

Kenai
Christian
Church

NEWS

John 11:25

April 20, 2011

Vol. 11 No.4

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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Easter

April 24th

Sunrise Service

8 am

Daniel Residence

2335 Watergate Way, Kenai

Sunday School

9:45 am

Morning Worship

11 am

Evening Service, dismissed

Lest We Forget

Two days ago I paused for a few minutes along the highway that crosses the Kenai River Mud Flats. I stopped with hopes of seeing signs of migrating ducks and geese. Sure enough, I spotted a small flock of mallard ducks circling the area where they would eventually decide to land. I watched them for a while, seemingly oblivious to any other movement on the flats. Suddenly, and to my surprise, a large flock of mallards, perhaps 1000 in number, arose spontaneously from the ground a few hundred feet behind the ones I had first spotted. I had not seen them. It was a delight for me and made the stop worthwhile!

I have stopped at the same place each Spring for over 30 years and am always intrigued to see such sights. Each new year's sightings remind me of great sightings of previous years and I re-live the memories again. Now, I know we are not to live in the past but are to live in today and into tomorrow, if the Lord permits, but we should never forget the good things from the past which help to stir us up to function well in the present.

The apostle Peter, in speaking of the abounding joys of cheerfully obeying Christ, writes,

So I will remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you not have. I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in this body.

-- II Peter 1: 12, 13

Peter is reminding his readers of the good things they already know. Any why would he do this? Because we so soon forget the joy that first brought us to Christ and has kept us in Christ. We begin to assume we are Christians just because we started out that way and we forget the precious privileges we have experienced in the past in our walk with God.

Even as I write this I find that I am not capable of grasping the privilege of "... walking with God." To realize that in the midst of eternity He has daily demonstrated his love and care for us is beyond my ability to fully appreciate. I appreciate it, and I want to appreciate it more, but I fear that I am prone to forget the most significant and most important matter that ever happened to me. Perhaps we will be able to appreciate it more when Jesus returns and we not only get to see what God has saved us for, but will also see what God saved us from as we traversed the earth. So, we need to be as conscious as we can regarding the blessings we have received and the joy of obeying God.

The Hebrew writer states,

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the day approaching. --Hebrews 10: 24, 25

--Robert

Senioritis

For the High School senior, it's a deadly disease that runs its course year after year. It usually begins with a small itch of anticipation after the first marking period. By the time that Spring Break comes in March, outward signs of the disease begin to show. Attention spans in class begin to drop off, homework never finds its way home, and grades begin to slip. When April finally arrives, the once studious senior is reduced to a quivering mess of sub-par academic performance. The last week or two of school in May is a pitiful sight. By this time, the disease has run full course. Victims are so far gone, that many cannot get out of bed in the morning. For those that do, their hours of education are consumed by a blank coma-like stare off into oblivion, unfazed by the intellection promptings of their educators. What once was a well oiled learning machine suddenly becomes ceased up with the anticipation of graduation. What happened? Where did that drive go that once existed? Why do many strive so hard to learn for nearly twelve years of their life, and then give up at the last minute?

Unfortunately, many of us suffer spiritually from another strain of senioritis. It is often called by many names, but the symptoms are nearly the same. We strive for years to maintain a healthy faith and grow spiritually. Over time though, we find that our focus begins to fade away from the things of God. We are influenced to focus on things that seem more important than God and the Church. It begins slowly and innocently enough, but with time our spiritual life begins to drop off. These things seem to consume us and distract us away from what is really important. Church attendance fades, Bibles sit on shelves collecting dust and prayer consists of blessings before meals. Suddenly, the things of God seem like they just take too much effort. We are on the verge of spiritual failure.

It was near the end of my junior year of college that I was introduced to the cure for senioritis and its deadly spiritual counterpart. It's a simple "over the counter" remedy called Hupomone (hoop-om-on-ay). You may not be familiar with this particular name for the drug, but perhaps you know it by one of its generic names such as; patience, endurance, or persistence. Hupomone is formed by mixing equal amounts of patience and endurance together, while stirring them with the trials of life. Sometimes we just have to reach down deep inside and find the stamina that it takes to press on. It is not an easy thing to do, but Scripture calls on us to do so. Hebrews 12:1 says, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with *perseverance* (hupomone) the race marked out for us." There is a race marked out for each one of us to run. Without some strong doses of hupomone along the way to get us through, we are bound to fall short of our intended prize.

Because He's a Truth Worth Pursuing,
Bryan

Mission Moment

Salonique is Stateside

A few weeks ago the Haiti Team had the pleasure of speaking to Salonique Adolphe, (director of Living Water Christian Mission in Haiti) face to face...sort of. Salonique was in the states in April, speaking to churches and visiting friends. The Haiti Team was able to speak to Salonique on Skype, a computer based videophone. It was encouraging and uplifting to talk to this man who has given so much for the gospel to go forward in Haiti.

Knowing the hardships that he and his family have gone through in starting and running Living Water, one might think Salonique would be downcast, distraught, tired and angry. Quite the opposite is true! There was a joy and life in him that can only be attributed to someone being changed and transformed by Jesus. It was humbling to hear him speak of the needs of the mission in Haiti in such a calm and peaceful way. You can tell he is someone who grounds himself in the Word and in the Spirit, living his life for God alone. It was also humbling to hear him speak fondly of the beauty of God's creation in Alaska, which has a special place in his heart.

It is also humbling to think that God is using the members of Kenai Christian Church to bring blessings and supplies to our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

If you haven't noticed, there is a drop-off box in the foyer. Please take some time to look through this list and see if there is anything you can donate to the trip. Also, there are many projects that the team is wanting to complete while down in Haiti, among them are building a volleyball court, soccer goals, and shelving units for their library. Please take some time to pray and see if God would lead you to give towards these projects. Any money can be put into the offering boxes, just make sure you mark in for the Haiti Trip. Here is a list of some of the things we will be bringing down. Let's work together to bless Living Water in Haiti.

Medical/Dental

Neosporin, Ibuprofen, Band-aids/Bandages, Youth toothbrush/toothpaste, Latex gloves (size medium) Hand Lotions (small bottles), Hand sanitizer

Living Supplies

Towels, Bed sheets (twin and queen), Colored Scarves (for the ladies)

For Holgine (Salonique's Wife)

Pancake mix, Gravy Mix, Cookbooks (not too heavy) Pie making supplies, Lightweight pie plates, Mixes Pie Knives/Spatulas, Small packs of Kleenex's Little candies and balloons for the kids

Money for bigger projects

Volleyball Court, Bookshelves for Library, Soccer Goals Sound Board, Microphones, Tools/Building Materials

~ Praise! ~

Shaina Aho was immersed
March 23, 2011

Welcome to the KCC Family!



It's a GIRL

Emma McGahan

born March 30th to Nick & Kristina
Congratulations!

Daring to Draw Near
May 3rd 6:00 pm
Carol Bannock's home



Happy Mother's Day

May 8th
Evening Services
will be dismissed

Biker Sunday
May 15th

Graduation Banquet May 19th
Graduation Sunday May 22nd

ARMED FORCES DAY

May 21st

Memorial Day

May 30

Evening Service dismissed
Sunday, May 29th



Welcome MaryJane Mills and
Rosalie Elliott
to the Women's Ministry Team!
They will be serving as
Administrative Assistant & Finance
along with:
Missions & Service, Lori Spinka &
Chantel Taylor
Spiritual Growth, Vicki Myers &
Bee Myers
Director, Leslie Daniel



Alien Youth Alert! May 2011

Verse of the month:

Colossians 2:6-7- So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Upcoming Events!

May 8th– Mother’s Day

May 15th– Biker Sunday

May 19th– Graduation Banquet

May 22nd– Graduation Sunday

May 27th– Beach Party 2pm-5pm sponsored by the Kenai Peninsula Youth Workers Network

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WELL THAT EXPLAINS IT ... YOU'VE BEEN STUDYING FROM THE KING JAMES BOND VERSION

Continue

Here it is again, the exciting yet dreaded time that I (sort of) look forward to in the year. This month there will be many of you in youth group who will graduate from high school and move on into the “real” world as it is called. Selfishly, I wish some of you would have flunked your senior year so that I could spend at least another year with you in Alien Youth. As it goes though, it is time for you to spread your wings and take flight!

From this point on, mom and dad will not be there to force you out of bed on Sunday morning to get you to Sunday school on time. They will not be there as a reminder on Wednesday night to take a break from homework and go to youth group, and they will no longer be nagging you to make it to youth praise on Sunday evenings. Though this scares me some, I find comfort in knowing that many of you will choose to do these things on your own as you leave KCC to pursue your next chapter in life. So just remember this: continue.

Continue to pursue God first in your life! Continue to serve Him faithfully in a local body of believers no matter where you end up. Continue to take the risk of stepping into the leadership roles in the new congregations that you will find yourselves in. Continue to struggle with the idea of being the next minister, missionary, youth minister, or worship leader. Above all, continue to remain faithful to the call of Jesus Christ as you share him with a world that needs to hear His message of hope. I am so proud of all of you, and I am honored to have been (and will continue to be) part of your life!

Because He lives,

-Adam

Skipper and I want to let all of our friends at Kenai Christian Church know that we appreciate all you have done for Friendship Mission and us. The work that has been done by your work groups includes....

1. Clean up by the Mission Monday Youth group.
2. Laying the pipe for the in-floor heat.
3. All the plumbing projects (which are still going on) But thanks to Mike, the plumber and Keta the work is almost finished
4. The retreat you ladies treated me to last fall. It was a much needed get away time.
5. All the good "Soul Café" leftovers.
6. The monthly financial donations that have helped to keep the Mission going.
7. The friendship you have given to us and our guys.
8. And most of all the prayers for God's Will to be done in His ministry.

We pray for God to bless each one of you greatly.

Skipper and MaryAnne