Our Community

Longview is a city in Gregg and Harrison counties nestled in the Piney Woods of East Texas. As of the 2010 Census, the population was 80,455. We are conveniently located two hours east of Dallas and less than an hour west of Shreveport. Longview is a major hub city for East Texas and is served by the East Texas Regional Airport.

In 2014, Forbes magazine ranked Longview as the sixth fastest growing small city in the United States. It is surrounded by many smaller cities and towns including: Kilgore, Gladewater, Gilmer, Ore City, Hallsville, Harleton, Diana, White Oak, and Lakeport.

Longview is also home to three colleges: LeTourneau University, Kilgore College at Longview, and UT Tyler at Longview. We are served by two hospitals, Longview Regional Medical Center and Christus Good Shepherd Medical Center. Christus and Eastman Chemical are the top employers in the city and employ almost 5,000 people between the two.

Some of the Local’s favorite destinations include the newly built Arboretum and Nature Center, the Great Texas Balloon Race, the Belcher Center-touring house & performing arts venue, ArtsView Children’s Theatre, Bodacious Bar-B-Q, & Silver Grizzly coffee house.

The Alpine Church

The Church of Christ was established in Longview in August 1875. The church moved to its present location in 1975. The Alpine Church of Christ sits on a hill overlooking a major loop highway on the northeast side of Longview. This 25-acre campus is debt-free and consists of five major structures containing a total of 80,000 square feet of occupied space, including an award-winning private preschool - Alpine Christian Academy. Every building on the campus has been constructed or remodeled within the last 20 years.

Alpine is a diverse community with people of various ages, races, and religious backgrounds. Many members have been at Alpine 10 years or longer. Alpine has an average Sunday morning attendance of 400-450 people including our livestream. The church manages an annual budget of almost $2M including staff, operations, ministry, missions, and Alpine Christian Academy.

Alpine has also had a history of long-tenured ministers, including Larry & Annette Parker, who just retired from worship ministry after 27 years. During Larry’s tenure, Alpine developed two praise teams, a technical team, and has progressed in our freedom and expression of worship.
Alpine Christian Academy

Alpine Christian Academy is committed to loving children in the moment while preparing them for their future. Established in 1995, ACA offers curriculum-based care for children ages 12 months to kindergarten. In addition, there is a daily afterschool program and Summer program for ages 12 month to 5th grade.

ACE

The Alpine Children’s Explorers Ministry teaches kids to love God with all their heart, mind, soul and strength, and to love others as themselves. Our minister, teachers, and volunteers partner with families as we encourage children to know God and live like Christ. The ACE ministry team is serious about capturing the hearts of children, and leading them closer to Christ through a journey of faith.

AYM

Alpine has a dedicated worship area for the Alpine Youth Ministry known as THE LOFT. This space has classrooms for teens to grow in Christ, a game area & hangout space for fostering fellowship among the different age groups, and a café/coffee bar! Our ministry values are: Learn, Worship, Serve, Mercy, Compassion, & Grace. We encourage our teens to be True to Christ and Kind to People while Seeking God Together.

Family Ministry

Alpine’s Family Ministry devotes their efforts toward discipleship and encouraging meaningful church family relationships through fellowship, recreation, service, mentorship, and teaching. This ministry encourages closeness between our members and creates bonds across generational lines with a variety of activities, classes, and projects.

Women’s Ministry

Alpine's Women's Ministry strives to support women in their relationship to God so that through spiritual friendships, service, mentoring, and teaching those participating can experience the freedom to become all that God intends them to be.

“Fun Bunch” Seniors Ministry

Alpine’s ministry to senior adults, called the Fun Bunch Ministry, endeavors to love and serve senior adults at Alpine and in our community. As a group of believers, we strive to encourage and empower each other to grow, mature, and use our talents to serve others in love. This ministry’s motto, “Saved by God’s grace and still running the race” supports its ongoing theme of “Never retired from serving the Lord.”
Alpine has always made it a priority to show Christ to others by supporting foreign missions as well as being actively engaged through serving in the local community.

**Alpine Foreign Missions**

The goal of the Alpine Missions Ministry is to fulfill the Great Commission with diverse and creative initiatives. The annual Missions budget is normally between $150,000 - $200,000 with a long-standing commitment to their partnering missionaries.

Twenty-five years ago, the Alpine Church made a strategic decision regarding missions. The result was a partnership with the Larin family, who have since established churches in two Central American countries. Alpine began partnering with the Cabello family at the Palmview Church of Christ near McAllen, Texas and has continued support for 15 years.

Additionally, Alpine is working in collaboration with the Henderson family in Nomba, Mozambique - planting a cluster of churches in a Muslim-dominated country. Other mission efforts include partnering with the Rempel family through SEND International to train and equip missionaries for unreached populations in multiple countries, and with the Harrison family as part of Pioneer Bible Translators to reach groups who lack a translation in their heart language.

**Pathstones**

A professional counseling service on the Alpine campus, Pathstones provides counseling support and guidance for the community at a reduced rate.

**Compassion Clinic**

The Compassion Clinic is a weekly clinic on the Alpine campus using volunteer doctors and nurses. The clinic focuses on preventative and chronic care for uninsured patients.

**Caring & Sharing**

Caring & Sharing is a joint service ministry of the Pine Tree Church of Christ and Alpine, providing local food and clothing assistance to those in need.

**“Iron Men”**

“Iron Men” is a ministry of Alpine that helps men connect to the church through involvement in local service projects. They often help the elderly with projects like yard clean-up or handicap accessible ramps and assist with disaster relief to areas such as Houston, Alabama, and Oklahoma.
Alpine’s Vision for Worship

While we appreciate the rich heritage within the Churches of Christ, we envision a future not bound by tradition and are open to the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

The Alpine Church strives to submit to the Holy Spirit’s guidance and practice worship that:

- demonstrates reverence for the one true God.
- encourages unashamed expression of our relationship with Christ.
- exhibits biblically sound, relevant teaching/practices.
- inspires every person to lead others boldly and live fully using their spiritual gifts.

Psalm 100:1-2 – Shout with joy all the earth! Worship the Lord with gladness. Come before Him, singing with joy.

When we assemble as a covenant community of believers, we use Psalm 100 as a guide, desiring our corporate worship to be:

- an extension of our daily individual worship, uplifting and filled with joy, acknowledging that the Lord is God.
- foundationally reverent, biblically sound, and Spirit-led, while also meaningful, inviting, and culturally relevant.
- creative, dynamic, and presented with excellence, in order to engage, include, and facilitate worship for everyone.

Psalm 150:1-2 – Praise the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty heavens. Praise Him for His acts of power; praise Him for His surpassing greatness.

When we assemble, we use Psalm 150 as a guide for our worship as we:

- use contemporary and traditional music, acapella and occasional instrumental accompaniment, and spiritual gifts to praise God and creatively teach, exhort, and inspire others for the glory of our Lord Jesus.
- use scripture and sound teaching to share the gospel of Jesus to each generation in a warm and welcoming expression of the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus.
- use prayer and the communion of the Body of Christ to build each other up, bear each other’s burdens, and demonstrate the love of our Lord Jesus.
- use the spiritual gifts of each believer, of all races, genders, ages, and abilities, to give sacrificially, to serve humbly, to encourage mightily, and to boldly proclaim the power of our mighty Lord Jesus.

“Shout with joy all the earth!”
Worship Minister Characteristics

Alpine’s worship minister will be encouraged to assist in leading our congregation to the throne room of God. Therefore, we desire a minister with the following characteristics and skills:

**Galatians 5:22 – But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.**

The Alpine Church desires a worship minister who demonstrates the fruit of the Spirit in their life and who is being shaped by the Holy Spirit with:

- a heart to unite people in worship and not just lead a worship service.
- confidence in leading worship and spiritual matters.
- compassion for all people and circumstances.
- humility as a part of the body of Christ.
- the desire to learn and grow as a disciple and worship leader.
- the ability to relate to people.
- tolerance for diversity as we seek unity.
- a prayerful life.

We also recognize the importance of the following abilities:

- sing with quality
- read music well
- teach new pieces of music
- work with audio/video technology and software
- utilize social media

We value professionalism and teamwork in all areas, including:

- the desire to expand professional knowledge and skills
- effectively working with the praise & tech teams in preparation for worship
- energetically engaging the congregation in participatory worship
- collaboratively working with the preaching minister to plan cohesive services
- competency in public speaking
- maintaining organization
- promoting and providing innovation

“**Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.**” –Romans 12:1
Worship Ministry Support and Participation

The Alpine Praise Team dates back to the early 1990s and originally consisted of 4 members and leader. Over the years, the ministry has been blessed by a significant influx of capability and interest which has supported expansion to its current size: two full teams consisting of 12 members each (3 per part). The ministry also includes several members who attend rehearsals regularly, substitute on the praise team as needed, and participate in special events.

Alpine worship strives for engagement and edification over entertainment, for praise and proclamation over performance. Each worship service is thoughtfully designed around a unified theme and structured to provide a meaningful and uplifting experience to turn us toward God.

The Alpine worship center has seating capacity for approximately 750. The space is outfitted with full audio/video capability including the following:

- Audio – sound booth, with wireless microphones and recording equipment.
- Video – full video capabilities, running ProPresenter 7.
- Livestreaming – new livestreaming capabilities allow us to serve our online audience through Vimeo and Facebook.
- Several volunteer members comprise the Tech Team which runs audio/video for each worship service as well as special events.
- Alpine Worship has use of new LED stage lighting, a newly remodeled practice room, and a recording studio.

The Alpine Praise Team regularly presents “special music” in worship services which may support a particular sermon series or church-wide study topic or celebrate a holiday such as Easter. Format for these presentations has included: soloist or small group accompanied by an instrumental track, small a cappella groups and choirs of 25 or more (a cappella or accompanied).

Outside of Sunday morning worship, the Alpine Praise Team presents annual Praise Nights to teach new music to the congregation. Another Alpine Praise Team highlight is the annual Christmas program presented to the congregation and public.

About the Process

The worship minister search process has been covered in prayer by the leadership, congregation, and a special Prayer Team of members. A Vision Team consisting of 18 members spent two months developing the vision statement included in this packet. And, finally, a diverse Search Team of 16 Alpine members was formed to interface with candidates. Together, we are seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the family God desires to bring to Alpine.
JOB DESCRIPTION – ALPINE CHURCH of CHRIST

Job Title: Worship Minister    Status: Full-Time, Exempt

Designation: This position is a commissioned minister, with authority to conduct religious worship according to the beliefs and practices of the Alpine Church of Christ, as well as direct, manage, and promote Alpine’s religious activities.

Principle Function: Coordinate with the Preaching Minister to lead meaningful praise and worship services and provide staff technical support on the Alpine campus.

Ministry Responsibilities:
1. Provide oversight and direction for services, programs, and events of praise and worship
2. Provide oversight of leader recruitment, development, and training for all worship programs
3. Coordinate, rehearse, and inspire the praise team, tech team, and other ministries as needed
4. Develop additional classes, seminars, programs, and activities to improve effectiveness of the praise team and the services they provide
5. Continually source new music to keep the worship service contemporary and relevant
6. Develop worship services that will flow smoothly and communicate a clear message
7. Constantly evaluate the worship services to make sure they are effective
8. Perform other duties as assigned

Personal Responsibilities:
1. Maintain a high moral and ethical lifestyle, setting a good example
2. Improve personal ministry skills and abilities through continuing education
3. Demonstrate a self-starting ability and work without direct supervision
4. Maintain a strong prayer life with regular Bible study and demonstrate a respect for God’s word
5. Balance work and family responsibilities in an accountable manner

Relational Responsibilities:
1. Mentor and counsel with volunteers to encourage and develop worship and Praise Team leaders
2. Connect with other ministries to gain greater participation in worship-related events and programs
3. Communicate regularly with the Stewardship Team and Administrative Minister
4. Maintain a cooperative team spirit with related programs as well as all church staff and leadership

Administrative Responsibilities:
1. Prepare and submit an annual budget for worship and technology
2. Administer approved budget according to Policy
3. Attend weekly Staff meetings
4. Participate in Staff planning meetings
5. Comply with policies such as safety, screening, and volunteer background checks