



# CROSS CURRENTS

October, 2024

Alpine Community Church (UCC), Alpine CA

Vol. 35 No. 10

COME JOIN

THE FUN

OCTOBER 25 & 26



# Women's Guild News

Our thanks to all who participated as bakers or buyers in our bake sale. What wonderful treats we had. This is one of the ways our Guild raises funds to support our missions. We have supported six missions this year.

Our speaker in September was from San Diego County Health and Human Services. This is a helpful organization for all, not just seniors. When you don't know where to start for information to a concern, you can call HHS and they will refer you to a help line. An important number is 1-800-339-4661. This is their call center. They offer many free services

Our October speaker will be from the VFW here in Alpine. They will tell us of the activities and services they provide.

We are looking forward to the Rummage Sale the last week on October. Be sure to join your friends in a department as we all work together enjoying the work and camaraderie as we support our church.

The Guild will again have a Christmas boutique in December so be sure to save some treasures.



# Message from the Interim Designated Term Pastor



Greetings, Alpine UCC!

We're officially in the fall season. It's one of my favorite times of year as the summer warmth gives way to cool mornings and cloud cover. I, for one, am happy to be out of the heatwave! But more importantly, I am excited for the ways fall teaches us beautiful lessons through the changes in the world around us. Nature needs its routines and cycles, and so do we. Sometimes, a seasonal shift is exactly what we need to rouse ourselves and be energized for what

life is bringing next.

I can say that while I enjoy the summer slowdown, it isn't always a vacation. This summer was a time of major transitions as a few of my dear family members passed from mortal life to eternal memory. With time, we come to recognize the ways loss is part of the grand scheme of the good, the bad, and the ugly. Still, even when we know it is coming, that doesn't make it any easier to accept.

Amidst the mourning and the remembrance, I am reminded that trouble does not last always. As surely as the sun rises and falls, the cycles of life keep taking us through all the experiences, emotions, and questions common to humanity. I have learned that sometimes, the end of a season is just as much a blessing as the start of a new one.

I've found that music has had a beautiful impact on my ability to reflect and regroup with the seasons of life. I think of the wonderful song "Turn, Turn, Turn" by The Byrds. I appreciate this song for how they set the words of the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter of the Book of Ecclesiastes to a lovely tune. Those verses of Ecclesiastes 3 remind us that there is a season for everything, and a time for every purpose under the heavens. All things in their due time. That is comforting to me.

I want to offer you the gift of this question: how are you entering the new season of your own life? Are you feeling sadness for what is being left behind? Or hope for what lies ahead? Is there anxiety about the uncertainty, or dread about what looms? Is there joyful anticipation? I want to encourage you in remembering that it is quite alright to feel all the feelings. It's alright to be overwhelmed or tired. In times like these, let us remember that we do not journey into new seasons alone. We are sojourners together in this cycle of life. And all things will unfold in their due time.

Pastor Kyle

## Message from the Moderator....



I was in the church office recently when an Alpine resident called to ask the dates for the church rummage sale. She said she has some things to donate to the sale. Then she mentioned that she has been shopping at and donating to the rummage sale for nearly 20 years and commented that it is the best rummage sale around and what a blessing it is to people in Alpine who need to purchase items in good condition at very low cost.

That got me thinking about how important this community project is to folks in Alpine. For years we have maintained the lowest prices for used clothing and household items in the San Diego area. Where else can a family outfit a child with decent school clothes for about twenty dollars? Or buy gently used tools, kitchenware, books, DVD's, toys, shoes, linens, or nick-nacks at bargain prices? We have been able to maintain our very low prices because of the tremendous work of volunteers who help with the sorting, testing, display, and sales of these items.

So, the direct answer to this caller's question is: The Alpine Community Church Rummage Sale is scheduled for October 25 and 26. Volunteers are needed to begin emptying the container and garage on Sunday October 20, with a particular need for volunteers after 12:30 pm that day (after other churches who share our space complete their worship services). Then, from Monday, Oct 21, through Thursday, October 24, we will need a full complement of volunteers all day to work as much as possible through the week to sort, test, price, display the goods, and to prepare for the opening day on Friday, October 25.

We consider this one of the most important mission projects of the ACC. It helps the community by keeping useable items out of the landfill and giving them new life in someone else's home. It also helps to provide clothing and other essentials to individuals at true bargain prices. Many families depend on this rummage sale every year to help them make ends meet in an increasingly challenging economy. So, I encourage you to help your community and help your church this October by volunteering as many hours as possible during the week of October 20 through 26.

Blessings to you all,

Tom Myers

# No Rainbows Without Rain



***“The soul would have no rainbow had the eye no tear.”***

This is a quote from a book I have with spiritual and inspirational quotes. It is a wonderful way of explaining why the world can't be perfect.

As much as we have faith in God, sometimes we can lose our faith in Him or even be angry with Him for putting us through hard times. However, what the quote is trying to say is if we didn't have tragedy of tears we wouldn't have the light of the rainbow.

No one likes rain when they have to be out in it, but after the rain, the dark clouds clear and the beautiful rainbow comes. A rainbow is not only beautiful to see, it is also a symbol of God's promise to never let the world be destroyed by rain or flood. As for the quote about the soul having a rainbow, we are constantly told through the Bible that this life is essentially a road to heaven. Therefore, we suffer and struggle through the wind and rain of life but our souls are filled with the light of heaven like a rainbow. God promises that, at the end when we get to heaven, all we will see is beautiful, brilliant colors and the rain will be gone forever. In the meantime, He provides us with shelter from the "bad weather." Through the rain and tears, God will always be speaking to us; whispering to us to push away the rain of life and let the rainbows of our soul's shine.

Stewardship Is...



Love in Action

## A Stewardship Moment

Stewardship can be defined as “taking care of something.” Faithful stewards have cheerfully taken care of Alpine Community Church giving their time, talents, and treasure to our church, our community, and the world. It’s time to pause and count our blessings! Once again, we have an opportunity to give a heartfelt response to God’s generosity by prayerfully considering our stewardship commitment to our church and to Almighty God. How will we let our Lord and Savior work through each of us? Over the next few weeks, members of our congregation will speak as to how we of Alpine Community Church can “Imagine Together” what our generosity could look like. We can “Imagine Together” how our congregation can promote to the weary the rest Jesus speaks about in Matthew 11: 28-30. We can “Imagine Together” how might we steward spiritual curiosity in our congregation to experience and then maintain the vitality our church needs to be relevant in today’s troubled world. Time/Talent and Pledge cards will arrive late in October. Please prayerfully consider your commitment to Alpine Community Church and our generous God. Then fill the cards out and bring them to worship on Consecration Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, where they will be placed on the altar. If you cannot attend, please mail or bring your cards to the office before Consecration Sunday. The Trustees thank you for your prayerful consideration, financial support, and for generously giving of yourselves through Alpine Community Church to let the love of Christ radiate out into the world.

Ed Worland, Stewardship Trustee

**“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”**

**2 Cor. 9:7**

**VOTE!!!**

As you probably know, the General election is a month away. If you watch the news at all, you're getting lots of information on the Presidential candidates. But there will also be 10 state and local proposition on the ballot.

It is important in our democracy that people vote! You can do it by mail, turn in your ballot at the local library, or vote on election day. Also, the Alpine library has polls that will be open for the 10 days before November 5. Please read the attached flyer to become an informed voter!



*Alpine presents*



## **BALLOT TALK**

### **PROS & CONS OF THE 2024 MEASURES**

Baffled by the confusing and sometimes upside down language in your voting material?

Get unbiased information on state, county and local ballot measures

**On Sunday, October 6, 2-5:00 p.m.**

**at Alpine Library Community room**

Trained League speakers will discuss all state and local ballot measures – what they will do, how they change existing law, who benefits, how much they cost and who pays for them, who supports/opposes them. **There will be time for Q & A following the presentation.**



*The Cabinet thought you may want to know some of the items we discussed at our monthly Cabinet meeting. Here is a short summary of our September 15 meeting.*

The Cabinet met on September 15 after skipping a meeting in August. Typically, church activities slow down during the hot summer months so we did not meet in August. It was to be Pastor Kyle's first meeting, but he was out with Covid. Despite the slow summer months, the budget remains in the black, with expenses of \$11,546.00 and expenses of 9928.51.

The Cabinet discussed concerns with the vandalism that has occurred to the Blessing Box in the front of the church. Three weeks ago someone smeared peanut butter all over the inside of the box. Then, last week, someone smeared the inside of the box with olive oil. We discussed shutting the box down for a couple of weeks, but our faithful Cheryl Traverse, who checks and maintains the box every day, wanted to continue this ministry to our community. Cheryl noted, "People come every day to get food out of the box. We are helping so many in need with this ministry. We can't stop for any time." Cheryl cleaned out the box after both acts of vandalism. The cabinet reported the vandalism to the Sheriff's office and they are patrolling the church twice a day. Also, it appears that someone in the apartments across the street also reported seeing people about the box. We do make a difference!

Sandy Lusink reported that the Deacons had a productive meeting and discussed plans for Rummage Sale, Thanksgiving baskets and Christmas. The next few months are their busiest season.

The Guild started their year off with a bang! First, Judy Smazel reported they delivered two trunk loads of personal products to East County Transitional Living, who were grateful for the help. She came from the Guild Bake Sale where all the items sold and was a big success for their giving. Judy is awed by the generosity and support of the congregation.

The rest of the meeting was devoted to discussing plans for the upcoming Rummage Sale, which is just around the corner, on October 25-26. Set up begins on the afternoon of October 20 and continues all week. Get ready! We need the support of all members!

That's the news from the Cabinet! Our next meeting is October 13, a week earlier than usual to accommodate the Rummage Sale. (Remember anyone is free to attend a Cabinet meeting. It happens right after church, about 10:15 a.m.)



# Care and Prayer List

## **Alpine Community Church Care & Prayer List**

*Please call or send a greeting card to someone on the list, your thoughtfulness will be appreciated. Names will be removed when it is unknown if the need for prayer still exists. If you have family or friends in need of prayer,*

Marcie Berry  
George & Judy Doble  
Tatty Fenton  
Lil' Donna  
Diane Fisher  
J. J. Jacoby  
Helen Harvey & Roy Jr.  
Steven, Lois, Ester, Norm, Mary\*  
\*Mary Francois  
Lori Lopo  
McIntosh Family  
Kathy Peterson  
Amy Renner  
Matthew Stephen  
Chrissy Stewart  
Sue Truscott  
Hilda Weil  
Military  
Police Officers  
Firefighters

# Birthdays and Anniversaries

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAY WISHES:

O'NEAL, Kalista	10/04
O'NEAL, Dee Ann	10/12
DEMEESTER, Janette	10/19
NUNNALLY, Jim	10/21
NELSON, Bruce	10/28

## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES:

BELLAS, Robin	10/05
WATERWORTH, Joan	10/25

## Church Office Hours

We can be reached by telephone at (619) 445-2110, or by e-mail at [acc1894@acc.sdcoxmail.com](mailto:acc1894@acc.sdcoxmail.com). Office hours are Monday – Friday from 9am until noon. Even if we are not here in the office after noon, you can slip envelopes, messages & requests through the mail slot in the office's front door. *Thank You, Denise*

***Please send articles and pictures for the Cross Currents to:***

**Cross Currents Editor:**  
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**Pamela Ennis**  
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# October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Pastor Ben &amp; Pilgrim Presbyterian Church to have 11am &amp; 6pm services</b>	ACSL Book Study 10:30-11:30 FH  B.S. TROOP 105	1	2  5:30p – AA, FH	3  Pilgrim Presbyterian Bible Study	4	5  7:00 PM AA
6  9:00a ACC Worship PPC 10:45am ACSL 11-1 (Fuller Hall) PPC 6:00pm	7  ACSL Book Study 10:30-11:30 FH  B.S. TROOP 105	8  CHOIR 7-8:30p	9  5:30p – AA, FH	10  Pilgrim Presbyterian Bible Study	<b>11</b>	12  GUILD MTG 9:30am  7:00 PM AA
13  9:00aACC Worship PPC 10:45am ACSL 11-1 (Fuller Hall) PPC 6:00pm	<b>14</b>  ACSL Book Study 10:30-11:30 FH  B.S. TROOP 105	15  CHOIR 7-8:30p	16  5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	17  Pilgrim Presbyterian Bible Study	18  2-3pm Senior Exercise Program	19  7:00 PM AA
20  Set up for SALE all week  9:00a ACC Worship PPC 10:45am ACSL 11-1 (FH) PPC 6:00pm	21 →  ACSL Book Study 10:30-11:30 FH B.S. TROOP 105	22 →  CHOIR 7-8:30p	23 →  5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	24 →  Pilgrim Presbyterian Bible Study	25  RUMMAGE Sale	26  RUMMAGE Sale 7:00 PM AA
27  9:00 AM ACC Worship PPC 10:45am ACSL 11-1 (FH) PPC 6:00pm	<b>28</b>  ACSL Book Study 10:30-11:30 FH  B.S. TROOP 105	29  CHOIR 7-8:30p	<b>30</b>  5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	31  Pilgrim Presbyterian Bible Study		

## Mission Statement

*Our Mission as the Alpine Community Church is to serve God by creating an environment of fellowship following the teachings of Jesus Christ. We minister to the needs of our congregation and community, motivating ourselves with love, faith and hope.*

## Join us for Worship

In person in our sanctuary at 9:00 AM Sunday Mornings

Also on **Facebook** and **Youtube** (*links found on [alpineucc.org](http://alpineucc.org)*)

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Return Service Requested



## CROSS CURRENTS

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