



Pacific Southwest
Conference
of The Evangelical Covenant Church



February 5, 2021

Dear Alpine Family,

It is with heavy hearts that we write to communicate that a motion to conclude the ministry of Alpine Camp and Conference Center has been made. This motion will be voted on at the Pacific Southwest Conference Annual Meeting in April.

We wish to acknowledge the pain in this news – particularly for all who experienced the Holy Spirit's work in and through this place.

While the Camp has experienced considerable financial challenges over the past handful of years, both the Alpine Camp Board and the Pacific Southwest Conference Executive Board remained extremely hopeful that a turnaround was possible. Unfortunately, the tremendous challenge of lost income due to Covid-19 and unparalleled increases in fire-related insurance coverage, atop already mounting financial challenge, proves an unscalable climb.

We give thanks to God the Father for the thousands of lives touched and transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Alpine! We also give thanks for the many men and women whose investment of time and talent has made possible the ministry of Alpine since its beginning in 1957.

Please refer to the attached documents which provide more detail on this important decision.

Rev. Erin Dougherty
Chairperson, Alpine Camp Board

Mr. Will Davidson
Chairperson, Pacific Southwest Conference Executive Board

FAQ

Q: Who is authorized to make the final decision regarding Alpine?

A: Per the Bylaws of Alpine Camp, it is the responsibility of the delegates to the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Southwest Conference of the Covenant Church to vote on the recommendation.

Q: Who is authorized to vote at the Annual Meeting?

Per the bylaws of the Pacific Southwest Conference, churches who are members of the Evangelical Covenant Church and located within the Conference, get to send delegates.

Q: When will the Annual Meeting be held?

A: Saturday morning, April 17, 2021, beginning at 10 am. The meeting will take place online. Details will follow to PSWC churches.

Q: What is the hoped-for outcome?

A: Alpine's current trajectory is one of mounting debt in a very challenging time. The earnest hope is to pay off this significant debt and carefully steward any proceeds for Kingdom impact and God's glory.

Q: To whom would the property be marketed?

A: Ultimately, both the Alpine Board and the Pacific Southwest Conference Board would like to see the camp continue its service as a Christian ministry. However, given the many unknowns of the market, particularly during a worldwide pandemic and its associated economic impact, the Pacific Southwest Conference Executive Board believes it wise to remain open to the possibility of other buyers.

Q: What formal process preceded this motion being brought to the Annual Meeting?

A: On December 5th, 2020 the Alpine Board recommended to the Pacific Southwest Conference Executive Board the "merger, consolidation, dissolution or sale, lease, or exchange of substantially all of the assets of Alpine".

On January 28, 2021, the Pacific Southwest Conference Executive Board approved a resolution that recommends "winding up of affairs of Alpine" as presented in the attached document.

As noted above, this recommendation will be voted on at the Pacific Southwest Conference Annual Meeting held on April 17. The present debt of **\$1,015,612** is very serious for a ministry like Alpine. Current projections put the forecasted debt on December 31, 2021 at **\$1,455,612**. This assumes continued generosity of Alpine donors through year-end.

Note:

The Covenant family honors collective wisdom and accountability. These values are deeply rooted in our practices of elected leadership and congregational polity. Over the course of years, both boards have been in prayer and intentional dialogue regarding the best future for Alpine. Both Boards have also been carrying a heavy burden. They have "wrestled", discussed and prayed over the best path. Each board member is deserving of our collective appreciation.

1,000 Foot View of Alpine's Financial Reality:

The efforts to steward well the ministry of Alpine have been noteworthy.

Income – No Group Income since March 2020.

Expenses – have been carefully managed, including significant staff reductions. Since March 2020, Alpine's payroll has been greatly reduced to limit costs:

January 2020, Alpine employees = 30 FTE

January 2021, Alpine employees = 2 FTE

Current Debt Balance **\$1,015,612**

Monthly Burn Rate after
diligent cost-cutting measures = \$40,000

Forecast Balance:

June 30, 2021: **\$1,215,612**

December 31, 2021 **\$1,455,612***

*This does not include deferred maintenance which is estimated at \$500,000 – 1,000,000 in costs.

Final Notes:

The motion is presented as a resolution and can be reviewed on the following pages.

As always, the Pacific Southwest Conference Executive Board encourages churches to send delegates to share in collective decision making.

If the motion passes, the hope is to have a socially-distanced celebration of Alpine's ministry.

**RESOLUTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE OF
THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH**
(Acting as the Sole Member of Alpine Camp and Conference Center, Inc.)

WHEREAS, Pacific Southwest Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church (“Conference”) is a California religious corporation affiliated with The Evangelical Covenant Church (“Denomination”), an Illinois not for profit corporation; and

WHEREAS, the Conference is the sole corporate member of Alpine Camp and Conference Center, Inc. (“Alpine”), a California religious corporation which owns and operates a camp and conference center located in Blue Jay, California; and

WHEREAS, on December 5, 2020, the Board of Directors of Alpine approved a resolution authorizing the merger, consolidation, dissolution or sale, lease, or exchange of substantially all of the assets of Alpine, due to the current financial condition of Alpine; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article V(e) of the Articles of Incorporation of Alpine, Article IX of the Constitution of Alpine, and Article IX of the Bylaws of Alpine, dissolution and liquidation of Alpine must be approved by the Conference as the corporate member of Alpine, upon which dissolution and liquidation, the entire net assets remaining after the payment of any and all liabilities and obligation of Alpine shall be distributed to the Conference or its successor to be used exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific or hospital purposes, provided that the ministries receiving the assets qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended

WHEREAS, the Executive Board of the Conference deems it to be in the best interests of Alpine to wind up its affairs, liquidate, and transfer substantially all of its assets to either a third party, or to the Conference or an affiliate thereof.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

- (i) That the winding up of the affairs of Alpine, liquidation, and transfer of substantially all of its assets to either a third party, or to the Conference or an affiliate thereof, is hereby authorized and approved.
- (ii) That the Finance Committee of the Executive Board of the Conference is hereby authorized to market the assets of Alpine for sale, and to do and perform all such other actions as necessary to carry out the intent of these resolutions.
- (iii) That the officers of the Conference, and each of them be and hereby are, authorized and directed to execute and deliver all such consents, certificates, assignments, agreements, and all other instruments, and to do all such acts, for and in the name and on behalf of the Conference as may be necessary or convenient in order to carry out the purposes of the foregoing resolutions, and any actions heretofore taken in

accordance with the intent and purposes of the foregoing resolutions are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed.

- (iv) That these resolutions are subject to the approval of the members of the Conference by two-thirds affirmative vote of the Annual Meeting of the Conference pursuant to Article I Section C of the Bylaws of Alpine.