Fall Issue October 7th, 2010

Newsletter

Alaska Native Lutheran Church

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the House of the Lord." Psalms 122

Services Offered

- Worship Service every Sunday at 7pm.
- Every third Sunday we have Potluck at 5:30pm.
- Hymn Sing begins weekly on Sundays at 6:45pm.
- Weekly Bible Study Wednesdays at noon.
- Youth Group meets Wednesdays at 4:30pm.
- Communion offered every other Sunday.

From the Desk of the Interim Pastor

In the book of Hebrews we the baptized are **challenged to continually assemble together** with other Christian believers. Just like we do weekly at Alaska Native Lutheran Church. The author of Hebrews says it in this way…

"*Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*" Hebrews 10:23-25

Why is regular church attendance so important? In looking more closely at these verses in Hebrews we can find the answer to this question.

First, by regularly attending church services your Faith is strengthened allowing you to hold on when tough times come. God is Faithful but we can easily forget, in meeting together with other believers we remind each other of the Faithfulness of our God.

Second, when we gather together we challenge each other to find out what gifts God has placed within each of us additionally, we have the opportunity to use them and grow them. Without the exercising of our Faith we become weak as individuals and weak as a body of believers. Each one of you has a wonderful gift of service to those that God has placed around you. Your task is to find out what your gifts are and to begin to use them.

Lastly, when I think of the word courage I think of a Lion. By gathering together we actually place courage into one another. We are encouraged to remain strong until our Lord returns!

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Prayer Concerns

Those throughout the world who are suffering. **Those families grieving the loss of loved ones**: Nathan Thibodeaux, Robert Kost, Herbert Anungazuk, and Kylie Angusuc. **Healing and strength**: Kenneth Kiyutelluk, Rosemary Hunter, Adan Costley-Baraosa, Ron Martinson, Xyanne Bullard, Randy Bell, Sonny Fassler, & MaryLou Torsen. **Those in crisis,** Those traveling, Those looking for employment &Those who are struggling with sobriety. **Bishop Mike Keys** and all the ministries of the Alaska Synod.

"**Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need**."

Hebrews 4:16 NRSV

Fall Conference in Teller

The church council president Susie Delgado reports that the Fall Conference in Teller was a great event!

The conference was well attended by Shishmaref, Teller, Brevig Mission, Wales, and Nome. Anchorage had a smaller group but we sang every night and whenever requests were made.

It was a great time of fellowship, singing, sharing, and eating. Family bonds were strengthened as was the Faith of the attendees. Many Gospel hymns and specials were sung with great guitar playing and testimonials.

The evening preachers were Bishop Mike Keys, Lay Pastor Gilbert Oxereok of Wales, Pastor Mark Orf of Shishmaref, and Interim Pastor Mark Allred of Anchorage.

The families in Teller and Brevig Mission opened up their hearts and homes to all of the visitors and shared the Love of Christ by opening their freezers to feed the hungry attendees.

At Fred Kugzruks' house people were having dried fish, seal meat, greens, reindeer and fresh berries!

(Pastor Mark was one of them, and he loved it!) Many others opened their homes and we are all so grateful. Spring Conference 2011 will be held in Nome.

Church Council Recap

"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions…"
1 Timothy 2:1-2a

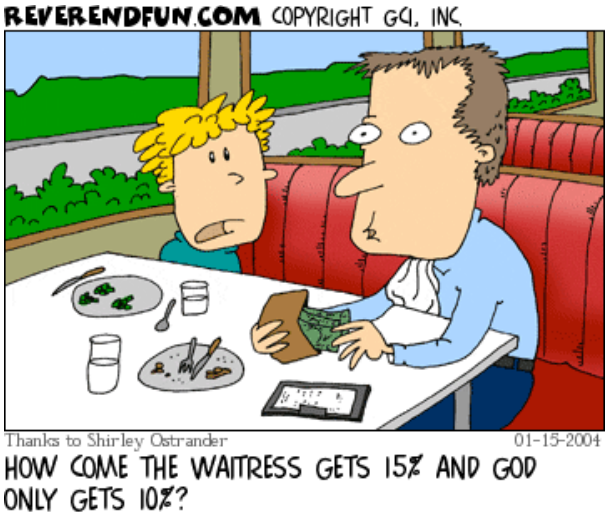
The church council meet on Wednesday October the 6th. Bishop Mike Keys was present to talk with the council on the upcoming pastoral call process that ANLC will embark on.

One of the first steps that the congregation will need to take is to complete a "Ministry Site Profile" This is a 14 page document that will identify where the congregation is and where they would like to be within the next 5 years.

You identify; who you are, ministry site characteristics, the congregations purpose, Gifts, and Mission.

Towards the end of the document you then self identify what ANLCs leadership needs are. This is just the first step of many that the church body will be navigating over the next 4 to 6 months. So keep the church body in prayer as this process begins.

Other items, the council agreed that we need two nursery workers with the influx of new children. The council would like to also purchase a new "used" van or small bus with the SPLMA monies because getting our "Elders" to church is a high priority to the council members.



Tithes and Offerings provide Hope

ANLC would like to thank you for your continued tithes (10% of your income) and offerings (anything above 10%) because they make ministry possible here at ANLC.

We have the opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with our friends and loved ones while also remaining true to our Alaskan Native heritage that was passed on to us by our Elders.

We must continue the important work of Proclaiming Christ into the future so that our children and grandchildren will continue in the Faith! Thanks for your financial support.

October 6, 2010

Dear Friends and Members of Alaska Native Lutheran Church,

"You spread a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. You have anointed my head with oil. My cup overflows." Psalms 23: 4-5

God is faithful. He gives abundantly even amid the sufferings we all face. Let us have thankful hearts that in the midst of troubled times and many "enemies," our Lord is always near.

Once again this year, please, as you give thanks to God for the table He has spread before you, consider giving a tithe (10%) of your PFD to the ANLC ministries. That would be roughly $128. As always, your gifts are tax-deductible. More importantly, they support ministry that could not go on without your help. Enjoy the gifts God has supplied. Give thanks for Summer and Fall harvests. Let's pre-pare too for the final Harvest at the end of time, when we shall see our Lord face to face.

In Christ, The Alaska Native Lutheran Church Council:

Susie Delgado, President

Wendy Pearson, Vice President

Out of Town

David Parker, Treasurer

Roy Roberts, Secretary

Kikie Kiyutelluk, Member

Lydia Wilson, Member

Kimberly Kuzuguk, Youth Rep.

Morgan Sanders, Member

Andrew Topkok, Member

Out of Town

Luis Ochoa, Member

Mark Allred, Interim Pastor

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In the late 1800's, exploration, resources, and mission drew many Euro Americans to Alaska. Lutheran pastors established mission posts on Inupiaq land (now) known as the Seward Peninsula. The indigenous people often aided and welcomed the Lutheran newcomers. Several Inupiaq leaders even joined the church. They noted that many Lutheran beliefs mirrored the values already present in the deeply-spiritual Inupiaq culture. The work of Jesus and the certainty of heaven were new beliefs that were soon adopted. The Alaska Native Lutheran Church was formed in Anchorage to meet the spiritual needs of those who have moved from their villages to Anchorage to look for employment or for medical reasons.

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the House of the Lord." Psalms 122

We're on the Web!
aknativelutheran.org

facebook

Special thanks to;
The church council members and David Allred.

Church Membership

Membership is about belonging to a community of Faith.

In belonging to the Alaska Native Lutheran Church (ANLC) others can support you in your time of need. While at the same time you support others during their times of need. We have all heard the phrase by the fellow believer John Donne who lived from 1572-1631 "No man is an island". We all draw from each other!

A phrase that keeps coming to mind when I think about our salvation is "God has already chosen you." It is wonderful to know that he has already done everything that needs to be done to restore mankind unto himself. Since he has already chosen you there is nothing left to do. We simply acknowledge his work and rest in the knowledge that he delights in us, his people.

You can become a member in several different ways;

1. By baptism you automatically become a member of ANLC.
2. By transfer from another Lutheran church.
3. By request.

I also have noticed that a lot of our members are on the inactive list. To find out more or if you are interested in becoming a member at Alaska Native Lutheran please contact Interim pastor Mark Allred at the phone number listed above.

"Church membership is about belonging to a community of Faith!"