

Kenai
Christian
Church

NEWS

John 11:25

November 12, 2011

Vol. 11 No.11

Our Services

Sunday

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

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Ministers

Robert DeVolld
Phone: 907-262-2822 -Home
Email: devolld@acsalaska.net

Bryan Copenhaver
Phone: 907-260-4771 -Home
Email: bckcc@gci.net

Women's Ministry

Leslie Daniel
Phone: 907-283-4559
Email: ldkcc@gci.net

Youth Minister

Adam Meyers
907-953-0102
Email: amkcc@gci.net



*Congregational
Thanksgiving Dinner
Wednesday, November 23rd
5:45 pm
KCC Family Life Center
Friends and family welcome*

*Happy Thanksgiving
~from the staff at KCC*



KCC News is published monthly by

Kenai Christian Church

104 McKinley Street, Kenai AK 99611

Phone: 907-283-4559

FAX: 907-283-4560

Email: kcc@gci.net

WEB: www.kenachristianchurch.net

Layout

Annie Job

Editor

Annie Peek

Women's News Layout

Susan Lee

Editor

Annie Job

Publishing

Jean Widmayer

Chrystle Henderson

Joy Winston

Louann Peery

Thou hast given so much to me
Give one thing more, a grateful heart;
Not thankful when it pleaseth me,
As if Thy blessings had spare days,
But such a heart whose pulse may be They praise.
~George Herbert~

Christmas Lights

"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. . . ," so says the song. I have often wondered just what Christmas is supposed to look like. Though we know neither the exact time nor season of Jesus' birth, God surely intended that we remember it and all of the accompanying glory which surrounded it, because He had Matthew and Luke record in vivid detail what took place.

Several years ago during the beginnings of the congregation, Sheila decided to plan a fine Christmas program. Problem was, at that time we were so small in number that the people in the program would have eliminated a goodly number of people who would have been able to enjoy it.

To solve this, Sheila gathered together all the children of the families who attended and took them to a few farms in the area. At each farm we dramatized a specific portion of the Christmas story and recorded these still dramas scenes by taking slides.

Shelly Thompson Dubois was the innkeeper. Her picture was taken looking out the door of an old out building. Trudy Thompson Jones was Mary. Deryl Winters was Joseph. At the Wahl farm Mary was seated on a donkey with Joseph holding the halter. A newborn baby was graciously supplied by the Kaufman family. Inside the barn we had capable shepherds gathered near. They consisted of the Martin and DeVold boys. At the Hansen farm we also had the shepherds herding live sheep.

Kevin Winter, Blair Martin, and Lisa Martin Burkhart were the wise men. Our several angels were a mix of the primary and beginner age youth robed in white splendor and wearing mukluks! *No one in the entire cast was past junior high age.* It was a sight to behold! It was also cold and snowy but the children had a great time.

The adults had a part also. Pictures of them were taken while they shopped at the BRAND NEW CARRS SHOPPING MALL! My assignment was to write and coordinate the script with the pictures.

On the eve of the program there were quite a number of people present because we were now all a part of the audience. It was a good evening. Good memories still abound. The refreshments were especially delightful. Jesus' birth was appreciated, and God was revered and loved!

See you Sunday, the Lord willing--Robert

The following excerpt was taken from a book entitled "Stories Behind the Great Traditions of Christmas" by Ace Collins.

Martin Luther transformed the look of the Christmas tree forever after a late-night December walk through the German woods almost five hundred years ago. Enthralled with the way the starlight looked as it filtered through branches of evergreen trees, he felt as if the hand of God had touched his soul and had allowed him to see the world in a much different way. Stopping on a snow-covered rise, he studied the scene for some time. Its tranquil beauty and soft light brought a great sense of peace to Luther.

Determined to duplicate the atmosphere of that outdoor scene inside his own home, the minister attached candleholders to the tree's limbs and wowed his family and friends with the first brightly lit Christmas tree. From this humble beginning, the custom of putting candles on Christmas trees quickly swept across Germany.

Because of the new interest in lighting Christmas trees, craftsmen began to produce ornate candleholders that were made just for using on tree limbs. Specifically designed and multicolored candles soon followed. By the mid-1800's, a beautiful fir tree, trimmed with ornaments and lit by scores of candles, came to represent two things. First, it came to represent the perfect Christmas scene. It was pictured over and over again by illustrations in magazines, newspapers, books, and on Christmas cards. In just three centuries, the lighted Christmas tree had evolved into as much a symbol of the season as had St. Nicholas and the nativity scene.

But the Christmas tree also came to represent an extremely dangerous fire hazard. Countless trees were set ablaze by candles, thousands of homes were burned to the ground annually when a candle ignited a tree limb, and hundreds of people died each year in fires started by Christmas-tree candles. Yet the beautiful glow of the candlelight, even if it was a major fire risk, meant so much to so many people that concerned firemen could not convince even their own families to give up using these fiery decorations. It would take both time and technology to blow out the Christmas-tree candles.

In 1879 Thomas Edison changed the way America illuminated houses, with his invention of the light bulb. Three years later, one of his employees, Edward Johnson, decided to apply this new invention to the Christmas tree.

As had become their family custom, in 1882 the Johnsons purchased an evergreen tree and put it up in the parlor of the family's New York home. As they decorated the newly cut tree, Johnson was struck with an idea. Using the process of the Edison laboratories, Johnson produced a string of eighty small and brightly colored electric light bulbs. Much brighter than the light of a similar number of candles, the bulbs gave off a constant glow that was almost intoxicating. Johnson took them home and strung them around his tree. As the lights lit up the room and shone through the large window, the neighbors began to walk by the house and marvel at what they saw.

...continued

As most people did not even have electricity, the sight of a green tree illuminated by bulbs seemed almost magical. Yet even more incredible was that the Johnson's lights didn't just glow; they flashed on and off.

Even in a city the size of New York, the Edison employee's inventive decorations created a great stir. A parade of people constantly walked by the Johnson's home, and scores of people knocked on the front door, asking to see the tree up close.

(And as they say...the rest is history)

Mission Moment

MISSION: SUCCESSFUL!!

On Monday, October 31st the church's parking lot was filled with much more than the year's first snowfall, it was overrun with Superman, Fairy Princesses, Ironman, Little Monkeys and an entire family of lawn gnomes. There were also trays of macaroni and cheese, over 500 hotdogs, gallons of coffee and hot chocolate and bags and bags of candy. This year's trunk or treat was a great success, thanks to you! We want to thank all the people who helped set up, clean up, cook, serve, decorate trunks, put on puppet shows, advertise in the community, and donate time, money and candy. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

If you are looking to give out this holiday season, here are a couple of outreaches our church is a part of:

STUFF-A-STOCKING

Sponsored by [S.O.A.R. International Ministries](http://www.soarinternational.org), the *Stuff A Stocking* program collects funds to give children in Russia a Christmas present of hope in Jesus Christ. Personally sponsor a stocking for a needy Russian child! Your stocking will be filled with items purchased in Russia. Your \$35.00 (USD) will fill and deliver a stocking and \$5.00 (USD) a Russian children's Bible. You can also add a personal touch by writing a letter to an orphan including your name, address and a picture. Your letter will be placed in the front pocket of your stocking along with a clear explanation in Russian of the Christmas story and Gospel message. Learn more at, www.soarinternational.org

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

What happens when you take a small shoebox, fill it with toys, games, letters and hygiene products and give it to Samaritan's Purse? Children all around the world are blessed during the holiday season. Please grab one of the empty shoe boxes in the Foyer, and follow the instructions and that shoebox full of love will be distributed to a child somewhere around the world. With it will come the message of Jesus Christ, and the hope of knowing and following Him. Go to www.samaritanspurse.org/occ to find out more about this ministry.

Let's look out, reach out, and love this holiday season.



~ PRAISES ~

Aaron & Angie Miller

placed their membership on October 16th
The Millers would like to thank you for making their family feel welcomed.

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

Upcoming Dates & Times



Nov 27 & Dec 4 Congregational Workshop 5 pm
7th Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
21st Wednesday evening, dismissed
24th Candlelight Service 5:30 pm
25th 11 am Worship only
28th Wednesday evening, dismissed
January 1st evening service, dismissed



Cookie Theater December 18th 6:30 pm

*"Tell Me The Old, Old Story
of Jesus and His Love"*

Tana Butler and I would like to invite you to participate in *Cookie Theater*, by sharing your talents. If your child would like to play an instrument, sing a song, recite a memory verse or whatever you choose, please let us know. The whole, or even a part of the family, is welcome to participate. Please let Tana or myself know if you would like to add to the celebration of the birth of Jesus by sharing a special.

In Christ,
Susie Knudsen, 335.0106
Tana Butler 283.7359



Calling All Bakers
Cookies and treats are needed
for Cookie Theater.

Please bring 2 dozen of your favorite recipe to the FLC kitchen the morning of December 18th.



Ministering to the Women of Kenai Christian Church since June 1999

Save the Date:

**new
year's
party!**

Women's Dinner Party January 6, 2012 6:30 pm at Paradisos.

In lieu of a Christmas party, come help us kick off 2012!

Tickets are \$20.00 (non refundable) & will be available for purchase on November 27th. Purchase a ticket from Lori Spinka, Chantel Taylor or the church office by January 1st (Men, this would make a great stocking stuffer for your wife!)

Women's Bible Studies will resume January 12th

Visit the Women's Table in the foyer on January 1st & 8th for sign ups.

*Gospel Garden is expanding its childcare for the Thursday morning studies only. This will include children birth thru 5th grade. However, childcare will no longer be available Thursday evenings or Saturdays. Children must be pre-registered by January 1, 2011. Register online or at the Women's Table on January 1st.

Upcoming Dates:

December 7th Pearl Harbor Day

Cookie Theater December 18th 6:30 pm

Soul Café & Evening services will be dismissed during Christmas break, December 21st & 28th

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, December 24th 5:30 pm KCC Family Life Center,
Friends and family welcome!

Christmas falls on a Sunday this year, Sunday school and Evening services are dismissed. Come Worship with us at 11 am, family and friends always welcome!

****Be sure to check out the KCC website for info, kenaichristianchurch.org****



Layered Pumpkin Pie in a Jar

Here's a fun idea to send home with your Thanksgiving guests

Ingredients

For the graham cracker crust layer:

- 1-1/2 c. graham cracker crumbs
- 3 T. brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 4 T. unsalted butter, melted and slightly cooled



For the pumpkin layer:

- 1 c. milk
- 1 15-oz. can pumpkin puree (not pre-spiced pumpkin pie filling)
- 2 pkg. (4-serving size) Jell-O vanilla flavor instant pudding & pie filling
- 1-1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. ginger
- 1/4 tsp. cloves

Preheat oven to 350°. Place the mixing bowl and beater(s) for beating the cream into the freezer to chill.

First prepare the graham cracker crust layer. Stir together the graham cracker crumbs, sugar, cinnamon, and salt. Then add the melted butter and stir until evenly moistened. Spread mixture in a 9 1/2 x 13 1/2 pan and bake for 5 minutes. Stir and bake for another minute or two, or until crumbs are fragrant and nicely browned. Be careful not to burn. Remove from oven and let cool completely while you prepare the other pie layers.

Now for the whippy cream cheese layer and the finishing dollop of sweetened whipped cream – my favorite part! Using your chilled bowl and beaters, whip the cream until stiff. Add the powdered sugar and beat just to combine. Remove sweetened whipped cream to another bowl and set it in the refrigerator. Add the cream cheese to the same chilled bowl and cream until very smooth, about 1 to 2 minutes. Blend in the vanilla. Now add half of the sweetened whipped cream back into the chilled bowl with the cream cheese, gently folding to thoroughly combine. This tastes awesome! Place this bowl of whippy cream cheese and the remaining half of the sweetened whipped cream back into the refrigerator to stay chilled.

And the final layer, the pumpkin layer. Pour the milk into a large bowl. Add the pumpkin, pudding mixes, and spices. Beat with a wire whisk for 2 minutes, or until very well blended. The mixture should be quite thick.

Now it's time to layer the layers into the jars!

Fill a pastry bag fitted with a large plain round tip (I used Ateco No. 808) with the whippy cream cheese mixture. Pipe a layer of this mixture onto the bottom of a jar (I used 8-ounce wide mouth Mason jars), starting at the perimeter of the jar and working to the center.

Lightly tap the jar on a towel (so jar doesn't break) on the counter, to settle the mixture in. Repeat this step with the rest of the jars.

Sprinkle the whippy cream cheese layer with 2 tablespoons of baked graham cracker crumbs. Lightly tap the jar again to even out the crumbs. Repeat with the rest of the jars. Using the same large plain round tip, fill another pastry bag with the pumpkin pudding mixture. Pipe this mixture onto the graham cracker crust layer, in the same manner as the first whippy cream cheese layer. Lightly tap again and repeat with the rest of the jars.

Now you can simply add a dollop of the reserved sweetened whipped cream (without the added cream cheese) to the top of each pie with a spoon, or you can pipe a more refined swirl, like I did, using the same large plain round tip. Then finish with a sprinkling of graham cracker crust and chocolate shavings, if desired. If you plan to transport these jars with their lids screwed on, keep in mind the height of your top dollop, if you don't want it to get smooshed when you add the lid.

These jars of pie can easily be made the day prior to serving, they taste best after being completely chilled overnight.

Servings: 10 to 12 jars of pie, depending on how much you fill each jar

taken from the a farmgirl's dabbles blog

I Choose to Spank

by Veronica Copenhaver

I believe in spanking. Please keep reading! Let me explain what I mean. Feel free to disagree with me still, but at least take the time to understand my point. Let me start by acknowledging that my sisters and I were spanked as children. I can even remember the last spanking or two that I received. As an adult I can honestly say I am thankful my parents spanked and I believe they did it correctly. My sisters and I are all still very close to our parents and we were never in doubt that they loved us. We are also not violent people – we knew the difference between a spank and a hit.

Now, let me explain what I do NOT mean by spanking. I do NOT mean a hit on the child on any part of his/her body done in a fit of anger. Instead using Proverbs 22: 15 and Proverbs 29:15 as my guide, I use spanking as discipline. Here's how this will look. Let's say Cayden colored on his walls after specifically being told not to (I can still point out all the pen marks on my walls to this day). I would take him somewhere private and say "Cayden, you disobeyed mommy. I told you not to color on your walls and you did. You disobeyed so I have to discipline you. I am not spanking you because I am angry with you. I am frustrated with what you did, but I still love you. But I need to spank you because you disobeyed." You then turn the child over and hit firmly on the bottom in a controlled manner. If there is padding (diapers, thick pants, etc) I would do the bare leg. If it doesn't hurt, you didn't spank hard enough. But also realize you don't want to spank hard enough to leave a bruise. The child should experience discomfort with discipline (Hebrews 12:11). After the spanking is administered you then hold the child close and reassure your love and that do not enjoy spanking. This is also a great time to teach your child how to not get spanked again – you obey next time. Then I would role play what the child should do the next time.

There are times when I am so worked up I have to calm myself down before I can spank. Do I always do this perfectly – NO, but this is the standard I am aiming for. I love my children and I want them to know I love them enough to discipline, to make sure it hurts, to make sure they learn right from wrong. I'd rather they learn it from me than from someone else who loves them a whole lot less or not learn it at all till it's too late.



Alien Youth Alert! December 2011

Verse of the month:

Isaiah 7:14— Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Important Dates!

Nov 26th— Pursue As One

Dec 20th— Christmas Parties @ Home
of the Knudsen's
5pm-7pm Middle School
7pm-9pm High School

Dec 24th— Candlelight Service

Dec 27th— Extreme Sledding

Jan 2nd— Bowling Challenge 1pm-4pm
For all Alien Youth & their Families

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



12-20-2005

ARE YOU SERIOUSLY GIVING US ALL WOOLIES
FOR CHRISTMAS!?!?

Consider the Implication

Amazing things can sometimes become routine to the point of boring if we do not handle them with the wonder and awe that they truthfully deserve. One of the best examples is the Christmas holiday. This day is set aside from the rest of the days on the calendar to recognize the miracle of the birth of Jesus Christ. So stop right now and earnestly ponder the magnitude of what the Christmas day truly represents. Once you begin to do this, you then need to consider the implication of this focal and turning point in earth's history.

God creates our world, universe, heavens, and everything in them. His most precious creation: you and me. We are the only thing created in the image of Almighty God. Our curiosity and pride stepped onto the scene when we first sinned and traded God's TRUTH for the instant gratification of a LIE. As a result, we were doomed to live apart from God for an eternity. God had given us everything we needed and graced us with His presence, still we wanted more. The price for wanting more? Very steep indeed, in fact, so steep we could never pay the price if we had 100 lifetimes to do it. So God, in His GRACE and MERCY put into effect a plan: becoming one of us.

Enter the baby born in a manger, Jesus Christ, Immanuel, God-with-us. The absurdity of God having to become one of us to endure temptation, rejection, pain, and yes even death cannot be weighed on any scale. Yet, he willfully CHOSE to die for you and me so that we could be reunited with Him again. That my brothers and sisters is THE Christmas story. You want to give a real gift this year? Tell someone who doesn't know Jesus about Him.

-Adam



If you are interested in participating in SOAR's *Stuff a Stocking* project this Christmas, for the needy children of Russia, your sponsorship must be received by Dec. 23. The trip to Russia is scheduled for Jan. 4, 2012. You may return the brochure or sponsor on line at www.soarinternational.org where you can track your stocking(s).

You may also contact,
Mike or Jan Barclay at 283-1961 or Gayle Ross at 283-8497.

