



# CROSS CURRENTS

May, 2025

Alpine Community Church (UCC), Alpine CA

Vol. 36 No. 05

**Strength and dignity  
are her clothing,  
and she laughs at  
the time to come.  
She opens her mouth  
with wisdom, and the  
teaching of kindness  
is on her tongue.**

Proverbs 31:25-26

*Happy Mother's Day!*

[brendawalsh.com](http://brendawalsh.com)

# Women's Guild News

Our May meeting was full of information for seniors and their families from Senior Resource Center at Sharp Grossmont Hospital. The Resource Center provides resource navigation free of charge without the need of being a Sharp patient. Programs range from Caregiving, Transportation, Housing, Health Information classes, Custom Resource Consultations, and over 100 more topics.

Our May program will be from Interfaith Community Services which is a UCC supported program working together with people of other faiths on shared concerns through programs on homelessness, mental health, helping families with shelter, and basic needs and more.

Thanks for supporting the Guild Bake Sale with wonderful baked goods. We made \$477 which will help support our missions.

I hope you will join us soon.

Your Guild Board



## Message from the Interim Designated Term Pastor



As a long-time educator, May has always been a month of beginnings and endings. Students are preparing to graduate and complete a phase of their education, and they are also beginning new journeys – more schooling, their first full-time jobs, summer internships. There’s a lot happening! Over the years, I have recognized that these times of transition can bring both a lot of joy and a lot of grief. Sometimes, these come at them same time.

Why grief? Because it can be difficult to come to the end of a time that seemed like it would just keep on going. For my students, 4 years in college represents a large amount of time – that’s about 20% of their entire lives at that point! It’s a time where they have made friends, learned lessons, endured losses, and had some major victories. It is hard to leave a place where you have become comfortable and learned how to navigate the ins and outs. And having to become a novice all over again can be challenging. You master one level of life just to start over at the bottom.

But there’s joy, too. Because even when they are comfortable in their college lives, they also yearn for something more. They are ready to stretch out and see what it’s like to live on their own and work towards their passions. They are excited to shape their lives as adults with more responsibility and more autonomy. This is a blessing, too, because they get the opportunity to apply their learning and training in a new setting.

For all of us, transition can be a double-edged sword. Even when we are well past school graduations, we all are still matriculating through life. Sometimes transition looks like leaving the job you’ve worked for years, or selling the house that you’ve called a home. Sometimes it looks like saying goodbye to a community and moving far away to start fresh. Other times, it looks like coming to terms with how our bodies don’t work the way they used to work. Whatever the case may be, there can be a mixture of joy and grief as we accept that things will never be **exactly** like they used to be, even if new things can eventually be good.

As we proceed through the Eastertide season, I am reminded of how the disciples of Jesus had to come to terms with a world that would never be the same. Jesus had taught them well and journeyed with them, but they had to prepare to lead and teach without him. The joy of seeing him resurrected mingled with the grief of knowing he would soon depart. May we take comfort in knowing that God remains with us in every transition, and that our joys and our griefs each have a place in our whole humanity.

## Message from the Moderator....



Spring has sprung! We started this season with a beautiful Easter service. I loved the flowers that filled the cross on Easter morning. I am lucky enough to drive by the church on my way home several days a week, and loved looking at the cross by the front door. It stayed lovely for quite some time!

I have been busy planting flowers in the yard and love walking through the nurseries and seeing the beautiful flowers available during this season. Pat and I went to Carlsbad Flower Fields this past week and the rainbow of colors in the fields was breathtaking. After the Lenten season, and the tragedy of Christ's crucifixion, we do awaken to a time of NEW! I hope we in our church can welcome some NEW – new members, new memories, new experiences, new friendships. I thank William and the choir for trying some new music on Sunday mornings. And we always enjoy Pastor Kyle's sermons on Sunday mornings.

I don't know if everyone is aware, but the Trustees have started a new practice, also. They are making our facilities available for the community when needed. There is now a scout troop using the back room of the church office for meetings. And the Alpine Pageant Association used Fuller Hall for their Queen Bee banquet. We are reaching out to the community so they are aware that Alpine Community Church is here, is alive, and that they know we want to support our community. The Blessing Box is filled several times a week and is well used by many people in need in our community. Most people in Alpine are aware of our Medical Equipment Shed, begun with the support of Helen Harvey in memory of her husband Roy. People regularly come in to check out medical equipment they may need for a period of time. We have much to be proud of in our community, and I wish you all joy, blessings and renewal for spring.



# In The Middle There is Light



I have a daily calendar that features prominent national parks across America. One of the parks occasionally featured is called Volcano National Park in Hawaii. Recently, the calendar featured a photo from said park of some flowers growing out of a vast sheet of cooled lava.

The contrast of the drab gray lava versus the bright color of the flowers reminded me of how God adds color to a world that can seem very dark. This is an idea that I have mentioned in several other articles. Yet, it remains true.

Heaven knows the world isn't perfect. Even people of faith can find themselves slipping into the dark sludge of sadness. They can feel as though they are trapped in quicksand or lava. It is when the world seems barren and gray that we look for the color in the world that God has provided us. Like the colorful flowers in the photo, God shines His light upon us and we look at beautiful flowers or a sunset that He has created.

Perhaps taken at face value, our world is nothing more than a big rock in space. When our Heavenly Father created the world, He did not want it to be a colorless, barren space. So He filled it with flowers, trees, and greenery. More importantly, He created us to inhabit His world, enjoy its beauty, and love Him.

When we feel as though life is cold and gray, we need to remember that in the middle of all the cold darkness, God has also planted a beautiful bright flower.

# Cabinet Doings

We had a late Cabinet meeting this month due to Easter service. We were all pleased with our Easter service, and thank the Deacons for the beautiful Easter lilies, to William and the choir and guest choir members who sang on Easter morning. Thanks to Debbie Keyes and Suzy Broderick for the Easter egg hunt for the kids.

We were sad to say goodbye to the Church of Spiritual Living, which had their last service here on April 27. Due to dwindling attendance and income, they will be continuing by having bible studies in their homes. We also welcome them to continue to worship with us on Sunday mornings. You will notice that they have left the piano behind in Fuller Hall. Hopefully we can use it for some activities or services when needed.

Thanks to Vern Sonksen, Dan Hames, and Ray Sopfe for doing some weeding and general repairs around the church grounds. They are also looking into having a service company complete a deep cleaning of the sanctuary as well as Fuller Hall and Sunday school rooms. It hasn't been done in a while and needs some care.

We are also looking for more help with the Rummage Sale! Trustees alone will be putting items in the containers for sale. We are being more restrictive this year as to what we can accept. We also will need more manpower for setting up for the sale this year.

The Guild was congratulated on another successful Bake Sale, where they made close to \$500 to support their mission work. Their next speaker will be a speaker from Interfaith Services. The Guild meets on the second Saturday of the month.

We are currently looking for a new clerk for the church. If you are interested, please see a Cabinet member!

*Dear Congregation,*

*Thank you to everyone for your prayers, support, cards and well wishes and so many meals and much more help. I hope to be at church this next Sunday (May 4<sup>th</sup>) †*

*Thank you, Cheryl Traverse*



Becca is attempting to start a business selling her artwork. Below are some works she has finished or are in progress. She can do other characters upon request. Each painting is \$15.00. If you are interested, please speak to her in church or send a message to me at [pamelaennis@cox.net](mailto:pamelaennis@cox.net).





# 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,*

George & Judy Doble

Marcie Berry

Cheryl Traverse

Tatty Fenton

Helen Harvey & Roy Jr.

Jessica (Chris Noble niece)

Brandi Moreland

Ellie McGarry

Andrew Patrick

Ed Robard

Robert Placencia

Rick Sitter

Alice Spence (Hospice)

Lorena Strong

Saron Stone/Mike & Sandy Smidt

Sue & Tom Truscott

Family of Wayne Christopher

OUR Nation & new Leaders

Military

Police Officers

Firefighters

# Birthdays and Anniversaries

## MAY BIRTHDAY WISHES:

MAUZY, Stacy	05/02
TRAVERSE, Cheryl	05/05
HAMES, Debbie	05/31
PRICE, Megan	05/31

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES:

O'NEAL, Dee Ann	05/10
POINDEXTER, Rob & Darlene	05/16
FENTON, Tatty	05/17
REUTER, Hans & Anne	05/22
KRANTZ, Marcella	05/29
CROTEAU, Normand & Esther	05/30

## 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:**  
**Email: [pamelaennis@cox.net](mailto:pamelaennis@cox.net)**

**Pamela Ennis**  
**Cell Phone: (619) 249-3739**

# May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Pastor Ben &amp; PPC</b> <b>11am &amp; 6pm ser-</b> <b>vices</b>	B.S. TROOP 105	CHOIR 7-8:30p	5:30p – AA, FH	1 PPC Bible Study 6-8pm	2	3 Kathy Foster 9- 1 (FH)  7:00 PM AA
4 9:00a ACC Worship PPC 10:45am  PPC 6:00pm	5  OFFICE Closed  B.S. TROOP 105	6  CHOIR 7-8:30p	7  ACC Bible Study  5:30p – AA, FH	8  PPC Bible Study 6-8pm	9	10 GUILD MTG 9:30am  7:00 PM AA
11 9:00aACC Worship GUILD Bake Sale PPC 10:45am <b>DEACON’S Mtg</b>  PPC 6:00pm	12 OFFICE Closed  <b>Lunch Bunch ?</b>  <b>TRUSTEE’s Mtg</b>  B.S. TROOP 105	13  CHOIR 7-8:30p	14  ACC Bible Study  5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	15  PPC Bible Study 6-8pm	16 Women’s Club Fridge use ?? today & Sat. →	17  7:00 PM AA
18 9:00a ACC PPC 10:45am  <b>CABINET Mtg</b>	19  OFFICE Closed  B.S. TROOP 105	20  CHOIR 7-8:30p	21  ACC Bible Study  5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	22  PPC Bible Study 6-8pm	23	24  7:00 PM AA
25 9:00 AM ACC Worship PPC 10:45am PPC 6:00pm	26 OFFICE Closed  B.S. TROOP 105	27  CHOIR 7-8:30p	28  ACC Bible Study  5:30p – AA FH	29  PPC Bible Study 6-8pm	30	31  7:00 PM AA

## 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))

ALPINE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
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Return Service Requested



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**The editor welcomes contributions  
But they must be received  
by the 15th of each month.**

Happy Mother's Day!

