

Kenai
Christian
Church

NEWS

John 11:25

March 23, 2011

Vol. 11 No.3

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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Men's Retreat

April 8 & 9

Solid Rock Bible Camp

Guest Speaker, Terry Stine,

President of Boise Bible College

Real Men of the Church Make a Real Difference

Register online or get a form at the Info Desk

(kenaichristianchurch.net)



Teacher Appreciation Sunday

April 10th



April 17th

Easter Sunday

April 24th

Sunrise Service 8 am

Daniel Residence

Morning Worship

11 am

*Evening Service, dis-
missed



I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Minister's Outlook

cloudy and 32° (03-21-11) 7:00 a.m.

Men's Retreat

The April 8, 9, 2011 Men's Retreat comes a bit earlier this year than in most years due to the lateness of Easter which falls on the last Sunday of April. In most years the retreat is held when the remnants of winter are quickly receding. Sometimes, there is little or no snow remaining, and the men are looking forward to May outdoor activities. This year, there will still be an abundance of evidence that winter has not yet run its course.

The retreat serves a valuable purpose in the kingdom of God not only for our congregation, but for every congregation that participates. This year, our speaker is Terry Stine. Terry's life has been devoted to the building up of the Lord's people. By serving as both director of Ninos de Mexico (a mission we have supported for 40 years), and currently as president of Boise Bible College, Terry's life has demonstrated a commitment to "hands-on" service in the church.

Terry's topic, "Real Men of The Church Make a Real Difference," touches the heart of the effectiveness of men in the kingdom of God. A similar statement could be made regarding faithful and devout women who serve without reservation, but the strength of the congregation will be greatly compromised if the men do not faithfully execute the role God has called them to perform.

In the Scripture, men are charged with three basis responsibilities.

- *One*, to love their wives if they choose to marry.
- *Two*, to be the leaders and providers for the family toward godly pursuits.
- *And three*, to be effective leaders in the body of Christ for proclaiming and maintaining the good news of the Gospel.

Times such as the Men's Retreat provide guidance in all three of these roles. This year's retreat focuses on the third of these three stewardships that God has laid squarely on the shoulders of the men. I hope we will have a good representation from the church. Our role also includes being good hosts for the other congregations. It is through participation and example that we provide encouragement for these men and congregations who are working to keep the church strong and effective in their own communities.

I look forward to seeing you at the retreat.

--Robert

Encouragement Corner

Press On

As I sit in my office and type this newsletter, an unappreciated snow is falling outside of my window. Every year, I just know this is going to happen but it doesn't make it any less frustrating. About the time the snow is finally melted off the roof and the slightest hint of green grass appears...it comes! It's that pesky, last ditch effort of an Alaskan winter that seeks to dampen dreams of warmer summer days. Will winter ever end? Will summer ever come? How much more of this can a person possibly take?!

Just this last week people were out in our neighborhood in droves soaking up the sun and enjoying a weeklong 30 some degree heat wave. But not today! It's a regular old winter wonderland all over again! It only seems appropriate that after mid-March such precipitation should no longer be referred to by meteorologist as "snow" but something a little more appropriate like... "fluffy white depression." Can you imagine waking up to this forecast... "Good morning ladies and gentlemen. As you head off to work, expect to encounter an accumulation of 3-5 inches of fluffy white depression by this afternoon." Now doesn't that just sound a whole lot more appropriate?

In an attempt to personally take advantage of the recent pleasant weather I dusted off my running shoes and hit the road in an effort to get into "summer shape." For some reason I thought it would be an enjoyable experience. The only problem was over the course of the winter I had forgotten a few things about my run. Just past the half way point, I found myself at the bottom of the hill on Skyline Drive. As I started up the hill two thoughts went through my head:

- (1) This hill seems a lot steeper than I remember.
- (2) Just think how nice it will be to make it home!

Sometimes that second thought is the only motivation I can come up with to keep me running.

The apostle Paul knew what it was to press on through the midst of trying times. While chained in prison cell in Rome, Paul wrote the following words to the church at Philippi:

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. Philippians 3:12-15

The "fluffy white depression" may continue to fall, the road of life will have some hills and valleys along the way, but as Paul wanted the Philippians to understand, we need to keep our eye on the goal. There is no doubt that this congregation faces uncertain days ahead. It is not the first time there have been such uncertainties and it is not the last that the body here in Kenai will face. What will we do? I believe if Paul were to write a letter to the church at Kenai today, he would say what has already been demonstrated in the past by this congregation and stated above... "Press On!"

Because He's A Truth Worth Pursuing,
Bryan

Mission Moment

We were shocked when we first heard about the 9.0 earthquake that shook Japan. We saw the pictures of buildings shaking, of bricks and street signs crashing down onto screaming people, rushing to get out of the way of the falling debris. Then we saw the news footage of the gigantic wave that washed over everything in its path, taking with it houses, cars, and people. If we didn't take time to stop and pray for the victims in Japan, please, put down this newsletter right now and pray for the people, the churches and the relief efforts in Japan.

Kenai Christian Church supports the work of International Disaster Emergency Services (I.D.E.S.). Part of the work of IDES is to send provision and personnel to areas of greatest need. Here is an excerpt from the IDES website:

"IDES has made contact with missionaries on the field and will be getting aid to the people in this time of need. One of our contacts will be Team Expansion Japan. They have six units there (two teams) in Osaka and Tokyo. Here is an excerpt from e-mail, from one of their missionaries, Chad Huddleston, in Osaka.

"It has been a trying and sad time in so many ways: whole towns are gone, thousands upon thousands are without homes and businesses. The news coverage, especially as people's personal videos begin to hit the channels, is simply horrific. And the unknown factor of a nuclear meltdown in the same area looms over it all. But we know that our God is Good and that His desire is to turn this situation around so that many will find peace and comfort and He will be glorified. This is the time for the Christians in Japan (as few as they are! less than 1%) to unite, rise up and be the light. We cannot allow this opportunity to love to pass us by. I ask you to lift us up in prayer."

Please visit www.ides.org to keep updated on the relief effort in Japan, and know that prayers and dollars are coming from here in Kenai and reaching those in need in Japan. Let us join together with our brothers and sisters in Japan in their time of need.

It's a BOY!

Michael & Jessica (Buchanan) Gumm welcome

John David Gumm

born February 28, 7 lbs 7 oz 21"

Proud grandparents Wayne & Diane

It's a BOY!

Landon Claude Stanley

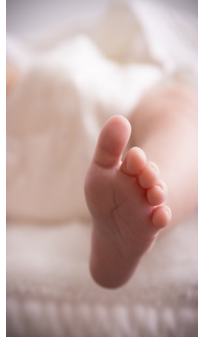
March 4th, 9 lbs 5 oz, 22"

born to Inger and Gareth,

big brothers, Keagan & Gunnar,

Proud grandparents,

Claude & Kari



It's a BOY!

Trenton & Bridget Dobson welcome

Truman Trenton

Born March 8th

9 lbs 3 oz

~ Praise! ~

Russ Taylor was immersed in Baptism
January 23rd, 2011

Keith Thomas was immersed in Baptism
& Margaret Thomas transferred membership on
January 26th, 2011

Welcome to the KCC Family!

~ Our Sympathies ~

to the Ross family, Rick's mother,

Nita Ross

passed away

February 23, 2011

to the Hulien Family, Kari's father

Tor Holmboe

passed away March 5, 2011

KCC Women

Ministering to the women of Kenai Christian Church since June 1999

Happy Easter

*Don't be afraid, I know you are looking for Jesus
Who was crucified. He is not here! For he has been
resurrected just as He said.*

Matthew 28

He is Risen!

Daring to Draw near
Meets April 5th & 19th,
May 3rd
The Bannock Home
1908 Aliak
Kenai
6-8pm

Mommy Gym Time
Friday, April 15th
11:30-1:30

Bring a sack lunch for
your family and come
visit with other moms
while your children play

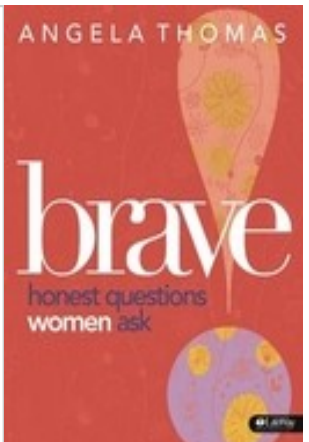
A God Seeker
Recommended reading
for the Season:

The Jesus I Never Knew
Philip Yancey

He Chose the Nails,
Max Lucado

*No Wonder They Call Him
the Savior*
Max Lucado

Beginning March
30th
Leslie's Wednesday Night Women's
Class
7 pm
Room 3 downstairs
Everyone welcome



Do you have Easter traditions that you share with your children? Here is a great visual that children of all ages can participate in and at the same time,
learn the true meaning of Easter!

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

Ingredients:

1 Cup whole pecans
1 Teaspoon Vinegar
3 Egg whites
Pinch of salt
1 Cup sugar
Zipper baggie
Tape
Bible

Instructions:

- Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Place the pecans in the baggie and let the kids beat them with the wooden spoon to break them into pieces. Explain that after Jesus was arrested, He was beaten by the Roman soldiers. Read John 19:1-3
- Put the vinegar into a mixing bowl. Let each child smell the vinegar. Explain that when Jesus was on the cross and He became thirsty, He was offered vinegar to drink. Read John 19:28-30
- Add the egg whites to the vinegar. The eggs represent life. Explain that Jesus gave His life so that we could have life. Read John 10:10-11
- Sprinkle a little salt into each child's hand and let them taste it. Put the rest into a bowl. Explain that this represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers, and the bitterness of our own sin. Read Luke 23:27
- So far the ingredients are not very appetizing. Add 1 cup of sugar. Explain that the sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to know and belong to Him. Read Psalm 34:8 and John 3:16
- Beat the egg whites with a mixer on high speed for 12 to 15 minutes, until stiff peaks form. Explain that the color white represents the purity in God's eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus. Read Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3
- Fold in the broken nuts. Drop by teaspoons onto a wax paper cookie sheet. Explain that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus body was laid to rest. Read Matthew 27:57-60
- Put the cookie sheet in the oven, close the door and turn the oven off.
- Give each child a piece of tape and seal the door. Explain that Jesus tomb was sealed. Read Matthew 27:65-66
- Go to bed. Explain that they may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight and that Jesus followers were in despair when the tomb was sealed. Read John 16:20-22
-

On Easter morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie. Notice the cracked surface and take a bite.
The cookies are hollow! On the First Easter, Jesus' followers were amazed to find His tomb empty.

Yes, Jesus Lives!
Read Matthew 28:1-9

Happy Easter!



Alien Youth Alert! April 2011

Verse of the month:

Mark 16:6- “Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him.”

Upcoming Events!

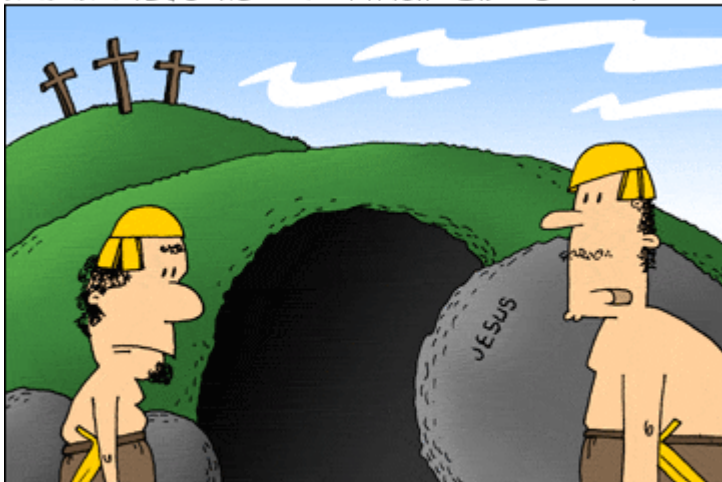
Men’s Retreat– April 8th-9th.

H.S. Girls Bible Study-Meets Mondays from 4pm-5:30pm in the youth room

Small Groups– To be determined by your small group leader.

Progressive Dinner– April 22nd 3pm-6pm
Come bring your appetite as we “house jump” our way through a progressive dinner. You must sign up by April 13th to participate.

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(See John 20:1-18)

04-21-2003

BETCHA TEN SHEKELS THOSE CHRISTIANS HAVE FIFTY NEW SONGS BY THIS WEEKEND

He is RISEN

April is a special time in our nation for the simple fact that Spring was arrived. We Alaskans anticipate April and the arrival of Spring as we have made it through a long, dark, and cold Winter. You can even see it on the faces of the people in the community as the snow begins to melt and the Winter jackets begin to be stored away. Though we have already celebrated the New Year, it is as if Spring truly is our new beginning.

Consider though the impact of the resurrection of Jesus Christ on the world, and how this time of year is when we recognize that He conquered death once and for all. Consider how in our lives we have made it through the long, dark, and cold times as we were dead to our sin. Yet, with Jesus’ sacrifice and resurrection we experience a new beginning that is like no other. You can see it on the faces of His followers as the burden of sin and suffering have been lifted from their shoulders, and as they begin to put away their old practices and start anew. Though we have already been born physically in this world, our faith in Jesus Christ is truly our new beginning.

This is cause for a celebration!

Let’s shout it to our community in a loving and urgent way. Easter is not your average holiday...it is the day that Jesus Christ came back from death to offer us life! There is nothing more exciting or satisfying in this world than to walk in fellowship with Him. The best part is that we must share this gift with many who are still without hope. As you gather with friends and family this time of year, be sure to make known the name and victory of Jesus Christ our Lord!

“My God died on a cross, but He lives!!!!”

-Adam

Summer Small Groups - Here Before You Know It!

Our Summer Small Groups will be kicking off on June 5th. Some of these groups are already set up with a host, and facilitator(s). However, in an effort to engage more people, we would like to offer other members of the congregation an opportunity to host or facilitate a group of their own over the summer. If you have an interest in doing either, please contact Dave Daniel, Small Group Coordinator, as soon as possible. Dave needs to put the finishing touches on the list of offerings for this fun and exciting way to fellowship, serve and grow by no later than April 8th.