



Dear Friends in Christ,

Over the years I've written a number of "stories." Mostly they're incidents from my life or some rambling thought I have had. This one goes back over 20 years:

Our bathroom is not exactly the most fascinating room in the house. There is nothing exceptionally interesting about the toilet, the sink, the shower, or the tub. The room itself is small. There is no room for frilly things on the walls, just the basics and enough room for a grown man and his young daughter at the sink. So there we were Alison the four-year old and I the forty-four year old eager to get this ordeal over with so we could eat. We were at the sink, her hands were in the water and, as usual, I was impatiently waiting my turn.

Suddenly a little voice said, "Aren't they pretty daddy?!" At first I thought I had heard the words wrong, but just in case I took a quick look around the room. There was nothing out of the ordinary, and definitely nothing I would call beautiful. Well my stomach was calling, and Sharry was wondering what was going on in the bathroom. After all, how long does it take to wash hands, even little four year old hands that love to play in the water? But perhaps I was missing something, or maybe it was more a matter of just humoring her so I asked, "What's pretty honey?"

"The flowers, daddy!" The flowers? Now I knew one of us was really losing it, because there weren't any flowers in the room.

"What flowers Alison?"

"These flowers," she said as she looked to her right. I looked again. No, still no flowers. Well, I had heard of imaginary friends, but never imaginary flowers, but who knows. Again I asked, "What flowers honey?"

"These flowers, daddy. Aren't they pretty!?" And then I saw them. On the soap dispenser there was a picture of a beautiful bouquet of violets on a white background surrounded by deep, dark, golden, creamy soap. They were pretty. I stopped to look at them while she continued to play in the water. I'm not sure how long I stared at them, but the next thing I knew Sharry was calling us for supper once again.

As I thought about it, it made perfect sense to me why she had seen them and I hadn't. At three feet something she was eye to eye with them. Of course she would notice them, while at six feet three inches they were out of my line of sight. That explanation made perfect sense. After all it was better than the other explanation. It was better than having to admit that a four year old was more observant than I was. I mean, I am a grown man. I couldn't be that unobservant, could I?

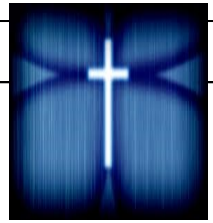
Well, all right, maybe she was more observant than I. So what? That wasn't what bothered me the most. What bothered me was that I hadn't simply lost my powers of observation, but something far more important. I was losing my power to see beauty in the little things in life. The more I thought about this the more I wondered: As we "grow up" is this one of the first things to go? I wondered, in my rush through life how many little flowers, with white backgrounds, surrounded by deep golden liquid have I missed? How many have you missed?

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Randy

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COUNCIL MINUTES - July



Old Business:

1. Sign update- Jon L. talked to Guff today about the sign order. Randy received an email from the city approving the sign due to the fact that it is maintenance. Peter Micchiche talked to Randy and he volunteered take care of the posts for the sign.
2. Audit of Books-John C. shared that the books are in order
3. Storage rooms- Randy shared that we will receive an estimate on the storage rooms by October.
4. Bathrooms- Denise will report on the bathroom updates at the next meeting.

New Business:

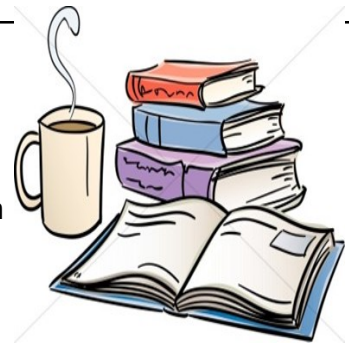
1. Annual Meeting- At this time we are considering having the meeting on November 1, 2015.
2. S.A.M.-Twyla Mundy has requested our support for her to enter the Synodically Authorized Minister Program. The council received information about the program. The council decided to support Twyla. Keith and Randy will each write a letter of support for Twyla.
3. October 31, 2017 marks the 500th Anniversary of Martin Luther posting the 95 Theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. Keith shared information about a Grace Gathering that the ELCA will be hosting on August 10-13, 2016 New Orleans to get things started.
4. Katie Olson would like to support the students at ACC by getting them some school supplies. The Council decided to ask her to share her idea with the congregation and request donations of either money or items. The Council will support her if she has a shortfall in the donations.

WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Thursday: At Kaladi Brothers by Safeway from 8-9 AM for coffee, conversation, reflection, and prayer.

The group is called THIS IS THE DAY and is using the NOOMA series by Rob Bell.

Fridays: Beginning Friday, September 18 from 9:30-10:30 AM at Christ Lutheran Church. In both Bible Studies each lesson stands on its own, so if you miss one week you can come to the next one and not be behind. If you have any questions about either call Twyla Mundy at 250-1510.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school begins Sunday, September 13th at 9:30 AM! There will be classes for those 3 years old through 103. An exciting year of learning and sharing is being planned. We hope all of you will join us.

Three things to think about:

1. There are many adults who feel "Sunday school" sounds kind of childish. If you fall into that category, rather than calling it Sunday school call it "Faith Formation."
2. Faith formation is a great opportunity to learn more. It is also a great opportunity for you to share your insights and faith stories with your brothers and sisters in Christ.
3. Remember one of the ways we learn is by example. Take a moment and ask yourself: "When it comes to faith formation, what kind of example am I setting for my family, friends, the children of this congregation and my brothers and sisters in Christ?"



COMMUNION DATES

10:00 AM Service Sunday, September 6th, and 11:00 AM Sunday, September 20th
6:00 PM Service, 2nd and 4th Sunday, September 13th and 27th

CROCHETING THEIR WAY MINISTRY

We are collecting yarn for women at Wildwood Prison who are crocheting articles for people in the community. There is a box outside of Randy's office for your donations.



SUNDAY SERVICE TIME CHANGE



Beginning Sunday, September 13th, our Sunday schedule will be:
Sunday school 9:30 AM
Confirmation 9:30 AM
Sr. High Faith Formation 9:30 AM
Adult Faith Formation 9:30 AM
Worship 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM

CHURCH CHOIR PRACTICE

For all of you who like to make a joyful noise to the Lord, the church choir will begin practicing on Sunday, September 13 from 9:45-10:45 in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any question contact Anna Veach (334)349-3046.



ALASKA SYNODICAL WOMEN

Biennial Convention and Gathering *Quyana Agiyuun!* September 25-27, 2015

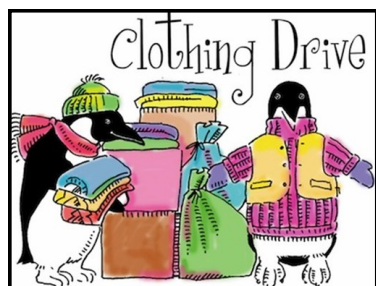
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, Anchorage, Alaska

Hosted by the Christ our Savior and the Greater Anchorage Congregations of the Alaska Synod Speakers, workshops, Bible studies, great food, fellowship, music, worship, business meeting, election of officers, board members and delegates for Triennial 2017, resolutions, displays, yoga, meditation time, service project, Alyeska Tram Ride, local museums, bike rides, shopping, trolley tour of Anchorage and more! **Please register early and bring a friend or family member!**

Guest speakers: Patti Austin, WELCA President and Allen Budahl, LSSA Cost: \$75 Registration and Travel scholarships are available

Contacts: Alisa Butcher 907-388-2436 lukealisabutcher@gmail.com AND Sue Delgado 907-250-7973 suzydel7032@gmail.com

BROTHER FRANCIS SHELTER



When you are homeless, life on the street can be harsh. As the weather turns colder it can be even more difficult. New, clean and lightly used clothing including shoes, boots, hats, scarves, socks, etc. continue to be collected. Handmade items are appreciated. Drop off items at the church and they will be delivered to one of the homeless outreach agencies. Contact Sandy 262-7460 or sandyalaska@gmail.com for more information.

LUNCH BUNCH - CALLING ALL LADIES!!!!

Ladies: The Lunch Bunch will meet Tuesday, September 8th, at 11:30 AM at the new Acapulco Restaurant



Remember in Prayers:

Healing for: Bev Wahl recovering from knee surgery; Jim Delker recovering from back surgery; Dale Sandahl recovering from Achilles tendon surgery; Lyn Sandahl; Alec Romatz's shoulder issue; Katie MacLeod's niece who had a mini stroke; Jim Andrews having heart problems; Natasha's friend in Germany; Keith Pieh's knee; Twyla Mundy's friend starting chemo treatment; Kay Shook's son-in-law who was in a motorcycle accident; Wayne Mundy's friend who hit a moose on a motorcycle; Sandee Simon's brother's friend in a coma; Donna Alder's back; Billie Shackleton balance problems; Anna Nisler's hip as she goes through physical therapy; Jim Delker's niece dealing with kidney issues; K Dean's son-in-law's mom who had a stroke; Marsy's dad with back pain and other problems; Sandee Simon's friend with genetic problems; Katie MacLeod's lung problems; Katie MacLeod's niece's husband, John, needs liver transplant; Dennis Bible's cousin's granddaughter, Emily recovering from an automobile accident; Stephanie Bouchard who is dealing with lupus; Darnell Schneider - dealing with health problems-wisdom for her doctors.

Continued prayer for those with cancer: Lori Weimer's father; Scott's Uncle recently diagnosed; JoAnn's friend, Marilyn; Natasha's friend, Charlene, with liver cancer; Ted Kreger with a rare form of cancer; Kathy Gensel's friend with breast cancer; Norma Forbs and her husband both battling cancer; Marlene Pearson's friend undergoing treatment; Sue Bigg's friend, Jerry; Jon and JoAnn Hagen-Lillevik's friend undergoing treatment; Lana Syverson's brother-in-law; Sandy Knutson; Deanne Pearson's friend in Seattle and her sister with breast cancer; Scott Cunningham's mother; Dee Richard's brother, Bob; Leslie Virelli; Barb Norbeck's friend; Michael Hollinger's mom; Polly Crawford undergoing treatment for spine cancer; Katie MacLeod's nephew, Joe Auld; John Brewer's brother, Glenn; Dee Richards five year old grand niece undergoing leukemia treatments; Rochelle Schneider's son-in-law, Tom; Dick Evenson undergoing chemotherapy; Chris Stiue's family friend diagnosed with brain cancer.

Strength for: Renee Henderson's and JoAnn Hagen's friend undergoing radiation treatment; Belle Warren; families facing difficult situations; Betty Wittenberg's father dealing with Parkinson's; Robin Castleman's brother suffering from depression; Jeanna Carver's niece dealing with anorexia; Marlene Pearson's son, Mark, who has ALS; Belle Warren dealing with family problems.

Prayers for: safety for those traveling; the community of Sitka; peace in the world; those suffering from depression; people who deal with different addictions; an end to racial prejudice; wisdom for the doctors trying to figure out the cause of Blaine Carver's headaches; Robin Castleman's niece's twins, Patrick and Andrew who are now home; peace in Somalia, Palestine; Israel, Nigeria, Middle East, Syria and Ukraine; safety for those in the military; protection for Jamie Willard's husband in Afghanistan; Synod Prayer Partner – Alaska Native Lutheran in Anchorage; wisdom for the leaders of our country and world; the unemployed.

Comfort for the family and friends of Ron Martinson; children around the world who are in orphanages.

Thanksgiving for: Continued improvement for Dan Houglum.

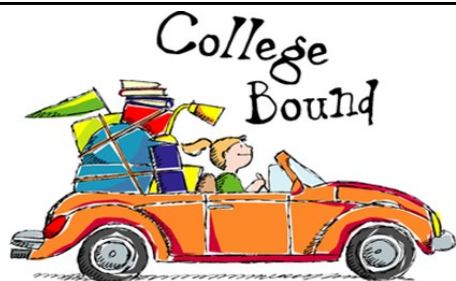


ANNUAL CHICKEN BARBEQUE

Sunday, September 27, following the 11:00 AM Worship Service
The Annual Christ Lutheran Chicken Barbeque will take place for your dining pleasure and to provide an opportunity to reconnect with members and meet guests. Christ Lutheran will provide the chicken, coffee, juice, plates and eating utensils. You provide a side dish, salad, rolls, chips, etc. SEE YOU THERE!!



COLLEGE STUDENT ADDRESSES NEEDED



If you have children in college or the military please email the church or phone the church office with their address. This information allows us to send them the Nugget and our Annual Christmas Care Package. Even if the address is the same as last year, please provide us with this information.

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is a joint project of Soldotna United Methodist Church and Christ Lutheran Church. Additional support comes from generous individuals, organizations, local businesses, as well as help from the Kenai Peninsula Food Bank.

In July a total of 161 boxes were distributed serving 289 adults and 181 children. The pantry is open Wednesday from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated.

Bagging begins Wednesdays at 10:00 AM and you are welcome to come for an hour or for the afternoon. Peanut butter, cereal, canned fruit, canned entrees like chili, ravioli, pork and beans, etc. are always needed. If you are shopping and wish to buy extra food for the pantry, please drop it by the church and we will get it to the pantry. Small bottles of shampoo, bars of soap, toothpaste, etc. are also needed. Of course, money is always appreciated. There is a donation container on the table for your gifts. If you wish to help with the staffing any Wednesday (10:00 AM-2:00 PM), please call Cosette at 262-7610.



PHOTO DIRECTORY

The church photo directories are here. If you haven't picked yours up you can do so after Sunday worship or during the week at the church office.

Church Photo Directory





Non Profit Org
PRST STD
US POSTAGE PAID
Permit #16
Soldotna AK 99669

PO Box 568
Soldotna AK 99669
Return Service Requested

Christ Lutheran Mission Statement:

Knowing Christ

Empowering His Followers

Making Him Known To Others

Please Call Us ... 262-4757

We want to include you in our prayers, arrange for pastoral visits, and announce information to the congregation, when appropriate. Please notify the church office as soon as possible when:

- A member of your family or someone you know dies.
- You or someone you know is ill or grieving.
- You or someone you know is in the hospital.
- You or someone you know wants to plan a baptism, wedding or celebration.
- You move or change telephone numbers.