

# ALPINE ECHOES

Providing a mountaintop  
encounter with Jesus Christ  
through Christian camping

FALL 2018

## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF MOUNTAINTOP ENCOUNTERS IN ALPINE'S CHAPEL



Before the chapel was built,  
groups gathered for services  
behind Redwood Lodge



Praveena, Cindy, Mia, Jaime, Angel  
and TJ from Lawndale Wesleyan's  
youth group this past summer

**“WHAT HAPPENS AT CHAPEL STAYS AT CHAPEL!”...UH, NOPE!** The truth is: what happens at Alpine's chapel has far reaching effects! Just recently, Tom Vogt, who had recommitted his life to Christ at Alpine 25 years ago, was compelled to bring his wife up the mountain to visit Alpine's chapel on their anniversary. "It was a foggy afternoon, and we made our way to the chapel where I had learned so many lessons about worshiping the Lord."

There are places all over Alpine where campers experience God in significant ways. **The camp chapel is the most iconic with it's 30 ft. tall stone column and a 5-ton ridge beam which meet at the peak of the chapel roof line to point toward the sky.** It is where many campers experience authentic worship for the first time... and long for worship back home to "be like camp." It is where grace is most frequently understood so that it can be more fully experienced on the grounds of the camp.

**This summer we heard from many campers and counselors about their experience of God in this place.** Cindy, who has come to Alpine for the last four summers as a counselor, said "Alpine's chapel experience is unusual: the doors and walls of two sides of the

chapel actually slide open to the outside. It's almost like we're still outside, worshiping in God's creation. I love worship in that setting – the spiritual atmosphere is set in worship, and then the spiritual walls come down and the kids respond to God and experience greater freedom." Another counselor, TJ, was at Alpine for the first time this summer: "Chapel time is very interactive here. The speaker involves us and shares on a relate-able level. It helps open up the campers to what God has for them. "Mia, a high school camper, said "Chapel at Alpine is where I'm ready to hear from God. I'm ready to listen."

**Alpine's chapel was built and dedicated 50 years ago in 1968. There were over 600 people who came to the chapel's dedication on September 1, 1968 to celebrate and pray over the ministry that was yet to take place there.** Bob Brunner, the camp manager at that time, wrote in the September 1968 Echoes, "This morning on the Lord's day I was sitting on the carpeted floor of the chapel just observing the beauty of this place of worship. Over behind the pulpit there is a large rock column 30 feet high which supports

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the building. A cross is centered on the column. To the right in the center of the window arrangement is a small fir tree and to the left there are two large fir trees...It is a beautiful place, inspiring, and a spiritual haven. As I was meditating, my thoughts went beyond the physical beauty to the spiritual aspects of this place of worship – the lives that will be changed, the hearts that will be dedicated, the decisions that will be made, the problems that will be solved. It was a feeling that cannot be expressed too well in words.”

**Though the building was state-of-the-art at the time, it's purpose was never to point to itself.** It was a beautiful structure, dedicated to the Lord's work, to draw people to Himself. Here's a recent story shared with us by a youth pastor that unfolded over two summers while a young man wrestled with God inside and outside of Alpine's chapel:

**“It started two years ago** when I started my current ministry assignment. I walked in and met my kids and there was one 7th grader named ‘Tyrone.’ I could tell he had some big walls up, but I also felt God was going to call this young man into ministry. **Last year** at Alpine, instead of Tyrone making a lasting decision for God, he walked out of chapel and tried to stay cool and hard and not respond to God. **But this year was different.** As the chapel service started, I saw Tyrone, and he was leaning

forward ready and intent on what Joe, the speaker, was going to say. Later in the service, Tyrone was pacing on the chapel patio. By this time I had received a text from Tyrone's mom, and it was a picture of a text he had sent her. It read, ‘I can't talk right now, I'm in chapel, but I accepted Jesus, momma.’ It was the first time

Tyrone accepted Jesus and told someone about it. Finally Tyrone quit pacing and sat next to me. So we prayed, and he cried, and a few leaders and I talked with him and prayed over him until he had finished crying. Seriously, God is gonna use this kid in mighty, mighty ways.”

Only God knows the true statistics of how many hearts have been transformed in the pews of the chapel; how many decisions to restore relationships were made; how many weddings were held; how many calls to ministry were answered, how many addictions were wrestled with and abandoned, how many times truth and grace were received and understood...

**50 YEARS AND COUNTING**  
**WITH ETERNITY IN MIND.** 🌲



*Hearts changed and lives transformed at Alpine's chapel*



*The completed chapel in 1968*



*The chapel under construction in 1968*



*Alpine's 60th anniversary celebrated in the chapel in September 2017*



# EMERGE!

It was a fun and fruitful summer for over **1,300 campers** and counselors at Alpine's program camps. Add to those numbers an additional **3,500 summer guests** who came to Alpine as rental groups.

And, a new addition this year: Rim Park and Rec brought in about **250 children (and their parents)** over the span of 6 weeks for morning swimming lessons. This filled a need for the mountain community, and gave Alpine more exposure throughout the community. It was a win-win for all.

**The theme for the summer was EMERGE, highlighting 2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone**

**is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!"** The true joy of 2018 was seeing children and teenagers begin to grasp, through chapel speakers, cabin devos and counselor input, that no matter what their story, God invites all of us to emerge from the old to step into the new story He is unfolding for our good and for the good of those around us.

**The camp experience once again accomplished what it does best: hearts were touched and some serious faith decisions were made.** Within our own program camps, campers have the opportunity to participate in a survey. Of those who participated,



*Chillin' after pool time*

**85** recorded that they made a first-time commitment to Christ.

**209**

campers intended to seek ways to serve their church and youth group when they got home.

**185** campers recommitted their lives to following Christ.

**309**

said they planned to be more loving with their family.

**123**

said they intended to end an inappropriate friendship.



*And sometimes camp is just plain fun*

**134**

campers declared a desire to change their entertainment choices.



*Junior High and High School campers building community*

**49**

indicated that they were interested in pursuing becoming a youth pastor.

**That's A LOT of youth emerging from their week at Alpine with practical and life-changing steps of faith.** 🌲

# you are the Champions!

**O**ver 117 donors gave \$64,842 to make this greatly needed improvement happen. (Alpine Angels have pledged to donate toward any remaining balance).

**The basketball court repair funds are in, thanks to your generosity!** Three bids have been received. We are planning for the project completion before next summer. 🌲







P.O. Box 155  
Blue Jay, CA 92317

## PRAY WITH US!

For qualified camp  
board member prospects  
to fill openings.

For skilled volunteers  
for Cedar Restroom #4  
and #5 renovations.

For funds for Cedar  
Restroom #4 and #5  
renovations.

For skilled volunteers  
for interior painting.



## UPCOMING PROGRAMMED EVENTS

All are welcome. To register, visit [www.alpine-cc.org](http://www.alpine-cc.org) or call (800) 350-6289.

### FALL EVENTS

#### WOMEN'S RETREAT

October 12-14

#### MEN'S RETREAT

November 2-4

### WINTER CAMPS

#### JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL COMBO #1

January 11-13

#### HIGH SCHOOL

January 25-27

#### JUNIOR HIGH #1

February 1-3

#### JUNIOR HIGH #2

February 22-24

#### JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL COMBO #2

March 1-3

#### ELEMENTARY

March 8-10

Contact us for information on booking  
your own group's camp, retreat,  
team-building or banquet experience.

## Celebrating Other Projects Completed During 2018!

- Nelson Dorm and Cabins 1-6 repainted and new lighting added
- Makuala Showerhouse completed
- Makuala Staff Cabins and AV Shed completed
- Cedar Restroom #3 Remodel completed