



CROSS CURRENTS

October, 2025

Alpine Community Church (UCC), Alpine CA

Vol. 36 No. 10



Women's Guild News

We started off our fall season with a program given by a representative from Ronald MacDonald House which is a place for families to stay while their children are in Rady Children's Hospital. Our October speaker will be John Tasted speaking on senior services.

Our thanks to Cheryl T. who provided our Jimmy Dean Breakfast Sandwiches. The Guild board provided the rest of our brunch. Many members brought baked goods so Donna and Marcella could get a head start on sorting and pricing for the bake sale on September 14.



We voted to disband the Gloria Powers scholarship. We have been giving \$500. to a deserving senior. Since we have no prospects in the near future, this will allow us to use the money in a different way.

We will try something new for rummage this year. This may speed things up and spread around the work. Even if some people can do this it may help. Please try to bring your items on hangers (which will be replaced). This will save the backs of the clothing department as they will no longer have to bend over black bags. We would also like you to try to distribute your items to the correct department.

We are looking forward to another successful fall season.

Message from the Interim Designated Term Pastor



When people ask me if I miss anything about the East Coast, where I lived for many years, the one thing that comes up for me is the autumn leaves. There was nothing quite like the crispness of the air and the beautiful array of colors in the foliage. Of course, I've come to embrace the beautiful colors of the sunset and the gentle sway of palm leaves. But fall in the Northeast just feels different.

I reflect often on what it means to realize that in our life's journey, some experiences can't be reproduced, but new experiences can bring a familiar joy. We learn to trust that the road ahead can offer us something beautiful even if at first things feel uncertain. How do we manage the uncertainty? How do we keep from looking back in search of a past we can't bring back?

Hebrews 12:2 reminds us to look to Jesus, the one who has initiated and perfected our faith. In the life of Jesus the Christ, we find the hope that can set our spirits on a course for deeper faith and joy. Jesus, whose earthly life and ministry were so short, lived in fullness and depth. He made the most of his journey and brought new life to those he encountered. He didn't merely dwell on past joys and comforts, but moved forward with love and courage, even knowing what lay ahead for him.

We, too, journey through life knowing that this experience does not last forever. We may not face the same obstacles as Jesus, but we certainly have our share of troubles and challenges. We may be tempted to remember only the good things about the past, as though the future will not hold joys of great measure. I'll be the first to say I am often nostalgic for days and times that felt easier, simpler, less troublesome. But I have learned that this life's journey is not about trying to chase "the good old days." Rather, the one who has initiated and perfected our faith teaches us to trust that good days are ahead of us, that joy is around the corner.

So, this autumn, I'll remember the beauty of the falling leaves. But I'll also rejoice in the splendor of the swaying palms. Wherever life takes us, may we be able to see the journey through the lens of possibility. Joy has been behind us, and joy will be ahead of us. And Jesus will be there too.

Message from the Moderator....



The weather is finally cooling down, and I am happy to see more people in church each Sunday. As most of you know, I was a teacher for 35 years and I always think of fall as the start of a year. It's kinda like that for church --- people who have been on vacations start to come back, and the Cabinet is making plans for the activities to come --- Rummage Sale, Stewardship campaign, and all those holidays are just around the corner! Busy time in life – and in the life of the church. Rummage Sale remains our biggest fundraiser – and the time that brings more

community members to our church looking for great bargains in these expensive times.

So..... it is the time when we need ALL of our members to come in and help! With the aging of our congregation, we have toned down Rummage sale from years ago. The Trustees will be working hard to organize the tools, small home equipment, bikes, sporting goods, lamps, camping gear, etc. etc. We will **not** be selling big furniture items (too heavy for us to manage!) and more will fall on the Guild members who work in Fuller Hall selling soft goods, kitchen and boutique items, and clothes, clothes, clothes! It is the time when we need ALL the help we can get. In fact, this year we are relying on people to ask their older kids, sons, neighbors and others to help us with the heavy lifting, particularly on the following days:

Sunday, October 19 – after church -- when we empty the storage sheds and begin the set up for the coming sale.

Thursday, October 23 to set up tents and to move all items out for display for the opening of Rummage sale.

Saturday, October 25 in the afternoon when we need help to help clean up all unsold items, and clean up the facility.

Those days are backbreaking days for our Trustees and the few men we have to work. If you know of someone who can help, let Ray know!!

It is an exhausting week for us all. But it is also a time when all members come together to work. In between sorting and cleaning, there is a lot of talk, and sharing, and giggling! And I don't think anyone goes away without buying some new treasure to take home with them.

(ask me about my Christmas quilt!) ♥ This is the time when I really feel we are all a big family.

I hope you can get some people to help with the heavy lifting. And the sign up for all the other jobs is up in Fuller Hall now. Here we go!!!

A Forever Proud Father



One of my most special memories of my dad happens to involve one of my favorite singers, Michael Buble. The last big experience we had with Dad was when we went to see Michael in concert. Michael sang a song that he wrote for his children. It was about how he loved to be needed by them when they were little. He articulated that even though they were growing up, he would always be there for them and always be proud of them no matter what.

It was an emotional ballad by itself, and I think I was crying just listening to it. Yet, the best part was when Michael got to the end, singing of how he would love his children forever, Dad reached over and squeezed my leg. It is wonderful that we were able to have that special moment, because he was with us for only five more months after that. Yet, there is another reason why the song can be special in these troubled times.

On this earth we are given fathers who will love us unconditionally and protect us. Even more wonderful than that is knowing our heavenly Father also protects and loves us unconditionally. He stands in heaven waiting for us and guiding us. Even when we mess up, He still continues to love us. Our heavenly Father will always be there for us. As Michael's song says, He will always lift us up, be there for us, and protect us with his loving hand. If we are ever hurt on this earth, sometimes He picks us up in His loving arms and takes us to be with Him. We are grateful for the fathers He gives to be with us here on earth. However, we can be a thousand times more grateful for the father who is forever proud of us. Who could ask for a better Father?

Cabinet Doings

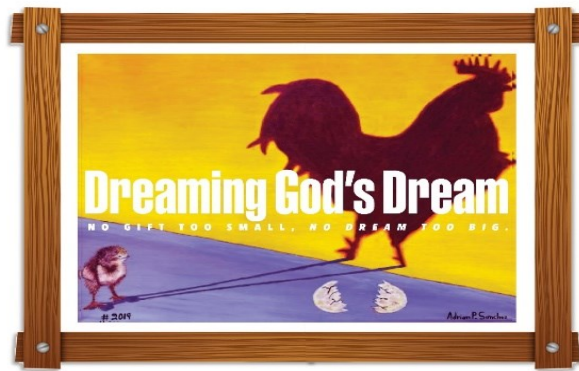
The Cabinet met on Sunday, Sept. 21. The big item under discussion was Rummage Sale – more on that later.

The Deacons reported that Jon Taastad will be their speaker in October, and he will be talking about senior services.

The Trustees have had difficulties recording the church services the last few weeks. It appears that we will need a more updated computer to handle the software for recordings. They are looking into that now. Be patient! They hope to have the system up and running in the next couple of weeks. Also, the Trustees gave thanks to the Presbyterian church that uses our facilities. They did some cleaning of the sanctuary and are also adding diaper changing services in the restrooms. And for those of you that have asked about deeper cleaning of all the church rooms --- that will be coming AFTER Rummage sale!

Pastor Kyle also will be starting a new Bible Study on October 1. Please contact Denise about ordering a workbook for the course.

See you all at Rummage Sale!!



A Stewardship Moment

Soon, our faithful will prayerfully consider a heartfelt response to God's generosity as we consider our 2026 stewardship commitment to Alpine Community Church and Almighty God. How can we make God's Dream (our dream, too) a reality? As we journey together through this stewardship season, please prayerfully consider your gifts of time, talents, and financial contribution to Alpine Community Church and our most Generous God. Pledge cards should be brought to worship on Consecration Sunday, November 2nd, where they will be placed on the altar. After worship, the Deacons will host a Consecration Sunday Celebration in Fuller Hall as we enjoy a potluck feast and cake! Please add your name and your dish of choice to the sign-up sheet found on the beverage table during October Coffee Hours so we have an idea of what goodies you will bring to the celebration. The Trustees thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous support.

It's time for
Operation Christmas Child!



Good News Great Joy!

DARYNA IS AMONG HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN TO RECEIVE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD BOXES IN UKRAINE.

Daryna's story:

Daryna's parents, Dmitro* and his wife Alina*, fled Kharkiv with their two girls early in the war, spending five days in a bomb shelter in central Ukraine. "We left Kharkiv because of the kids," Dmitro said. Kharkiv, Ukraine's second largest city, was under heavy attack from Russian forces for weeks. In March 2022, Alina and the girls traveled to Slovakia, while Dmitro moved to Lviv. In September last year, the family reunited with him in western Ukraine where they found refuge in a welcoming church. For a little girl, Daryna's life has been far from normal. Much had been left behind and lost. And for this little girl, there had been little joy for quite a long time.

Yet, a little shoebox full of simple gifts lifted Daryna's spirit and put a smile on her face! Thousands of churches across Ukraine are helping displaced children like Daryna and are distributing nearly 400,000 shoeboxes this year, each filled with a variety of gifts including clothes, toys, school supplies, hygiene items, and other goodies. At festive outreach events, the children receive their gift-filled boxes and hear an age-appropriate presentation of the Gospel in their language. They are also invited to a follow-up discipleship course called The Greatest Journey. As a result, many of the children and their parents now call Jesus their Lord and Savior. Your gift of a little shoebox filled with love can help deliver great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ!

Operation Christmas Child begins October 26th. Pick up your boxes at church. Then go shopping (or fill your box online!) Lovingly pack your gifts and say a prayer for the child that will receive your box. **Return all shoeboxes to the narthex by the end of service November 16th** so they can start their journey. The children thank you!

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

Patty Brown

Ray Cobble

Normand Croteau

Marie Davis

Traci Denny & David Denny

Anthony Fenton

Tatty Fenton

Helen Harvey

Family of & Roy Harvey, Jr.

Amber Galves-Jimenez

Celia Leon

Denise McGuire

Anne Reuter

Hans Reuter

Sue & Tom Truscott

Family of Fred Wiley

Bette Youngman

Our Nation & Leaders

Military

Police Officers

Firefighters

May Peace Prevail on Earth

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. 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
Cell Phone: (619) 249-3739

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ACC – 9am Pastor Ben & PPC 11am & 5pm services	OFFICE CLOSED on Mondays B.S. TROOP 105	CHOIR 7-8:30p	1 ACSL – Rm #1 10:30-11:30 5:30p – AA, FH	2 PPC Bible Study 6-8pm	3	4 7:00 PM AA
5 9:00a ACC Worship PPC 10:45am PPC 5:00pm	6 OFFICE Closed B.S. TROOP 105	7 CHOIR 7-8:30p	8 5:30p – AA, FH	9 PPC Bible Study 6-8pm	10	11 GUILD MTG 9:30am
12 9:00aACC Worship Guild Bake Sale PPC 10:45am DEACON'S Mtg	13 OFFICE Closed Lunch Bunch ? TRUSTEE's Mtg B.S. TROOP 105	14 CHOIR 7-8:30p	15 ACSL –Rm#1 Alternating Wed. 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	16 PPC Bible Study 6-8pm	17	18 7:00 PM AA
19 9:00a ACC PPC 10:45am CABINET Mtg PPC 5PM	20 OFFICE Closed SET UP all week for the Sale → → B.S. TROOP 105	21 CHOIR 7-8:30p	22 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	23 PPC Bible Study 6-8pm	24 RUMMAGE SALE	25 RUMMAGE SALE 7:00 PM AA
26 9:00 AM ACC Worship PPC 10:45am PPC 6:00pm	27 OFFICE Closed B.S. TROOP 105	28 CHOIR 7-8:30p	29	30	31 Happy Halloween	

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)

ALPINE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Return Service Requested



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