

Kenai
Christian
Church

NEWS

John 11:25

October 20, 2011

Vol. 11 No.10

Our Services

Sunday

Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11:00 AM
Evening 6:30 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 PM

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October is Minister Appreciation Month
Let's take a moment to say THANK YOU!

Upcoming Dates:

Congregational Thanksgiving Dinner

Wednesday, November 23rd

KCC Family Life Center 5:45 pm

Congregational Workshops
November 27 & December 4th
5:30 pm in the chapel

Hay Maze

4 yr olds thru 5th graders join us at

Solid Rock Bible Camp

Saturday, October 22nd * 1:30-3:30 pm

\$5.00 per person

Monday October 31st

5:30-7:30 pm

KCC parking lot

“Harvest Around the World”

Turn your trunk into a gateway to the nations. If you don't have a trunk to decorate, there are lots of other opportunities to serve.

See Dane or Bee Myers

394.8303 or themyerstribe@gmail.com

Daylight Saving Time ends November 6th.

Set your clocks back one hour before bed on Saturday. Remember to change the batteries in your smoke alarms, too!

Minister's Outlook cloudy-misty and 38° (10-16-11) 7:00 a.m.

Winter--Coming Ready or Not

Today, the evidences of approaching winter are especially evident. The sky looks ominous! The atmosphere is laden with moisture! The clouds and the earth appear to have merged together as one! The leaves are gone! And, the landscape emits the appearance of starkness and desolation! Indeed, the whole land mass seems to be saying, "Lord, it is time to be covered with a blanket of snow so that a much needed rest can occur."

Though nature appears to enter into a state of dormancy, it is certain that we who live in Alaska have no such expectation for ourselves. Indeed, we must make suitable adjustments for the winter months ahead. As ones created in the image of God and created for godly purposes, our lives are to go on with robust energy and appreciation for the good gifts our Lord has given us.

On occasion, we need to remind ourselves of the blessings that we so quickly forget. Sometimes, we become convinced that there is another place where we could live more comfortably and more fully for the kingdom of God. This could be true, but most of the time it is not. Most of the time when we put our perceived comforts ahead of what the Lord teaches us, we stray farther from the Lord that we ever previously did. The Lord prefers that we learn to serve and appreciate Him where we are--not where we think we would like to be.

I once heard a story that we need to think about. I have related the story in morning messages and bible school classes. It is still worth repeating.

A humble 1700's family in old England was forced to load their meager belongings into their ox cart and move to another community in search of work. As they arrived near a new community several miles away, they met an old man sitting alongside the road. They inquired of him, "Sir, is this a good community? The old man asked, "What was the community like that you came from?" "Oh, it was a wonderful community," they said. "The people were simply the nicest people in the world!" The old man said, "I think you will find this community very much like the community you came from." The family thanked the old man for his encouraging words and went on their way.

A few hour later another family who was moving approached the same old man and asked him the same question. "What is this community like," they asked. He answered, "What was the community like that you left?" They replied, "The folks were selfish, mean, unkind, and unloving." The old man replied, "I think you will find this community much like the community you came from."

The moral of the story is obvious--we are tend to determine how well things are going in our lives based upon our attitude. This is good if our attitude development has been guided by God. It is bad if our attitude has been developed by concentration of our own "perceived" needs. Let's enjoy the days ahead and thank God for them.

--Robert

Encouragement Corner

A Time for Thanksgiving

There is no doubt, that as a child this was by far my favorite time of year. There's no better place on earth to be (in my mind) than Northern Michigan from mid October to late November. The fall colors are almost blinding...farmers are harvesting their crops... fresh produce abounds...flocks of waterfowl cackle overhead as they migrate south...the rivers fill up with spawning salmon...and the woods come alive with more deer, squirrels, grouse and rabbits than you can shake a stick at.

With that said, one of the things that I enjoyed the most about the fall was sharing the bounty of the land with family and friends. Whether it was crowded around a card table in a buddy's garage, eating fresh back straps off a deer we had just harvested... sipping ice cold apple cider back at deer camp...or coming in from the woods to a piping hot acorn squash fresh from the oven...there was no end to the fresh food and fellowship of fall. Of course, all of this would come to a grand crescendo the last Thursday of November, when my family would gather together at Aunt Maryann's farm house for Thanksgiving dinner.

As with so much of life, time has a way of changing things. Gone are the carefree days of my youth, as I've traded in the splendors of a Northern Michigan fall, for the chill of an Alaskan pre-winter. Yet through it all, one constant remains that helps me maintain my sanity (such as it is). I still enjoy gathering together with others this time of year to share together in great food and fellowship. Hence, the reason that I have once again volunteered my services to oversee the annual Thanksgiving meal here at Kenai Christian Church.

Although the meal is still in the planning phase, we're once again in need of a tremendous amount of help to pull it off. Last year was a smashing success and we're currently gearing up for a repeat. The plan is to stick with a Surf N' Turf format with a few minor changes from previous years. In order for this to happen, we're once again going to need several people to serve as cooks, servers, runners, set-up/clean-up crew, etc. If you're interested in serving in one of these capacities, please see me, or shoot me an e-mail to let me know how you would like to assist. I look forward to another great meal together.

Because He's the Truth,
Bryan

Mission Moment

“First Fridays”

Do you like food? Do you like to help people? Well then First Fridays might just be right up your alley. On the first Friday of every month, people from Kenai Christian Church are heading over to the Friendship Mission to cook and serve dinner, get to know people and have a great time. If you want to be a part of this, look for the sign-up sheet in the foyer. It will have a list of items to bring, as well as who is in charge for that month.

Here's a little Q and A

What if all the slots are full?

As spots fill up, and more people want to participate, we will be including more nights to serve throughout the month. Just let the person in charge (the name on the list) know that you want to help out.

Can my family and I or my friends go and cook dinner outside of “First Fridays”?

Absolutely!! Just get in contact with Skipper and Mary Anne, the directors of the Friendship Mission and tell them when you would like to help out. They are always up for some good food and fellowship.

What if I have some other ideas of ways to help the community or different projects we can be apart of?

Come see Dane or Bee Myers or Amy Gozelski of the Missions team. We would love to see the hands & feet of KCC spread all throughout our community. If you are already involved in some sort of local outreach or mission, please come and let the Missions team know! We would love to share your ministry (or just what you do if you are camera shy) here in the newsletter.

Remember, it's all about Jesus, and getting His Name to the nations. That includes right here at home. So let's keep thinking globally and acting locally!



Shoebboxes are available in the foyer. Please take a brochure which has a list of suggested items and a label for the outside of the box.

Please return your shoebox for Dedication Day,

Sunday, November 20th

Thank YOU!

~ PRAISES ~

Mya Spinka was immersed October 5th.

She is the daughter of Lori and James,
big sister to Ben & Canon.

Skipper and MaryAnn Cowgill placed their
membership on September 25th.

Welcome to the KCC Family

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. II Corinthians 5:17



Share Christ's Love with a child
in Russia this Christmas!

SOAR's *Stuff a Stocking* project is a
unique opportunity for you and your
family to personally make a differ-
ence in the life of a child in Russia.

The Stockings and Bibles you sponsor will be delivered to needy children in Russia by SOAR's team of volunteers and a pastor or believer from a local Russian Church. Your support makes it possible to reach orphans, street children and other needy children in Russia with the love of Christ and God's plan of Salvation. Watch for brochures to come or for further detail, you may contact SOAR International Ministries, Coordinators Mike and Jan Barclay at 262-1961 or www.soarinternational.org where you can sponsor a stocking and pay online.

Or you may contact Gayle Ross
with questions at 283-8497.



Veterans Day is November 11th
Thank you for your service!

Our Condolences
to the Martin and Burkhart family,
Carroll Martin's mother,
Vada Martin
passed away September 10, 2011



KCC Women

Ministering to the women of Kenai Christian Church since June 1999

Huge THANK YOU to Robert DeVold, James Spinka, Neal Duperron, Dane Myers, Chris Myers, Mike Efta, Braxton Cox and Dave Daniel for all your help loading and unloading the truck for the womens' retreat. Adam Meyers you are our hero for setting up our sound and tech equipment, and being "on call" when something doesn't work. We could not have done it without all of your help!

The support of all the men who take time off work and rearrange their schedules so the women can come is a blessing in itself.

The women of KCC are blessed by the men of KCC. Thank you for an amazing weekend.

Women's Ministry Team



Daylight Saving Time ends November 6th. Turn your clocks **back** one hour.

Retreat may be over, but hopefully you haven't forgotten what you learned. Here are a few highlights from retreat weekend. Hopefully this encourages you to continue to seek God:

Breathe of God...Lori

What would it sound like if the Lord called my name?... Leslie

Family worship doesn't have to be a planned sermon. "Just start SOMETHing!" From birth, we only have 936 weekends with our children (until they are 18 and move out)...Zee

To listen for God calling me. It's much easier to hear the laundry calling me...the dishes calling me....Annie

How many people don't believe because we sell them a little bitty God...Lori

What is drawing me away from seeking God?...Leslie

God wants all of my life, not just the part I want Him part of....Diane



Parenting Book Review

by, Veronica Copenhaver

Do you wonder if your discipline is effective? Are you really reaching the heart of your child or did they just parrot back to you the appropriate behavior to avoid negative consequences? Have you read Tedd Tripp's book, *Shepherding a Child's Heart*, and then wondered how to apply his great advice? Are you just stumped when it comes to disciplining children? If you answered yes to any of these questions then you must read, *Don't Make me Count to Three*, by Ginger Plowman. In this book, Plowman lays out applicable ways to discipline and train up a child. She points out how you need to do more than just spank (or whatever you do) the child. You need to teach them why it is wrong (what command from God is being broken) as well as model (act out) the correct response. Plowman offers practical and useful advice that you can start incorporating right now in your household. With all the parenting books I've read this one by far is the BEST!



Pumpkin Cheddar Muffins

1 c. canned pumpkin
3 TBSP sour cream
2 eggs
1 stick unsalted butter, melted and cooled
2 c. flour
1 & 1/2 tsp. baking powder
1/4 tsp. cayenne
1 & 1/2 tsp. coarse salt
1 & 1/2 tsp. freshly ground black pepper
1/2 c. light brown sugar
1 & 1/4 c. grated sharp white cheddar

Preheat oven to 400°. Use a paper towel to lightly coat the insides of 12 muffin cups with vegetable oil. Whisk together the pumpkin and sour cream. Whisk in the eggs and cooled, melted butter until combined. Set aside.

In a large bowl, whisk the flour, baking powder, cayenne, salt, pepper and brown sugar. Make a well in the center of the dry ingredients. Add the wet ingredients into the well and gently fold until combined. Fold in 3/4ths of the cheese.

Divide the batter among the muffin cups. Sprinkle tops with the remaining cheese. Bake for 20 minutes, or until golden and the tops spring back when lightly pressed. Cool in the pan for 10 minutes, and then turn out the muffins to a cooling rack. Serve warm.

'Tis the Season for Pumpkin...

Here are some facts you may not know about pumpkins. They are a fruit and contain potassium and Vitamin A; they are 90% water.

While most pumpkins are orange, they also come in dark green, light green, white, red, gray, blue, and orange-yellow. In early colonial times, pumpkins were used as an ingredient for the crust of pies, not the filling. The origin of pumpkin pie is thought to have occurred when the colonists sliced off the pumpkin top, removed the seeds, and then filled it with milk, spices and honey. The pumpkin was then baked in the hot ashes of a dying fire. Native Americans flattened strips of pumpkins dried them and made mats. Six of the seven continents can grow pumpkins including Alaska! Antarctica is the only continent that they won't grow in. And, the largest pumpkin ever grown weighed 1,140 pounds.





Alien Youth Alert!

November 2011

Verse of the month:

Acts 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

Family Groups!

Family groups have officially been assigned! Here are a list of your leaders. Feel free to contact them about when your family group will be meeting.

Middle School: Jason & Julie Carroll

Freshmen: Dane & Bee Myers

Sophomores: Granger & Bethany Nyboer

Juniors: James & Lori Spinka

Seniors: Scott & Annie Peek

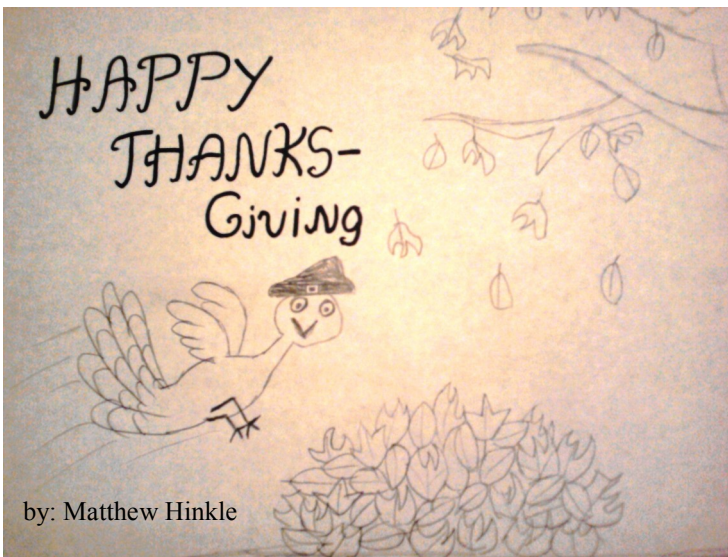
A Thankful Attitude

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 says, "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Have you ever caught yourself griping or having a spirit of ungratefulness? I have fallen into this trap far more times than I would like to admit. Sometimes my circumstances influence my attitude so much that before long I look nothing like Jesus.

Sometimes it is the cracking in the garage floor that makes me ungrateful. Yet I should be thanking God that I even have a garage floor. Sometimes it is illness that influences me in a negative way. Yet I should be thanking God for another opportunity to praise His name and make it known to others. Sometimes there are relationships that cause me frustration. Yet I should be thanking God that He has surrounded me with people who love me. Sometimes it is finances that cause me stress. Yet I should be thanking God that I live in luxury compared to the majority of the world.

These outside influences are detractors that keep us from giving God the daily glory that He deserves. How dare we begin to complain about any situation that we face when we compare it to the reality that Jesus faced as He died in our place, taking on sin and the wrath of God. There is not a possible scenario that we can face that can begin to amount to the situation that Jesus willingly took upon himself. So when we put it in perspective, there truly is not a time in our lives when we should not be thankful. After all, God's Word did not limit the times in which we should be thankful, so why should we?

Thank you Jesus,
-Adam



by: Matthew Hinkle

A Pumpkin Carving Family Devotion

Being a Christian is just like a pumpkin! Let me try to explain, I brought this pumpkin here to help me illustrate what I mean. (Proceed to carve the pumpkin.)

First, God pulls you from the pumpkin patch and brings you in from the field. The Bible says He selects us out of the world. We are in the world, but no longer of the world. He then washes all the “dirt” off the outside that we received from being around all the other pumpkins. All the outside influences of our former life must be cleaned up. Old things are passed away and all things are become new.

Through His Son Jesus Christ, God carefully removes all the “yucky stuff” called “sin” out from the inside. Look at this! Yuk! Sin will not have such internal power. He then changes us from the inside out by the Power of His Word. That’s why it is important to go the church and learn about God’s Word. He carefully removes all those seeds of doubt, hate, greed, and fear. He replaces them with the seeds of faith, hope and love. As Jesus grows inside of you, you begin to experience the changing power of God’s love in your life.

Then He carves a new smiling face. Our countenance is changed by the power of His presence in our life. We then become so grateful. It can even show on our face!

Now we are going to light this candle inside. Look! This pumpkin now reflects the light from inside out. So too, when Jesus, who is called the Son of Light, lives inside of us, He shines through our life for all to see. We can let His light reflect through us to reveal His presence. “Let your light so shine before men that they may be able to see your good works and glorify your Father, who is in heaven.”

So you see, we Christians are really like this pumpkin! We will never be the same with Jesus inside of us. We can say like this jack-o-lantern, “Thy presence, my light!”

taken from, Reallifeblog.net