

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
 8427 Jewel Lake Road Anchorage, Alaska 99502
 R. Scott Fuller, Pastor Phone 907/243-2301
 Website: gloriadeilutheran.net

*A Note from
 our Intern*



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We'll call this monthly installment something like "Intern's Odds & Ends."

The Bad News

This wild, crazy, significant, rewarding internship is coming to a close. Mollie's and my final Sunday at Gloria Dei will be August 15th. My final opportunity to serve this community as a preacher will take place on Sunday, August 8th. It continues to be a joy to grow, learn, and serve in this family.

The Good News

The Story Telling Ministry is going very well. We've collected three stories and three story commitments in the past week. For those of you who don't know what all this means: my internship project is a book called Gloria Dei: Stories of Faith.

People here in Alaska have great stories. Some have been chased off a river by a bear, others have traveled the world, and one has even patched an airplane together using only ice! This ministry project is aiming to collect those stories in short form (approximately one page apiece), and turn them into faith metaphors.

We need about 15 more stories to reach our goal, and then we'll produce a little book that can be taken home by members or used as an outreach tool. How great would it be to put one of these books into someone's hands as they are looking for a church home?

Let me know if you'd like to participate in this ministry. I need you, and the first step is just sharing a good ol' chin-wag over a cup of coffee. Even if you don't want to commit to writing a story, you can do that!

The Ugly News

(There isn't really anything ugly to report. I've just heard that wherever there's a Good and a Bad, one ought to include an Ugly.) But, the last Gospel lesson from the month of June was rather difficult. It was the latter half of Luke 9.

In the passage, Jesus tells a man who wishes to return home and bury his father before following the Lord, "Let the dead bury their own dead." This sounds rather hard on Christ's part, doesn't it?

Well, Martin Luther tells us that the entire Word of God contains the good news of Christ. So, what could it be here? Perhaps Christ is telling us the good hard news that we are free from all things (even the things we don't want to be free from!). Death is no longer our master, and neither are our family bonds in this life. In the end, it is only the new creation through the Cross that will define us. A tough concept worth further prayer and discussion.

In Christ,



Say a prayer for...

PRAYER CONCERNS

Lee Friese, Jane Vergason, Adam Young, Daiquiri Wright, Lynn Hobson, Zachary Tillman,

Hilde Jensen.

Family and friends of the congregation:

Billy Thompson-friend of Nancy Eubank, Tom Tonkin's Mother, Allyson Underwood-friend of Debbie Maestas, Jenne, Don & Isable DelaVega, Winston Kenhoff-friend of Ingrid Omdahl, Cody-Sandy Fazio's nephew, Mariana Weatherby-friend of June Wayman, Sandy Reising-friend of Ingrid Omdahl, Ed Wold-friend of Connie & Roger Graff, Anne Brodin; Niki Perry; and Patricia-friends of Frank Box, Peggy Wolf-friend of Ron Sturgeon, Pam Almborg-friends of Roger & Connie Graff, Bill Brenner-Michael & Stephanie Brenner's uncle, Azir Elomari-Sandy Fazio's neighbor, Penny Seversrud-Sandy Fazio's relative, Lynn Hobson's son & daughter, Bobbi Shibe, Irene Joyner-friend of Laura Ruckert, Norma Budahl, Roy Brash-Betty Anderson's brother, Ted Evanson-Janie Henderson's brother, Harry Hoose-Janie Henderson's step-dad, Carol Kampen's niece-Heather, Faye Hevner-Debbie Jeffery's sister, Ralph Velie & Ingrid Larson-friends of Bob & Margie Paulson, Anna Lamarr-Tina Wolverton's mom.

Our July Prayer Partner: Christ, Soldotna.

PRAYER CHAIN

Prayer has always been an integral part of Gloria Dei. The prayer chain has been beneficial in ministering to those in need, as well as "getting the word out" to our community of believers so that we can all join our spirits in prayer. Please call the church office at 243-2301 to have your requests put through our on-going prayer chain.

Prayer Chain Partners:

Beth Ann Cullinane,	248-7044	Anytime
Jennifer Schultz		email only
Marilyn Anderson	243-4455	After 5:00p
	344-0304	fax days
Gerri Bergstrom	344-3870	Anytime
Dalia Wolverton	248-5789	Anytime
Jane Vergason	562-4991	Anytime
Lanette Vandergaw	243-2564	Anytime
Judy Tysver	243-6469	Anytime
Betty Anderson	243-5477	Weekdays after 4



BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR JULY!

Take time to say a little prayer, send a card, and wish your best to our family at Gloria Dei who will be celebrating birthdays this month!

- 1 Michael Hargrave
- 2 Anne Jaynes
- 3 Alan Budahl
- 5 Dennis Beaudo
- 7 Marilyn Anderson
- 10 Michael Arlint, Rachel Rohwer
- 12 Tom Tonkin
- 13 Charlotte Kopp, Spencer Henry
- 14 Lyndsey Kellard, Craig Clark, Zan Zoske
- 15 Samantha Wright, Paul Roseland
- 16 John Ennenga, Kay Shook, Lee Runestad, Judie Romero
- 18 Jeff Kellard
- 19 Emily Box
- 20 Bret Dittlinger, Kaelin Ellis, Dean Callies, Katie Jerue
- 21 Pete Horstman
- 22 Jim Dennis
- 23 Jenna Roosdett, Nathan Thompson, Zachary Tillman
- 24 Kyle Monkeliem, Lois Hads
- 27 Chris Cullinane
- 28 Pat Ennenga
- 30 Leslie Vandergaw, Babette Morris
- 31 Janie Henderson, Nathaniel Perkins, Todd Plumhoff



Church Chatter



Summer Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Friday

9:00 am—12:00 pm



Vacation time

Someone has said, "Vacation is what you take when you can't take what you've been taking any longer."

There are good reasons to take a vacation every year: spending time with friends and loved ones, experiencing physical and mental refreshment, enjoying changes in scenery and routine, and preparing for another year of productivity.

Please enjoy your vacation! Try to be faithful to the Lord by attending church while you're away, if you have the opportunity.

Just remember that during vacations and weekend getaways, you're especially missed by your friends at church. The work of the church suffers because no one can fill your place of responsibility quite like you.

God's work goes on all summer long. Your presence and gifts are needed to enable the church to be strong and vigorous throughout the entire year. When you're away, please bring or send your offering before you go. To help you with that effort, there is a form on the next page to allow you make your offering contribution electronically, by a credit card or directly from your bank account. Please return this form to the church office.

Have a wonderful summer!



H.U.G.S.S.
Helping Us Give
School Supplies
&
Coats for Kids



HUGSS

(Helping Us Give School Supplies) and Coats for Kids)

It seems that summer break just started, but for Lutheran Social Services of Alaska—sharing in a community partnership with Catholic Social Services and the Salvation Army—it's not too early to be gearing up to help kids whose families don't have the resources to purchase adequate school supplies and/or warm winter outerwear for school in the fall. Last summer,

they served 5,500 youngsters—all made possible through donations of supplies, coats, and dollars from people like us. This year, they expect to serve more families than ever. We hope that Gloria Dei can be an important partner in this ministry, ensuring that all kids will have supplies to start school—just like the rest of their classmates.

Distribution of supplies and coats is scheduled for August 10 and 11; so it isn't too late to get involved by donating and volunteering. If you like to knit, consider cleaning out your yarn stash and whipping up a hat or 2 or 3—HUGSS can use all they can get. Or save some time in early August to help with the packing and distribution. In addition to basic school supplies (24-pack-crayons, markers, pencils, 1" binders, scissors, and rulers), the wish list includes back packs, lunch boxes, and new or gently-used winter clothing (coats and snow pants in all sizes as well as hats and mittens). If you would like more details, give a call to Marcia DeVoe (243-1317), Marge Paulson (243-5480), or Darla Siver (243-4589)—they'll be happy to talk to you about HUGSS and Coats for Kids and other ways you can help.

"Let mutual love continue.

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

Hebrews 13:1-2



As many of you know, Pastor Scott is on Sabbatical Leave. He has posted updates to his weekly activities on our website, www.gloriadeilutheran.net. Open the web site and go to the Pastor's Page.

Patriotic trivia

As we celebrate America's birthday, it's interesting to note that clergymen wrote both the Pledge of Allegiance and the hymn "My Country 'Tis of Thee." Rev. Francis Bellamy wrote the pledge in 1892. Rev. Samuel Francis Smith wrote the hymn in 1831. Both men were Baptist ministers.

The pledge was first used in public schools in 1892 during Columbus Day observances. "My Country 'Tis of Thee" was used as a national song before "The Star-Spangled Banner" was named America's national anthem in 1931.



SOCIAL MINISTRY BULLETIN BOARD

Two on-going projects we support are the men's and women's shelters. Please prayerfully consider being a part of this monthly ministry. Providing food once in a while is a way of reaching out to our own community. A sign up sheet is available on the Social Ministry bulletin board which is across from the large bulletin board.

BROTHER FRANCIS

SHELTER

Sandwiches are made and often served to homeless men who have found temporary shelter here. Your donation would be a full loaf of bread made into sandwiches and repacked into the bread wrap.

Tuesday, July 13th

Sandwiches will be picked up in the kitchen by 6:00pm.

CLARE HOUSE

A hot meal is made complete with dessert for women and children who are seeking temporary shelter from abusive situations. Each portion you provide should feed 10. Please have any food oven-ready in disposable containers.

Thursday, July 15th

Food will be picked up in our kitchen at 9:00am.

*Serving our
Community
In Love*

July is "About the Kids" Month

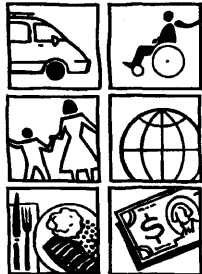
This month, we're asking for help in feeding hungry kids through LSSA's food distribution program—those kids whose families have been hit hard by the economic downturn and cannot take advantage of school breakfasts and lunches during their summer break. We're hoping to make a difference for families with children by providing healthy, nutritious favorites—like spaghetti, soup, macaroni and cheese, canned fruit, peanut butter, graham crackers—those same favorites of your children or grandchildren. You may put your gifts in the LSSA barrel in the Social Ministry corner, and we'll do the rest.

The folks at LSSA's food site are very grateful for each package or can or jar of food that we give as it all helps them respond to the families who come through their doors—some of the very neediest in our community. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Marcia DeVoe (243-1317), Marge Paulson (243-5480), or Darla Siver (243-4589).

**"I was hungry
and you gave me something to eat"**
Matthew 25:35



Serving



OTHERS

(Door open at 9am and again at 4pm so we need volunteers to report at least 30 minutes earlier).

You can volunteer on-line by going to Catholic Social Services of Alaska website at the following address www.cssalaska.org/volunteer/hugss-volunteer-form.php or call Krisitne at the LSSA office at 272.0643 ext. 223.

We also need donations of food and snacks for the volunteer's breaks. If you can help out by supplying buns, chips, deli meats, hamburger or cookies or could staff the break room during one of the shifts, please give the Krisitne a call at the LSSA office.

It is not too late to go through your closets and find those gently used coats and take them to Fireweed Cleaners or to your church and we will pick them up. If you would like to make a financial contribution please mark HUGSS/Coats for Kids on your check.

On July 17th a group of community volunteers will be participating in the United Way Day of Caring at our Roosevelt House. They will be painting the exterior of both buildings. We need to do some work in advance so, if you are able to scrap some paint, wash the siding or repair the fence cone join us for the fun. We plan to meet on Saturday, July 10th at 9am to start the prep work. If you can help us, please give Kristine a call at the LSSA office at 272-0643 ext. 223.

We wish to thank everyone who volunteers and donates to this ministry that is Lutheran Social Services of Alaska. Together we are caring for others.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES WITH LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES

We are busy planning for the annual HUGSS (Help Us Give School Supplies) and Coats for Kids distribution scheduled for August 10th and 11th at Clark Middle School. We need volunteers for the following times.

Monday, August 9th 9am - 12pm or 1pm - 4pm

Tuesday, August 10th 9am - 1:30pm or 4pm - 7pm

Wednesday, August 11th 9am - 1:30pm or 4pm - 7pm
or 6pm-8:30pm (cleanup)