

ALPINE ECHOES

Serving Since 1957

MARCH/APRIL 1983



ALPINE COVENANT CONFERENCE CENTER

MINISTRY IS:

The ministry that takes place at Alpine finds its definition in the living Christ making himself known in and through that which takes place. I am not speaking merely of program items of preaching, teaching, or counseling with leaders — it is literally everything and everybody at camp.

It is easy for us to point to the spoken Word, the revelation of the Scriptures as a point of ministry. It is obvious that people are coming under the direct teaching of one called to perform that task. God uses the spoken Word to touch lives and we rejoice when victory is gained and someone puts his trust in Christ, claiming Him as Savior and Lord. There is more opportunity for teaching in one week at camp than in a year of Sunday School.

The camp counselor is an important minister at camp. This person who gives himself to be that special "someone" to a cabin full of kids for a week has many opportunities to share his faith with his cabin group. There is the time of counseling and talking about Jesus when we observe ministry taking place. The real ministry takes place when the counselor actually lives out his faith in the presence of the group. The witness of trusting God, encouraging someone, going the second mile, building of relationships, and the reality of Jesus Christ alive in a life brings the Gospel to the camper in very real terms.

And what about the other staff personnel around the camp? Do they have a ministry? The answer is a resounding, YES. The model of Jesus Christ lived out in others is an example that brings ministry to where the people are living. Real needs are being met in a loving and caring manner that communicates the Gospel, too. Believers placed in Christ's service as staff members are allowing their words and actions to speak of Him. This is where the ministry is.

The expression of God's redemptive work is ministry and this is carried out by all who are associated with the camp. For some 26 years it has been Alpine's privilege and responsibility to share the Gospel in the spoken Word as well as by allowing the Lord to use people to demonstrate a dynamic of living in Christ that has to be witnessed to be experienced. God uses many means to make Himself known through Christ and Camp just seems to be the natural place for many of life's experiences to mix together for ministry to take place.

The task of ministry is not assigned to select individuals. Each Christian has his own task of ministry. Some have the honor of being at camp and others have the privilege to pray for the camp while involved in other active ministries in the local church. I have been blessed many times by the faithfulness of God's people who commit themselves to pray for the camp and the camper. God honors those prayers and lives are touched.

Mark 9:41 tells us of the ministry of a cup of cold water being offered in the name of Jesus. That sounds so simple — and it is. But in Jesus' name it is ministry. I want to challenge *you* to be a part of the ministry that takes place at Alpine doing what you can do in Jesus' name. Camp is more than the facilities — it is people joining together to do God's work as He enables — impacting lives for eternity. May God bless you in your ministry.

— Dale Westberg, Executive Director

MINISTRY OF MAINTENANCE

Yes, there can be a real ministry in maintenance! In fact, if it is carried out properly maintenance staff would not need to be seen much during a camp or conference session. Let me explain what I mean. If maintenance personnel function correctly, the need for emergency repair would be at a minimum. The ministry part is serving people, not just being happy with smooth running machinery or clean grounds. I always try to remember that Christ wants our best, for His glory. Then He can bless our efforts freely as we labor for the contentment and enjoyment of each camper. God has always used emergencies for special spiritual victories, but we seek to avoid breakdowns and provide an environment that allows our guests to focus on what the speaker and musicians are communicating, rather than being distracted by something that may



If you shout a pleasant greeting to a friend too early in the morning he will count it as a curse.

— Proverbs 27:14

THIS ACTUALLY HAPPENED one morning during a weekend retreat recently. A camper, irritated by the volume and/or music coming over the ceiling PA speaker, punched the speaker out of commission with a coat hanger.

have inconvenienced them. Therefore, supporting program ministries with efficient facilities and loving attitudes of our maintenance staff is true ministry, because we know it contributes to making Christ known to all who attend Alpine.

—By Jim Johnson, Director of Maintenance

MINISTRY OF FOOD SERVICE

"If I serve all my meals hot and on time but have not love for those I serve, I have become as burnt pizza or lumpy oatmeal. And if I have the gift of baking and all my bread and biscuits turn out as light as clouds but I have not love, I am nothing. And if I spend fourteen hours a day in the kitchen and never ask for overtime but do not have love, I am wasting my time. Love is patient when a camper tells me that his table didn't get any dessert, and I know I haven't miscounted. Love is kind when I see a co-worker carrying something heavy and I offer to help or hold the door open. Love is not jealous when my co-worker gets to bake cookies and I have to wash the dishes. Love is not proud and does not brag about how well my brownies always turn out. Love does not seek its own way and does not keep score of how many times this week I have scrubbed the floor. Love does not take all the credit for a good meal, as if I had done it all by myself. Love does not snap back when a co-worker snaps at me. Washing pots, grating cheese and planning menus will come to an end but love will never end. Tired feet, burned arms and wiping up spills will cease but love goes on forever. Before I worked in the kitchen, I thought it was a comfortable job where I would only have to relate with the campers as much as I chose and where I would receive much affirmation for my skill; but now I see You, LORD, in the face of every camper, counselor and staff member; and how can I say 'no' to You? These three qualities are essential: patience, endurance and love but the greatest of these is love." (copied — Sunni Verinsky)

—Submitted by Food Service Director
Steve Stewart

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING

As I sit in my office, struggling for the words to write to you, the largest storm of the season is taking its place here on the mountain. The rain mixed with snow, driven by strong winds, has been beating against my office window, roof tops, walls, and bending the majestic trees that stand center stage throughout this 46-acre conference center. The power has gone out three or four times in the past few hours and the "dry" creek bed that curves through camp is filling fast with runoff water. Highway 18 from Crestline to Lake Arrowhead is closed, along with several other roads throughout the area, because of rock and mud slides.

I have to stop for a moment to ponder the fact that **GOD IS GREAT!** He is in control! We are not! No matter how great we might think of ourselves, we need to keep a proper perspective on who we are, and what we put out faith in. Matthew 14:25-32, tells the classic story of Jesus walking on the sea to catch up with His disciples, and Peter, with all his gusto for life, hopped out of the boat and started walking toward Jesus but because of a storm that took his mind off Christ, he began to sink!

How many times a day do we begin to sink? Those storms, big and small, tend to grab our attention. Then we worry, fuss and fume over things that we have no control over, but we think we can solve. Unfortunately, I am speaking to myself, for contrary to popular belief, I am not perfect, nor will I be until we all see Jesus in the air.

Storms may come and storms may go, but our love through Christ must remain constant. Our emphasis in planning the program this year is love. Constant love through Christ Jesus. John 15:12-13, "This is my commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friend." Please pray with me, as we work on our programs, that the love of Jesus will shine through, storm or sunny skies.

—Doug Love

NEW FACES ON STAFF

We want to take this opportunity to introduce to you our PROGRAM DIRECTOR, Doug Love. Doug and his family recently joined the Alpine staff to fill a very vital role in the ministry at Alpine. We welcome the Loves to Alpine.



Doug comes from a background of sales of sportswear and most recently from that of manufacturing sportswear. Along with this he has always had deep involvement in his local church, Crown Valley Covenant Church in Laguna Niguel. He and his wife were actively involved in youth ministries and he served on the church board. While in college at Seattle Pacific University Doug played basketball and was involved in basketball camps.

Doug's wife Leslie finds her basic responsibility in that of mother and wife. There are three children in the family: Nikki, age 6 and in first grade; Ali, age 4½ and waiting for school next year; and Brett, age 1 and very active! They are a committed family and you will find a warmth of friendship in their lives.

Welcome, Doug, Leslie and children! It is great to have you as part of the team at Alpine. May God bless your ministry.

COVENANT MEN'S RETREAT

April 15-17

THEME:

"Man — In Awe of the Almighty"

SPEAKER:

Dr. Roy Roberts

MUSIC:

Covenant Four Quartet

**(RETREAT ORGANIZED BY: Clairemont
Covenant Church of San Diego, CA)**

ALPINE BOOSTER CLUB

With each issue of "Alpine Echoes" we will give an update of the "Alpine Booster Club." Many of you have supported Alpine since its beginning 26 years ago. The facility changes that have taken place have been many, and the lives that have been changed through Jesus Christ our Lord have been great, all to God's Glory. Your financial generosity over the years has been a positive, behind the scenes force that has enabled this conference center to grow and meet the needs of those seeking a close friendship with our Lord.

As you may or may not know, we have an obligation, in the form of a loan, to make a monthly payment of \$5,500 to retire the debt on the Mini-Center. This is where the "Alpine Booster Club" plays such a key role in the continuing growth of Alpine. Your contributions toward this payment allows us to use every cent that is generated to its fullest extent in the spreading of God's Word.

In February, we received \$2,814.75 toward our obligation, and we truly thank you, for your support. Unfortunately, we were \$2,685.25 short, and we were unable to make the full payment.

As Christians, representing Christ in the world, we cannot allow ourselves to go flat. If the bottom line of this camp becomes the "almighty buck," we all loose in the end, for what we focus our efforts on is what shows up, Loud and Clear, on the screen.

Let's all join together in supporting Alpine, whether it be, physically, prayerfully, or financially.

NEW MINISTRY TO CHILDREN

Alpine has received the "go" sign to start an After-School Child Care Program this coming fall. It will basically serve families with children from this mountain area. Children would be dropped off after school by parents or by bus and participate in an organized and supervised recreational program. Assistance would be given in areas of homework. Qualified staff would seek to develop personal character traits and abilities. Informal times of spiritual group inspiration will be scheduled at least once a week. Workers will be free to witness the claims of Christ as they play and assist the children. We are limiting the Care Program to elementary grade children.

Several needs will be met — giving parents some added solitude, tending children who would otherwise go home to an empty house, establishing needed rapport with families, and providing a positive, loving environment for sharing the Gospel. Pray with us as we develop this new ministry.

LOST 'N FOUND

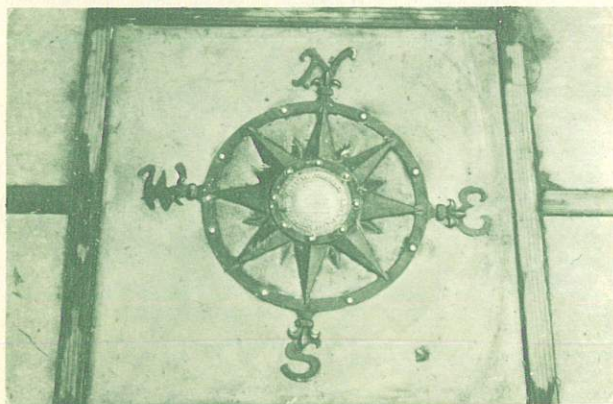
Looking for a missing item of clothing, a Bible or something else? Perhaps you left it here at Alpine during one of your camp or retreat visits. CALL and see if it might be in our Lost and Found Department. Thanks! (714) 337-6287

ALPINE GETS DIRECTION

Installation of a two-foot diameter fixed compass in the sidewalk in front of the main lodge completes twenty-five years of surveying Alpine's grounds by "Coach" Clarence Johnson.

The cast brass medallion placed in the middle of the compass was stamped with statistics which included: "Elevation — 5280.02 ft., Latitude — 34°14' 42,22, Longitude — 117° 13,32 42."

Interestingly enough, the spot chosen for the brass cap turned out to be .02 ft. (about 1/4 inch)



higher than one mile. So Alpine is truly a "mile high" conference center.

Brian Lee and Paul Stayboldt, together with Coach mounted the assembly in concrete as a permanent tribute to two families' dedication to Alpine. One, Coach Johnson, has been involved with Alpine from its beginning, finding survey stakes and pipes, plotting the location of buildings, delving into the legal descriptions of all property purchased. He has entered all pertinent information on Alpine property maps. The second: Fred and Clara Lines. Fred, who owned a small brass foundry in El Segundo, said "I don't have a lot of money, but I would like to do something for Alpine." Coach said "You certainly can. If you could cast some brass property corners for Alpine, it would be of real help to me and of permanent value to Alpine."

To make a long story short, Fred Eliason made a wood pattern for the four-inch diameter brass cap with lettering. They donated them to Alpine. Over the years, Coach Johnson, with the help of many have installed the brass caps at every major corner



of Alpine property.

The compass therefore becomes a real tribute to these two families — Coach Johnson and his late wife, Florence, and the late Fred Linnes and his wife, Clara.

Paul Stayboldt and Coach presented Clara with a copy of the brass cap and recalled a lot of memories.

The families of Clara Linnes, the Mark Linnes, the Evert Audasons, and the Phil Thorsells have donated the compass as a memorial to Fred — another example of what Alpine means to so many.

(This article submitted by Paul Stayboldt, Alpine's first board chairman.)



Couples Conference '83

"Weather" or not, God's Holy Spirit was strongly felt here at Alpine the weekend of February 25-27. Mr. Lee Dochterman, a former administrator of Baptist Homes, a large retirement community and Minister of Family Education, provided our weekend guest couples with tools to enrich and enhance the romance, communication, and joy of marriage. The musical entertainment was provided by "Conquerors IV," a male quartet from Los Angeles Baptist College. If you were not one of the 39 couples who attended this inspiring retreat, make it a point to be our guests next year. The dates will be March 16-18, 1984.

PRAYER CORNER

1. Praise for those faithful in their prayer and financial support.
2. Praise for new Program Director.
3. Wisdom in developing summer program and activities.
4. Selection of summer staff hiring.
5. Funds needed for monthly debt.
6. Lordship of Christ shown and demonstrated to all guests at Alpine.
7. Health and endurance with a spiritual oneness for Alpine Staff.
8. God's leading and comfort for the Westberg family in view of his announced resignation as Executive Director of Alpine.

WORK AND WORSHIP WEEKEND

(A Family Affair)

May 27-30. Memorial Day Weekend

The whole family gets involved Friday evening for Alpine's own "You Asked For It" program. Any extraordinary ability or experience you may have should be reported to Alpine. Please respond so this phase of the excitement will not have to be cancelled.



Productive work and play, topped off with some innovative group worship gatherings, will be extremely satisfying.

Registration information and forms will be available at Covenant churches around the first of April. Earliest postmark date for registration acceptance is April 10.

ALPINE ANGELS

Alpine Angels membership time is here. The first fiscal year of operation ended December 31, 1982, and the Lord has truly blessed us. Alpine Attic Thrift Shop earned \$21,239.05, with 4,052.5 volunteer hours given for the year. The Country Fair and Auction, Boutiques, Sales and Fashion Shows enabled us to get together and share what Alpine has done to change lives and promote Christian fellowship. A scholarship fund has also been established. Total income for 1982 was \$31,513.48. PTL!

How much does a membership cost? You can be an Alpine Angel for \$5.00. Use the following form for your 1983 dues and an opportunity to contribute to the support of the forthcoming Alpine Gift Shop/Bookstore at Alpine. The Gift Shop is planning to open in the fall. Dues and donations are tax exempt. Your membership, support and enthusiasm is much appreciated and will help keep us going. Mail your membership to:

ALPINE ANGELS
Alpine Covenant Conference Center
P.O. Box 155
Blue Jay, California 92317

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____ \$5.00

SPOUSE _____ \$5.00

OTHERS (\$5.00 each) _____

GIFT SHOP PROJECT DONATION _____

ADDRESS _____ Total \$ _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

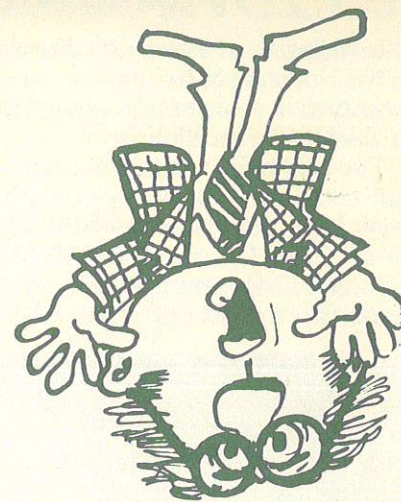
PHONE _____ CHURCH _____

(Please make checks payable to Alpine Angels)

What's Camp All About?



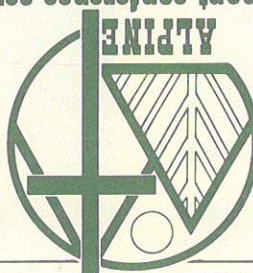
Painful are the years of teens which need tons of understanding and TLC by adults. See the searching faces? Loving these kids individually, enduring their frivolities graciously, introducing them to Jesus, seeing life changes — that's what camp is about. Who are you sending to camp this summer?



WHAT'S ALPINE MINISTRY ALL ABOUT?

Covenant Conference Center
Owned and operated by the Pacific
Southwest Conference of the Evan-
gelical Covenant Church of America,
Box 155, Blue Jay, California 92317.
Telephone 714/337-6287.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



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SUMMER CAMPS — 1983

DAY CAMP (1-6th Grade)

#1 June 20-24 #2 June 27-July 1 #3 July 5-8
#4 Aug. 1-5 #5 Aug. 8-12 #6 Aug. 15-19

INDIAN VILLAGE (Cov. Jr. Age)

#1 July 17-23 #2 July 24-30

JUNIOR HIGH

July 31-Aug. 6

NINERS (At Chalet)

Aug. 21-27

SENIOR HIGH

#1 Aug. 7-13
#2 Aug. 14-20

The program department is taking a fresh look at activities, goals, and spiritual content of summer camp. Our purpose is to keep what was successful last summer and do more innovative things in some program areas. Please pray for your Alpine program staff as they formulate ideas and secure teaching and counseling summer staff.

SPRING SCHEDULE

March

4-6 Lake Avenue Conr. Ch. (High School)
11-13 Mariners Church
11-13 Palmdale Ch. of The Nazarene
18-20 Plymouth Congregational Women
18-20 Lake Avenue Congr. Ch. (College)
25-27 Highland Ev. Free Ch. (Hi Sch. & Col.)
25-27 Japanese Evan. Mission Society
28-31 L.A. Baptist Temple

April

8-10 South Coast Community Church
8-10 Calvary Chapel, San Bernardino
8-9 **Covenant C.E. Board**
13-15 Truett Christian School
15-17 **Covenant Men's Retreat**
18-22 Alpha Christian School
22-24 So. Calif. Assembly of God Women
23-24 Trinity Lutheran Men, San Pedro
25-27 Truett Christian School
27-29 Van Nuys Baptist Church
29-May 1 Church of the Open Door Women

*Rules for acceptance and participation in the camp program are the same for everyone without regard to race, color or national origin.

For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

—1 Corinthians 3:9