue 23

*From the Church Council:*

In this weeks Summit we are sharing information regarding the recent decision made by your Church Council. Before sharing specific information regarding this decision, I'd like to share with you a letter that Pastor Dan provided to the Church Council.

*“Dear members of the Alpine Church Council*

*I wish to express my deepest gratitude for all the support, warm wishes, and prayers that you have given to me during the recent death of my mother. I truly appreciate the heartfelt care that you have expressed. Caring for my mom during these last months and the continued care for both my dad and the two children that have been placed in our family, who have often hidden but very real special needs, has taken its toll on me. I have seen God’s grace on display in my life time and time again over the past 18 month. But at the same time the deep needs of my family, and the responsibilities of my ministry during an extraordinary time in history, have left me exhausted and worn out. I am concerned that the next several weeks ahead will be consumed with caring for my family and my own mental wellbeing, and that without a break, I will be further exhausted and burnt out.*

*For these reasons I am hereby requesting leave in order to attend to my own emotional, spiritual, and mental health, as well as the needs of my family. My intention is to find both rest for my soul and body, and to invest time helping my family (especially our children) to move through the grief and tumult of this moment and find healing.*

*I anticipate that a time of rest and restoration will not only serve me and my family well, but enable me to return to my role as your pastor with more creativity and energy than I have at the moment.*

*I am truly grateful to be part of such a compassionate group of people. I so appreciate your prayers and your prayerful consideration.*

*Pastor Dan Wynard”*

After receiving this letter from Pastor Dan we called together the Executive Committee to discuss his request and build a plan to discuss with the rest of our Church Council. The plan brought to our Council was the following:

- Pastor Dan would begin a leave on November 23rd (his mother’s funeral)
- Pastor Dan’s leave would continue through January
- Pastor Dan will use this time to rest, take care of himself and his family, and to spend time addressing his mental well being
- Our Church Council will meet both in December and January for continuing discussions
- Our Annual Meeting will be held January 30th when our Congregation will join the discussion
- Our Executive Committee will meet with Pastor Dan on January 31st to follow up on his leave
- On February 1st Pastor Dan is scheduled to return full-time to Alpine

The above plan was discussed with the Alpine Church Council at our November meeting and was first shared with our congregation at our November 28th worship services. Our Council has approved leave for Pastor Dan and the above plan. Pastor Dan had requested Pastor Rick Meier to preside over our services in the month of December. He was asked and Pastor Rick graciously agreed to do so. We will share our January plans for a pastoral substitute with all of you soon.

Our Executive Committee has met with Pastor Dan to discuss many areas related to this leave, some private, some that Pastor Dan has shared in his letter. We are happy to share that Pastor Dan and his wife Pastor Lucy are working together on everything related to this leave. Their strong relationship and love of their family is at the center of all they do. If any member of our Alpine Family has any questions regarding this plan, please contact a member of our Executive Committee: Scott Dabson, President; Pam Lojewski, Vice President; DiAnne Beynon, Secretary; or Al Geeser, Treasurer.

Thank you all for being a valuable part of our Alpine Family.

Scott Dabson  
 President  
 Alpine Lutheran Church

**BY THE NUMBERS**

11/21/21	50 + 25	75	11/28/21	40 + 35	75
11/21 Online views		7	11/28 Online views		10
Thanksgiving Worship 11/23/ 21			47		
Required total receipts weekly.....\$7,902.73					
Gen Fund 11/21/21	\$5,719.00		Gen Fund 11/28/21	\$1,529.00	
Forward in Faith	\$1,900.00		Forward in Faith	\$490.00	
Surplus/Deficit	+\$2,841.27		Surplus/Deficit	-\$5,777.27	
53/54.....	\$3,270.00		Unexpected Blessings.....	\$110.00	
			Festival.....	\$340.00	
<b>Surplus/Deficit YTD..... - \$18,546.23 (10/31/21)</b>					



**Pray for Alpine members:**

Linda Becker, Rick Bried, Cindy Bulthaus, Chris Christiansen, Ernest & Mary DeNale, Marybeth Gillette, Joan Greeny, Louise Hemenway, Rich & Jan Hill, Norma Lucas, Pastor Rick Meier, Valerie Miller, JR Stropes, and Pat Turmo.

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

Sally Atkinson, Kim Braun, Linda Conness, Linda Fry, Jerome Gill, Daniel Hendrickson, Debra Johnson, Larry Kagel, Kathleen Lovins, Todd McDonald, Maryann Moorhouse, Sharon Mund, Judy Osiwalla, Tina Randolph, Tom Rogers, Bob Schult, Jeremy Sturges, Don Tennant, Penny Wendling, all those on the front line and those affected with Covid-19.

**All In the Family**

Birthday thanks came in from **Irv Johnson** and **Carla Phillips**. We share our love and sympathy with Arlene Fusco and the family of **Marge Pearson** who died November 18<sup>th</sup>. **Irv Johnson** also sends his thanks for the flowers he received. **Joni Graham** expressed a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped or extended condolences after Larry's death. Many thanks for the flowers, cards, and treats from **Rolly Greenland**.

**Worship Schedule :**

**Sunday Worship:**

8:00 AM Traditional Worship (in-person)  
10:00 AM Praise Worship/ YouTube-Facebook Live (in-person and online)

**Children's Church** will be meeting the first Sunday of the month (skipping January), monthly Grab & Go packets will also be available

**Academy Chapel:** 2:15 PM every Tuesday

**Rejoicing Spirits: Every 2nd & 4th Thursday, via Zoom, 6:00 PM** (This service is for those with developmental disabilities, their families, caregivers, and others.)

**Men's Bible Breakfast:** Tuesdays, Sunrise Restaurant, **7:00 AM**



**Please call the office at 815-399-5013 for all pastoral needs. Please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible.**



**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 on-going 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 Pastor Dan whenever the need arises for extra prayers you may have.

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

**December 12<sup>th</sup>** — Ed & Nancy Lorenzen; Irving Johnson; and Mark, Christine, Holly & Renee Stohle.

**December 19<sup>th</sup>** — Roger Bastian; John McCue; and Richard Ewert; Corey, Brianna, Brandon & Brett Williams.



**Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**—3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent  
**Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**—Special Mental Health Forum  
**Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**—Church Council meeting, 6 PM  
**Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**—Academy Christmas Program, 6 PM  
**Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**—Cantata Worship Service, 10 AM



Christmas Eve Worship  
 Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
 3 & 7 PM  
 7 PM—YouTube Live Worship

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas Lessons & Carols  
 Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup>  
 ONE SERVICE—10 AM



You are invited **Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**, at the 10 AM worship service, to our special **Christmas Cantata** presentation, assembled by Richard Dowling. Enjoy both choir and hand bell music along with scripture as we prepare for the coming of our Lord and Savior. Please invite your friends, family and neighbors to watch this wonderful musical celebration. We are hoping to stream this service as usual.

The Worship & Music Committee has chosen the Advent devotional **“Wait upon the Lord”**, Devotions for Advent by Reed Lessing. “These devotions reveal that the birth of Jesus is worth the wait, and that we are not alone in these waiting days.” They will be available in the Memorial Lounge for you to pick up and take home.

**From the SCRIP Desk:**

Your last chance to order SCRIP cards and be guarantee they will be here before Christmas is Sunday December 12<sup>th</sup>. The SCRIP desk will be open on December 19<sup>th</sup> for in stock cards only. Remember SCRIP cards are great for a teacher gift, hostess gift, or just to say thank you to someone. There are low denominational cards available please see the flyer on the SCRIP desk. (Deb Geeser)

**KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP**

**\*\*Please Note:** the **December Council meeting** has been moved to Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> due to the Academy Christmas Program Thursday night.

Social Ministries continues their collection for the **Christmas Food Baskets**. All items need to be collected by Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. **Here is a list of items needed:** instant mashed potatoes, Stove Top Stuffing, canned green beans, canned corn, dry gravy packets or canned gravy, canned cranberry sauce, canned fruit, and Jell-O. Additional items that can be donated for the families are: cereal, macaroni & cheese or other dry pastas, canned soups, canned ravioli/spaghetti, canned meats—tuna, Ramen Noodles, and other non-perishable non-expired foods. As always, money to purchase the foods can also be donated. Please make a notation for the baskets on your check. We thank you again for your generosity in helping others. (Social Ministries)

Dear Alpine Friends,

Almost 9 years have passed since I formally retired as the pastor of Alpine. During those years I had the pleasure of serving Faith Lutheran Church in So. Beloit. But now that I have “re-retired”, Helen and I have returned to our spiritual home here at Alpine. With Pastor Dan Wynard taking a leave of absence, and with his blessing and the church council’s invitation, I will be serving as a short-term pastoral substitute, from Thanksgiving through Christmas. While Helen and I will be spending the winter months in the San Diego area, where our sons Richard and Carlos and their families live, we are grateful to have been so warmly received once again into the Alpine fellowship. I hope to see all of you at worship, especially on Christmas Eve!

**Pastor Rick Meier**



With the Alpine Academy children singing at during our 10 AM worship on the 1<sup>st</sup> **Sunday** of every month (except January), Christian Ed will also hold **Children’s Church**. Starting in January, we will begin having Children’s Church on the 3<sup>rd</sup> **Sunday** of the month as well. The children will be dismissed after the Prayer of the Day and return during the Song of the Day. We ask that the children wear their mask and we will observe social distancing. Share the good news with your family and friends!

The Church Council of Alpine Lutheran has started a collection for a **2021 Christmas bonus** for our church staff. If you would like to contribute, all donations can be placed in the offering marked Staff Christmas or dropped off at the office. We will be collecting through January. We thank them for all they do for Alpine all year long! (Scott Dabson)

**Alpine Academy Christmas Program** will be Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM. Due to safety protocols, the church will have a limited number of tickets available for church members to attend. Please call the office to ask for tickets. It will also be streamed live on the Academy’s YouTube channel, search Alpine Academy of Rockford.



Alpine Academy will host a **Vaccine Clinic** with IDPH on **Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 6 PM**. Vaccines will be available to all those 5 years and up including boosters. To schedule an appointment visit <https://www.prism.org/alpineacademyrockford>. Walk-ins welcome.

**Holiday Summit Schedule:** Due to the way the holidays fall on the calendar this year we have had to change our Summit schedule. Here are the dates that you will receive one, 12/20 and 1/10/2022. Any article for the Summit needs to be turned in one week prior.

We continue to collect **pledges for 2022** giving. As we gather these financial pledges we are able to begin the process of planning finances for 2022. Please prayerfully consider your giving to Alpine. We thank you for your support of Alpine both financially and spiritually.

**ATTENTION SNOWBIRDS:**

Please be sure to notify the church office when you will be leaving and coming back from your winter get-aways. The church is charged \$.58 every time a Summit is returned for "Temporarily Away". Please provide a stop & start date so we can get you back on the list when you return. If you have a forwarding address, we can continue to send you your Summit while you are away or you can look for it online.

It is important that you receive our **emails or notices on Facebook** to know the most up to date information for Alpine Lutheran. If you would like to add your email to our list please notify Lynn in the office. You may find us on Facebook by searching Alpine Lutheran Church of Rockford. Like the page and then turn on notifications for new posts.



It's December and we're only about a week in yet already very busy preparing for Christmas at the Academy! We are looking forward to all of the activities and celebrations with our students, staff and our Alpine Family.

This year we will host our Alpine Academy Christmas Program in a hybrid fashion. We will have limited seating in the gym for some in person guests and we will also be streaming the program online on the Alpine Academy YouTube channel. Our students have been working hard preparing for the program and are looking forward to presenting this years program for you. We hope you are able to join us either in person or online. We will be sharing information on attendance very soon.

Just last week our students spent time in the Christmas Shop shopping for their family for Christmas gifts. This is a great opportunity for students to experience the joy of giving this season. It also give our students a lesson in math counting money while adding and subtracting as they shop the store. Our students did a fantastic job shopping and this helped them begin to get into the Christmas spirit.

Pastor Rick Meier also joined us at Chapel last week to share with students about Advent. Pastor Rick shared with students about what Advent is and the meaning behind the Advent wreath and candles. This was the second time we've had Pastor Rick join us as a guest for our Academy Chapel this year and it was wonderful to have him back with the school he helped bring to life. Thank you to Pastor Rick for continuing to support and be a big part of our Academy Family.

Many of you will be receiving this Summit on Monday and if you do I want to share that we are hosting a Vaccine Clinic at the Academy in the Gym on Monday Dec. 6th from 1:00p to 6:00p. Walk Ins are welcome so if you are seeking a booster or looking to get your first vaccine please do. They will also have the Pediatric Vaccine for children 5 and up.

Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers!

Merry Christmas

Mr. Scott Dabson  
Director  
Alpine Academy

Are you a **Thrivent Financial** member? If so, did you know that you are allowed 2 Action Team cards per calendar year that can benefit projects and events at Alpine? This \$250 card provides seed money to make the event or project a success. Please see the office to be put on a list if you are a member. We can then contact you when a need arises for an Action Team card.

**Carpenter's Place** is in need of items for the winter season: cough drops, disposable antibacterial bathing cloths, foot powder, hand and foot warmers, hand lotion, individual packets of tissue, and lip balm. Donations may be dropped off M-TH 8:30 to 4:00 pm and Fridays 8:30 to 2:30 pm at 1149 Railroad Avenue. We thank you for your continued support.



**Lutheran World Relief Gifts** will be matched dollar for dollar until the full \$215,000 Christmas match amount is met. As always, any donations received after the match is met will be used to do God's work on earth and ensure that your love reaches and eases the burdens of your most vulnerable neighbors.

To donate visit [www.donate.lwr.org](http://www.donate.lwr.org)



## Family Blessing Luminary Walk 2022



Our Alpine Family will hold a **Family Blessing Luminary Walk** on **Saturday, January 1, 2022 from 5-7 PM**. Dedicate a luminary bag in memory or honor of your loved one for a suggested \$15 donation per luminary. This is open to both church and school families. Please note who your donation should benefit on the form below. We will then put your dedication on a luminary that will be placed around the outside of the church. You may walk or drive through the parking area where we will have the luminaries set up. We are hoping to have music playing during the walk for your enjoyment. At the end of the walk, will be blessing each family as we normally do the first Sunday of the year. The luminary is yours to keep and will be available to pick-up from the church the following week.

Donor name

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print name)

In memory of/ In honor of (circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print name)

Will take \_\_\_\_\_ Cash/Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Please give my donation to the church or school.  
(circle one or both to split)



**Alpine Lutheran Church**  
 5001 Forest View Ave. Rockford, IL 61108  
 alpinelutheran@comcast.net  
 www.alpinelutheran.com

Non-profit org  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Rockford, IL  
 Permit #2653

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

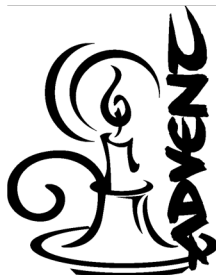


See what Alpine has to  
 offer you on the Web!  
 alpinelutheran.com

**THOSE WHO SERVE**

**Sunday, December 12, 2021**

**Ushers:** (8:00) Jim Anderson, Bob Fanello  
 (10:00) John Linde, Marge Rakoczy  
**Lector:** (8:00) Bob Fanello  
 (10:00) Allen Neumann  
**Lay Assistant:** (8:00) Lori Fanello  
 (10:00) Nancy Matthews  
**Praise Singer:** Jaime Doubek



**Sunday, December 19, 2021**

**Ushers:** (8:00) Karl Okeson, Randy Teske  
 (10:00) Jim Burnett, Dick Nelson  
**Lector:** (8:00) Randy Teske  
 (10:00) John Fridh  
**Lay Assistant:** (8:00) Glen McDonald  
 (10:00) John Fridh  
**Praise Singers:** Chuck & Lynn Valentine

