

THE STAFF OF ST JOHN

Church Office **Judy Stahancyk**
jstahancyk@st-john-lutheran.org
Phone: 907-745-3338
Fax: 907-746-6117

Senior Pastor **Rev. Dr. Jonathan Rockey**
jonathanrockey@st-john-lutheran.org
Home Phone: 907-746-5131

Assistant Pastor **Rev. Richard Allen**
richardallen@st-john-lutheran.org
Home Phone: 907-746-3919

D.C.E. **Jamie L Walters**
dce@st-john-lutheran.org
Home Phone: 907-355-1456

Music Coordinators **Sara Guhl**
guh1@mtaonline.net
Home Phone: 907-745-8097

Marilee Nufer
marileenufer@hotmail.com
Home Phone: 907-745-6528

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

P.O. Box 774
440 East Elmwood
Palmer, AK 99645
Phone: 907-745-3338
Fax: 907-746-6117
E-mail: stjohnd@mtaonline.net
www.st-john-lutheran.org

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN



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**ST JOHN LUTHERAN
MISSION STATEMENT**

Guided by God's Holy Spirit, we will share our Savior, Jesus, so our members, our community, and all people live and grow in Biblical Christian Faith.

"SHARE-LIVE-GROW"

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Sunday, August 23rd

Worship in the Park

Congregational Picnic

Official Acts

Baptisms

- 6-07-09 *Tiana Cheyenne Rogers*
- 6-14-09 *Ashton Elizabeth Brown*
- 6-14-09 *Lowman John Brown*
- 7-12-09 *Emmalee AliceRockey*

Weddings

- 7-18-09 *Steve Verna & Corrine Hannum*
- 7-25-09 *Jacob Hunnings & Brittany Brabander*

Funerals

- 5-15-09 *Alice Tobin*

Date	Offering	Attendance
6-07-09	\$10,021.95	184
6-14-09	\$ 6,055.10	166
6-21-09	\$ 8,189.38	193
6-28-09	\$ 8,991.85	163
7-05-09	\$ 6,739.10	136
7-12-09	\$ 7,632.00	206
7-19-09	\$ 9,150.00	192
7-26-09	\$ 9,727.00	217



GO GREEN

Would you like to help us save the environment and money? Go Green!

Sign-up with the church office to receive your monthly newsletter via email!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

August Birthdays

8-03	<i>Bob Lentz</i>	8-13	<i>Will McMahon</i>
8-04	<i>George Hermon</i>	8-14	<i>Matthew Hartman</i>
8-06	<i>Mattison Leonard</i>	8-15	<i>Deo Keil</i>
	<i>Arloine Logsdon</i>	8-18	<i>Hannah Curry</i>
	<i>Carlee Nufer</i>	8-22	<i>Curt Christiansen</i>
	<i>James Summers</i>	8-23	<i>Pauline Schaller</i>
	<i>Clancy Tooke</i>	8-25	<i>Duaine Richards</i>
8-08	<i>Dalton Jones</i>	8-26	<i>Joel Butcher</i>
	<i>Ronald McNeese</i>		<i>Cole Jacobson</i>
8-09	<i>Julie Donn</i>	8-29	<i>Jacob Hartman</i>
	<i>Jean McMahon</i>	8-31	<i>Cameron Christiansen</i>
8-11	<i>Jacob Butcher</i>		<i>Kris Knapp</i>

August Anniversaries

8-02	<i>Carl & Dorothy Jacobson</i>	28 yrs.
8-06	<i>Noel & Jean Woods</i>	53 yrs.
8-12	<i>Robert & Rhoda Zanella</i>	2 yrs.
8-20	<i>Jonathan & Kathy Rockey</i>	31 yrs.
8-21	<i>Matthew & Stephanie Hartman</i>	9 yrs.
8-21	<i>David & Marilee Nufer</i>	26 yrs.
8-24	<i>Al & Gloria Okeson</i>	48 yrs.
8-24	<i>Duaine & Ardith Richards</i>	50 yrs.
8-26	<i>Hugh & Carol Trumps</i>	8 yrs.

Pastor's Corner

Dear Members and Friends of St. John,

During the summer our lives are supposed to slow down. Right? However, since the last newsletter, in addition to our activity at church, the Rockey family has experienced **a birth** (Emmalee on June 26), **a baptism** (Emmalee on July 12), and **a wedding** (Andrew and Justine on August 1). I'm not sure we slowed down!

In Genesis 1 God tells his plan in creation for people. He says, "**27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. 28 God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number;'**" No, I don't believe this 'being fruitful and multiplying' is solely the job of the Rockey family. Sometimes it just *feels* that way.

Families are a gift from God. In Genesis 2, God tells us, "**It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.**" (v. 18) God intends for us to have love and companionship! In other parts of the Bible God gives many instructions for how parents, spouses, and children should live. The intent is that we are not alone, but together as families we help, love, and support one another in a world that is often a hostile and difficult place to live.

Have you ever thought about those who don't have close family, or family nearby? God has another "family plan." 1 John 3 says, "**How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!**" Because of God's love for us in Jesus we are children of God, and brothers and sisters to one another. God blesses us with families. God also gives us a Christian family. Even though families also have troubles, because we are part of God's family we live and grow in the love and forgiveness that God gives in Jesus.

I pray that this summer was a blessing to you and your family. I also pray that God blesses you in the family that we are at St. John.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Rockey

P.S. Thank you to Ophie Hart and others in the congregation for organizing a card shower for Andrew and Justine at the occasion of their wedding. Thank you also for the family tree display. Your love and support means much to us!!!



A GATHERING OF OUR CHRISTIAN FAMILY - In order to better provide spiritual care for congregational members by St. John Elders, the Elders have divided the congregational households into 10 groups, one for each Elder. These Elders' groups are changed yearly as new Elders are elected.

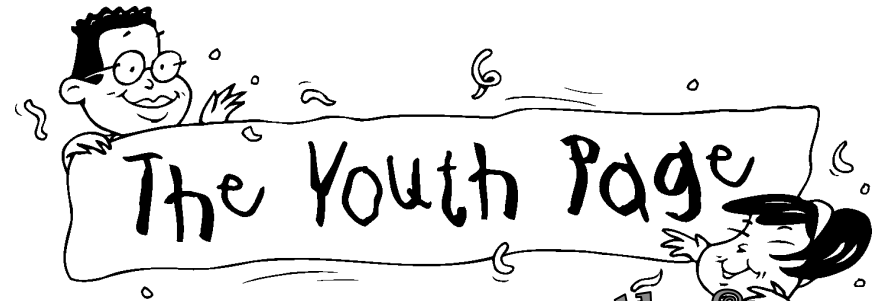
One or two elder groups each month are inviting their Elder's group to "A Gathering of our Christian Family", to be held at the Rocky home. **The Elders' Groups for Jim Summer and Carol Gustafson will be meeting at the Rocky's after late worship on Sunday, August 16.** (dinner beginning around 1:30 p.m.) If you are in their groups, be expecting a letter and a phone call.

CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC August 23 – The St. John Fellowship Board, working with the Evangelism Board, is planning a Church Picnic after late worship on Sunday, August 23.

Members are asked to bring meat to grill and a side dish to share. Games are planned for children and adults (softball?). Also, if you have a croquet set, or badminton net, or horseshoes, please bring those to share.

WORSHIP IN THE PARK—CHURCH PROPERTY! - IN ADDITION TO THE PICNIC, we hope to hold late worship outside on August 23. (Plans are being made to worship indoors in case the weather is bad.) We hope to enjoy the beauty of creation in our worship, and then to celebrate with our picnic.

Sign up sheets will be on the back table for helping to set up for worship and the picnic, and to help cook.



- August Events**
- 2— FISH @ Our Redeemer, Chugiak
Meet at St John @ 2:30pm
 - 5— Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in Youth Lounge
 - 11— Brunch & Bible Study
*10am @ Church;
Auction Service Project until 1pm*
 - 12— Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in Youth Lounge
 - 15— Neon Bowling
6:30-9:30pm - \$12
 - 16— FISH @ Lamb of God, Wasilla
Meet at St John @ 2:30pm
 - 19— Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in Youth Lounge
 - 26— Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in Youth Lounge
 - 30— FISH @ State Fair
Meet at the PURPLE GATE @ 3 pm

High School Youth Schedule

Middle School



Confirmation is set to start
Wednesday, October 7th
2:30-5:00pm

A **Parent Meeting** is
scheduled
Sunday, September 27th

Middle School

Anchorage Summer Retreat ★ June 12-14



Jamie L. Walters, DCE
907-355-1456
dce@st-john-lutheran.org
Look for me on Facebook & MySpace!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A COPY OF *THE SR HIGH L.I.G.H.T.*,
CONTACT JAMIE VIA EMAIL

Sunday School NEWS



A NEW PROGRAM FOR A NEW YEAR!

The Board of Education is proud to share with you a very NEW way of doing our Sunday School!

We need adults to volunteer to be teachers and Adventure Guides for our elementary students throughout this new VBS-type format!

TEACHERS

We need 4-5 adults to volunteer to teach every week.

BUT here's the change:

You'll teach the same lesson every week for a month.

Each week you'll have a different grade but the same lesson!

We need teachers for:

CRAFTS • BIBLE STORIES • GAMES • BIBLE CHALLENGE

ADVENTURE GUIDES

You'll be the ones leading the individual grade levels around to their classes.

Each week you'll be at a different station— crafts, games, stories & challenges— hearing the same story from a different perspective! **We need Adventure Guides for:**

PRESCHOOL • K & 1 • 2 & 3 • 4, 5 & 6

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE (LWML)

"ANCHORED BY HIS GRACE"

WA-AK DISTRICT

LWML RETREAT

September 25-27, 2009

The Wesley Inn—Gig Harbor, WA

Jan Struck—Presentor

This will be a great opportunity to get "ANCHORED" in Christ and "BUOYED" by the Spirit through the word and fellowship with one another. Make plans now to attend. Contact any LWML member or check out the information board in the east entrance for more information.

LUTHERAN WOMAN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE (LWML)

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

The September meeting will be held

On Tuesday, September 8, 2009

7:00 P.M.

North Fellowship Hall

All ladies of St. John are invited to attend.





Where God Ain't

*He was just a little boy,
On a week's first day.*

*Wandering home from Bible school,
And dawdling on the way.*

*He scuffed his shoes into the grass;
He even found a caterpillar.
He found a fluffy milkweed pod,
And blew out all the "filler".*

*A bird's nest in a tree overhead,
So wisely placed up high.
Was just another wonder,
That caught his eager eye.*

*A neighbor watched his zig zag course,
And hailed him from the lawn;
Asked him where he'd been that day
And what was going on.*

*I've been to Bible School;
He said and turned a piece of sod.
He picked up a wiggly worm replying,
"I've learned a lot about God."*

*"M'm very fine way," the neighbor said,
"for a boy to spend his time."
"If you 'll tell me where God is,
I'll give you a brand new dime."*

*Quick as a flash the answer came!
Nor were his accents faint.
"I'll give you a dollar, Mister,
If you can tell me where God ain't."*

CHURCH CONVENTION – The District Convention of the Northwest District (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington) of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (the denomination to which St. John belongs) was held in Portland, June 18-20. Pastor Jonathan went as pastoral delegate. Shelia Olson went as lay delegate. Pastor and Eleanor Allen attended as part of St. John's gift for the 50th ordination of Pastor Allen. Kathy Rockey attended as alternate delegate.

A new district president, Pastor Paul Linnemann, was elected. The delegates voted for a number of issues to be brought to the national church convention next summer. These issues include voting rights for teachers and DCE's, and re-structuring of Synod.

Thanks to those who attended for St. John.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – was held at St. John July 19-23 in the evenings. Each evening began with a meal at 5:00 p.m. Worship, classes, crafts, games and snacks were held from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. A total of about 80 children attended.

The Board of Education did the work of organizing and recruiting volunteers. Many St. John adults and youth helped. Also, volunteers came from Idaho, Iowa, and Utah to help lead. Thanks to those who helped!!

SUMMER ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL – Adult Sunday School Classes has been held at St. John this summer in the Fellowship Hall. We have been using the "Nooma" video studies. The youth of St. John used these studies at Kaleidoscope last summer, and they have also been used with the Alaska Pastors with a very good response.

There are 21 lessons in this series. Each lesson looks at our relationship with Jesus from a unique perspective. Some of the topics are entitled "Rain", "Dust", and "Rhythm."

Each lesson is different, so if you miss one week, you can still come to Bible Class the next week. Plan to attend Bible Class this summer.



Many books, videos and Bible studies are available in the Library. Stop in and check out a good book to enjoy. Norma Christiansen does a wonderful job of keeping the library in order. If you would like to donate books or videos, bring them to the library and place them in the designated shelf "Donated Items".

Alaska Mission for Christ News, con't.

Corbie followed the updates from the Quinhagak team and they were having a great turnout and seeing breakthroughs in the village.

We want to thank all of you again for your continued prayers and financial support. We couldn't do it without you. We now look forward to a few days off and then back to work Sharing Christ on the last Frontier.

For those of you who would like to help in a financial way, you can contribute on line by going to our web site <http://alaskamissionforchrist.org/index.php/contributions> .

Agayutem atawaqercelluitten (Yup'ik for God bless you)

Corbie & Nancy

Missionaries to Southwest Alaska

Alaska Mission for Christ

www.alaskamissionforchrist.org

JUNE AND JULY HAPPENINGS

ST. JOHN LEADS ALASKA MISSION FOR CHRIST VBS IN KENAI. Thirteen members of St. John volunteered to lead a Vacation Bible School for the Alaska Mission for Christ in Kenai. That VBS was held June 1 -5 and went well. Our volunteers have been asked to return next year.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL – On June 13 St. John was part of the Palmer celebration of Colony Days. Fifty members of St. John marched in the parade. We handed out invitations to citizens of Palmer to join us at St. John for an ice cream social after the parade.

People were registered for VBS at the Ice Cream Social. Thrivent donated money for the ice cream and handed out literature. Joyful Noise blessed the gathering with music.

Thanks to ALL who helped!

Alaska Mission for Christ News

Greetings,

Corbie has returned to Anchorage and it is time to get everyone caught up on happenings in Southwest Alaska.

During the last week Corbie traveled to Scammon Bay, Akiak, and Eek. He was supposed to get to Quinhagak but the weather didn't permit it.

While we have pushed hard for teams to return to the same village, this is the year that we saw HUGE results of the relationships that have been formed between the team members and the villagers. Now when our volunteers show up to conduct VBS and other programs they are greeted with welcome home, we are so glad to see you! Ministry on a deeper level is happening and for that we thank God.

Scammon Bay: The day before our team arrived they were informed by the village that a young man had committed suicide. The villagers told our volunteers, We are so glad that you are coming so you can help us through this time of sadness. The first night of youth meetings 55 young people showed up. A lot of questions were asked by the youth and the team was able to spend the week ministering to them and also to the grade school children.

Akiak: Over 80 in attendance at VBS and a total of 12 adults in Bible Study and they were asking us to figure out how to maintain Bible study in the village! This is the village that the AMC, along with Lutheran World Relief, Human Care, and Peace Lutheran Church (Raytown, Kansas), were able to deliver emergency supplies after the village was flooded this spring.

Eek: "You came back!" Relationships were enhanced. 70 children showed up for VBS, and it was almost impossible to count the adults and youth who came in the evenings to the wooden school playground to play, jump rope, shoot hoops and whatever else they could think of to do. Fresh salmon was delivered for supper along with a bag of fish strips for our eating pleasure. Children were in tears when the team left .

On Saturday morning Corbie was scheduled to leave Eek and go to Quinhagak to see our team there. The plane was delayed because of the weather. When it finally arrived, the pilot told him that there was no way she was going to continue to Quinhagak, and if Corbie didn't feel safe she would leave him in Eek and return to Bethel. If he wanted to travel back to Bethel that was fine but they were going to have to fly very low. Low indeed as at times they were at about 200 feet. However the clouds finally raised a little and they were able to climb to 500 feet. After arriving in Bethel Corbie was able to get his ticket to Anchorage changed to Saturday and was able to return to Anchorage in time to surprise Erin (our daughter) who was competing in the Mrs. Alaska America Pageant. Corbie said that hug he received from her was worth all the plane changes he had to make to get there.