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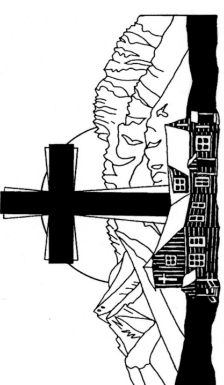
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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The Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod

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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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER SEPTEMBER 2010

**LABOR DAY
CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED
SEPTEMBER 6TH**

**LWML
SEPTEMBER 7TH**

**SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSAL BEGINS
SEPTEMBER 8TH**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS
SEPTEMBER 12TH**

**CHURCH COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 12TH**

**KOINONIA
SEPTEMBER 24TH**

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The Wind and the Sun

Aesop told the story about the Wind and the Sun, who were disputing which of them was stronger. After a while they saw a traveler hiking down the road.

"I see a way to decide who's strongest," said the Sun. "Whoever can make that traveler take off his coat the quickest will be the winner. You can even go first."

The Sun ducked behind a cloud, while the Wind began to blow mighty blasts of air at the traveler. But the harder the Wind blew, the closer the traveler pulled his cloak around himself. Finally, the Wind gave up in despair.

The Sun came out from behind the clouds and smiled down on the traveler. Feeling the gentle rays, the man soon found it too hot to walk with his cloak on. He felt so warm that he took off one garment after another, and then bathed in a nearby stream.



My church

My church is composed of people like me. We make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I bring them.

My church will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with those things.

FINANCIAL NEEDS UPDATE

Through April giving for 2010 was about 12.6% behind 2009 giving. The economy is down. Some of our members have lost their jobs, and some have moved away. Members were alerted about this situation through weekly e-mail messages.

Thank you. Many have responded. We are still behind giving for last year. In June we were behind 5.6% instead of 12.6%. As of the end of July we are behind 4.4%

Please continue to be faithful to our Lord as He is faithful to you.

PERMANENT FUNDS

Soon Alaskans will receive their permanent fund checks again. For many years members have been asked to consider at least tithing from their permanent funds toward the work of the Lord at St. John. Many of you remember Pioneer Alaskan June Liebing standing up in worship and saying, "God made the earth. The oil is in the earth. My permanent fund is a gift from God. I encourage you to give to the Lord from this gift from God." (June is now in the Pioneer Home.)

Please consider returning to the Lord as He has blessed you with this permanent fund.



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!*



Dear Christian Friends,

This is a time of focusing on growth in the lives of our children. Not only has school just started, but we just finished a sermon series on parenting at St. John. Christian parents are concerned that their children not only grow in knowledge to survive in this world, but also grow in an even more important area, in their relationship to God.

Psalm 119 deals with growing as God's child.

⁹How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. ¹⁰I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. ¹¹I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. ¹²Praise be to you, O LORD; teach me your decrees. ¹³With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth. ¹⁴I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches. ¹⁵I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. ¹⁶I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.

According to God in Psalm 119, "*living accord to God's Word,*" "*Hiding God's Word in our heart,*" "*meditating on God's precepts,*" "*not neglecting God's word.*" . . . these are all ways for a child of God to grow.

With this in mind I have 3 practical suggestions that help parent use God's Word to provide God's growth for their children.

Bring your children to Sunday School where God's Word can be planted in their hearts, and . . . attend Adult Bible Class yourselves. Your children will see that God's Word is important to you too.

Attend worship with your children. In response to God's grace you can respond to God's love in prayer and praise with your children.

Hold family devotions at home and pray with your children. Let God's Word bless your home

This seems so simple. But sometimes the simple escapes us. I pray that as you use God's Word your family and your home may be blessed with faith and love.

A fellow child of God,
Pastor Rockey



Christian Growth



My Autumn Prayer

Dear Lord, the things I ask are very small. I have them already, for You have given them to me. And, yet, my prayer is very large. I want to share what You have given me with others. Lord, show me how to teach bright-eyed children that You have a purpose for everything that will come to them in this life...and, Lord, help me to remind those who are older and have seen many Septembers that they have achieved a purpose already. Hopefully it was Your purpose. There is nothing new under the September sun...there are only beginnings, endings and blendings...in the seasons and in the lives of us all. In Your eyes little things are not ordinary or without purpose. My prayer, Lord, is that I will share those special (little) things You have given me with others.

If you would show, then I must see, Lord. Let me look at Your autumn treasures anew: tall fires and white-barked birches from the first fall rains...velvet cattails on reedy stalks...sheaf-ready grain...the first flush of the maple trees. And seeing this beauty about me, help me to release my grip on summer. But, Lord, let me now think winter-thoughts yet-until the time is right. Let each day be a blessing unto itself.

Lord, there was rarity in June days. Later there will be December's chill. And between the two, the air will be filled with leaves-for such is life. Today let me see Your innate goodness in the clean air of a changing season; let me find new meaning; add bold horizons to my faith; lent me the strength of the hills; bring out the autumn -best in me to share. For there is excitement in September. It is a time of "new studies" whether we enter the front door of buildings or recall an exit. Life and learning go on, for You keep us growing.

Make my steps more certain, Lord; my destination more purposeful, that I may help guide unsure feet. Keep Your instinct of endurance alive in me that I may build it in others who are groping towards Your right path.

We are all teachers, Lord. Use us! Let us remove the motes of irritation and frustration from our eye before trying to enlarge the vision of others. Bless us all with Your patience and Your wisdom that we may share the many reasons of Your love-that they may shine like brilliant autumn!

By Julne Masters Bacher
"Quiet Moments for Women"



Official Acts

Baptisms

06-2-10 Lorelai Grace Lawton

08-22-10 Briana Marie Isackson

Weddings

06-05-10 Elizabeth & Hunter Richards

07-25-10 Mark and Melissa Larson

Funerals

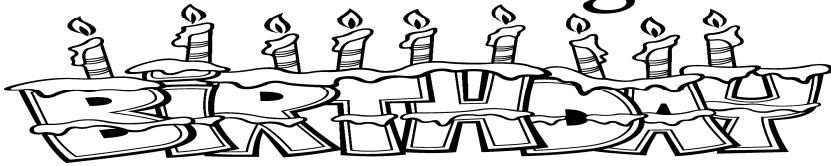
06-18-10 Johan Frederick Johnson

06-19-10 Rick R. Guhl

07-27-10 Steven P. Ziegler

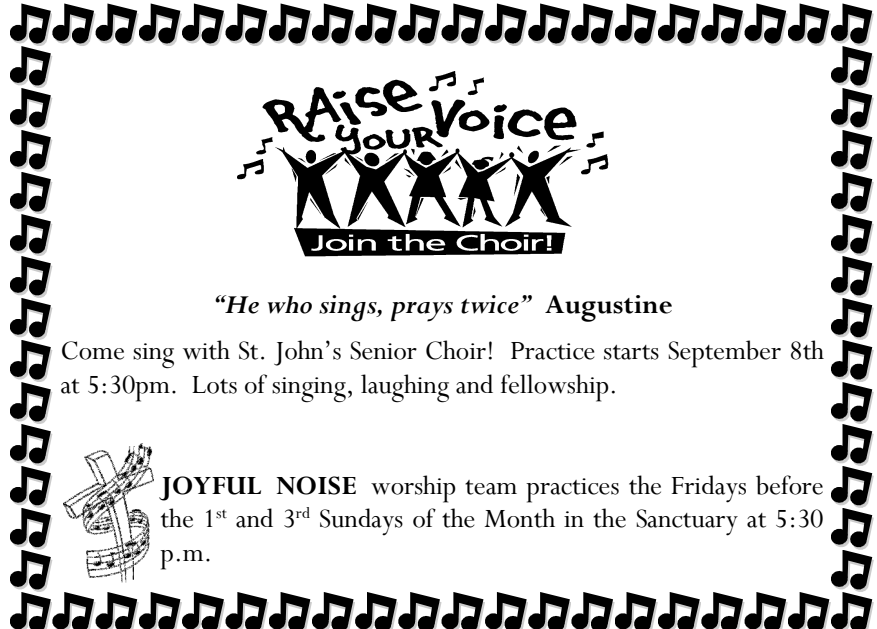
Date	Offering	Attendance
08-01-10	\$8,943.50	162
08-08-10	\$8,632.27	215
08-15-10	\$5,519.00	160
8-22-10	\$11,126.25	196
8-29-10	\$8,493.44	218


Celebrating a



- | | |
|--|---|
| 09-02 Sharon Ambrosius | 09-18 Evan Kopperud |
| 09-06 Jane McNiven
George Miller | 09-19 Adam Christiansen
Matthew Johanson
Skye Ziegler |
| 09-09 Laura Maresh | 09-20 Cathy Glaser
Benjamin Probasco
Shelby VanOrman |
| 09-10 Gerald Christensen
Christopher Howes | 09-21 Douglas Meyer |
| 09-11 Al Okeson | 09-22 Phyllis Williams
Kyle Kolberg |
| 09-12 Neil Arneson | 09-23 Collin Christiansen
Eric Hale |
| 09-13 Colson Fike
Jacob Moser | 09-26 Autumn Nelson |
| 09-14 Ronald Howes
Megan McDonald | 09-27 Jackson Carmichael |
| 09-15 Jane Larson
Tess McDonald
Kaleb Rehak
Hugh Trumps | 09-29 Grace Miller |


09-01 Charles & Arlene Fox	 <p><i>Happy Anniversary!</i></p>
09-07 Neil & Meg Arneson	
09-12 Ted & Jeanette Perdue	
09-14 Robert & Phyllis Williams	
09-16 Ken & Linda Bingham	
09-17 Pastor Richard & Eleanor Allen	
09-20 Philip & Jamie Walters	
09-27 Joseph & Jennifer Anderson	





“He who sings, prays twice” Augustine

Come sing with St. John’s Senior Choir! Practice starts September 8th at 5:30pm. Lots of singing, laughing and fellowship.



JOYFUL NOISE worship team practices the Fridays before the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the Month in the Sanctuary at 5:30 p.m.



Youth
Auction
Sat, November 13
Donations are now being taken!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



RALLY DAY

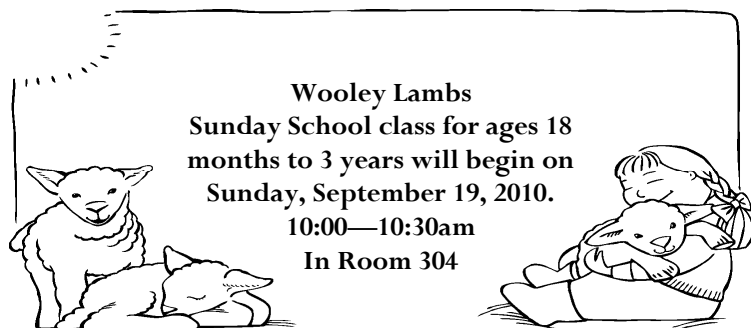
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2010

9:30 A.M.

ALL CHILDREN

WOOLEY LAMBS THRU FIFTH GRADE

**COME JOIN IN FOR A FUN TIME
MEET YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS
ENJOYS SONGS, GAMES AND KICK OFF THE
NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR!!!**



**Wooley Lambs
Sunday School class for ages 18
months to 3 years will begin on
Sunday, September 19, 2010.
10:00—10:30am
In Room 304**



We would like to thank everyone for all of your support during these past few months. The reception after the service was very nice. It is wonderful to have so many friends to turn to during this difficult time. We appreciate each and everyone of you very much.

Lynn, April and Ashley Miranda
Cody and Michelle Peterson

THE PROPHET

THE PROPHET is a dramatic presentation of verses from Old Testament prophets in the Bible by Shakespearian actor, Brad Sherrill of Atlanta, Georgia. *The Prophet* will have 4 shows in Anchorage, one in Soldotna, one in Wasilla, and one in Palmer at St. John on Saturday evening, October 30, 2010. Plan now to attend this 90 minute presentation that looks at judgment and hope as God speaks.

The Alaska Christian Conference is bringing Mr. Sherrill to Alaska. He previously presented *The Gospel of John*. Tickets will be on sale and any proceeds exceeding cost will help the local Food Banks.



FISHING FOR PEOPLE IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA

Rick and Tori Hanson and their two kids spent their Summer trolling. They were not trolling for fish, but for people who need to know of Jesus' love. They travelled over 3200 miles in 49 days building relationships through servant events, sports camps, and Bible Schools. Rick and Tori met people, invited them onto their boat and then shared with them their most precious possession—their love for Jesus. Rick and Tori scouted out four new communities (Klemtu BC, Hartley Bay BC, Metlakatla BC and Hydaburg AK) looking for mission opportunities for Alaska Mission for Christ. Please pray that the Lord will give us wisdom and all we need to follow up on these opportunities.

Boat Ministry in Southeast

Evening devotions were a part of the boat ministry in Southeast Alaska. High School students hang out on Rick and Tori's boat in Ketchikan, Alaska.

A Jeep for Sharing Jesus

Boats are great for travelling in Southeast Alaska, but they don't do much good in the Copper Valley 4 hours Northeast of Anchorage. Mike and Cindy Speer of Cheap Wheels Rent-a-car donated a four wheel drive Jeep to Mt. Drum Lutheran Church. This jeep will travel all over Alaska to help proclaim Jesus in every community that can be reached by road. Thank you Mike and Cindy!

Mission to Southwest Alaska News

by David Grosz

David and Cathy are thanking God for a new home in Alaska. David spent a month in Anchorage and the surrounding communities looking at houses. The family will be settling down in Palmer. Please join the family in praying for completion of the moving arrangements, sale of their house, and the purchase of a vehicle suitable for Alaska. Hanna and Esther their two daughters will start school in Washington for a few weeks and then re-enter school in Alaska. Thank you for remembering these two little girls as they make this and many other changes.

Please pray for us

We have many opportunities for expanding ministries including the need for a church in Tetlin, the opportunity to partner to build a church building in Mentasta, the need for a worker in the Hmong community in Anchorage, and the need to address the hopelessness that leads to suicide in native communities with the hope of Christ. **Pray** that we will have the wisdom and courage to meet the needs that the Lord puts in front of us so that **Christ will be boldly proclaimed in every community in Alaska!**

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASSES BEGIN ON SEPTEMBER 12

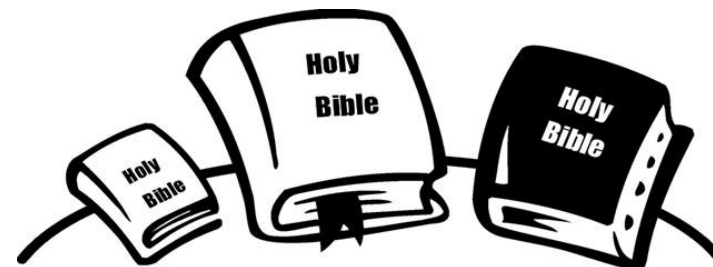
Mary Jo Lentz will be leading a class on "*The Power of One Christ-Like Life*" by Francis Frangipane. It addresses apathy, anger, judgment and resignation toward sin, and answers the question 'What difference can one person make?'. It includes twelve brief biographies of outstanding Christians who provide real-life examples of the ability of a godly intercessor to impact the world for Christ.

Randy Luffberry will lead a class on *Old Testament Prophets*.

Kathy Rockey will lead, "*Sunday School For Adults*," a class that gives adults an opportunity to look again at the Bible stories that are taught to our children.

Hunter Richards will be leading the Middle School youth in a study titled "Grapple". All Junior High youth are encouraged to attend.

Aaron and Andria Werning will be leading the High School youth in a study titled "Reverb". All High School youth are encouraged to attend.



ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24TH
WE WILL CELEBRATE OUR 4TH ANNUAL
THIRD GRADE BIBLE SUNDAY

IF YOU HAVE OR KNOW A THIRD GRADE STUDENT,
PLEASE LET JAMIE KNOW THEIR FULL NAME
(OR THE NAME THEY'D LIKED IMPRINTED!)
ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 26TH.



STEPHEN MINISTRY CLASS

– Would you like to serve as a Stephen Minister at St. John?

A Stephen Minister is a trained servant of God working to bring 'uniquely Christian care' to people in need. A Stephen Minister is not a pastor or counselor. They are a Christian friend, trained to listen, to bring the Lord and His love and resources to a person in need. A Stephen Minister is trained to trust God's love through a difficult time, not to fix the problem.

A new class will begin on Thursday evening, October 7. This class will provide 50 hours of training from October to February. There will be a charge of \$49.95 for the packet of the official Stephen Ministry training materials. Commissioned Stephen Ministers are required to commit to serving at least 2 years in this ministry.

Many who have served as Stephen Ministers have told me time and again that while God used them to help others, they felt they were blessed even more than those they helped. I urge you to consider serving in this ministry.



Are you going through, or do you know someone who's going through the pain of divorce or separation? St. John Lutheran Church will soon be offering a Christian-based program called **DIVORCE CARE**. Please contact Bev Dubos @ 745-0514 or Judy in the church office: 745-3338 for more information.

Prayer requests? – Every year while moose hunting I take my congregational directory and pray for all our members and friends. I will leave for hunting this year on September 13. *Is there anything about which you would like me to pray for you?* If so, please let me know, and I'll include your specific request in my prayers while hunting.

Lutheran Church Missouri Synod 2010 National Offering

To The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod,

Thank you for your generous support and prayers on behalf of ONE People—Sharing Christ's Love and our beloved Synod. As of the week of our 64th convention the LCMS has received from our congregations and their members **more than \$628,000** to help provide for the ministries of the Synod.

The 2010 National Offering will be distributed to the following unmet mission and ministry needs;

- National and international mission planting that has distributed grants to 35 new covenant congregations and is in the process of reviewing additional requests for newly planted churches.
- Congregation revitalization to help rural and small town congregations reach out to their communities through the assistance of the Transforming Congregations Network.
- Stewardship renewal and education to strengthen their perpetual endowment fund available to encourage members to manage the gifts God entrusts to them freely, joyously, and generously so that His kingdom is advanced and His purposes accomplished.

The remainder of the National Offering funds will help the LCMS provide timely resources to restructure the national ministries to better serve the whole church through it's members, their congregations and communities with grace and mercy in the name of our Lord and Savior.

Your faithful generosity and prayers on behalf of the Synod's worldwide vision, mission and ministry will be a blessing to all.

In thanks to a gracious God who fills us with hope there is still time to be included in this year's offering. Send your offering today to ONE People—Sharing Christ's Love, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, PO Box 790417, St. Louis, MO 63179-9952.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick
President

Rev. Matthew Harrison
President Elect

The Youth Page



- ## September
- 1- CALENDAR DAY!
7:00-8:30pm in the Youth Lounge
 - 5- FISH @ Our Redeemer, Chugiak
Meet at St John @ 2:30-5:30pm
 - 8- Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in the Youth Lounge
 - 11- Monthly Movie Night
7:00pm-10:00pm in the Youth Lounge
 - 15- Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in the Youth Lounge
 - 19- FISH @ Lamb of God, Wasilla
Meet at St John @ 2:30-5:30pm
 - 22- Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in the Youth Lounge
 - 29- Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in the Youth Lounge

High School Youth Schedule

Welcome, Freshmen!

KAYCEE, DARBIE, HANS, DAVID, CHARLOTTE,
LOGAN, SANDY & O'NEILL!
YOU'VE GOT YOUR HANDS ON THE WALLS,
NOW GET TO YOUTH GROUP!

Middle School



Confirmation Classes
will start
October 6th



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



LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE NEWS

Ladies!!

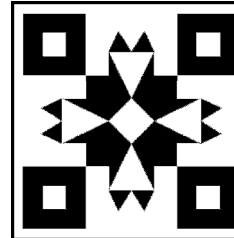
Mark your calendars now!!

Plan to attend the
LWML Fall Retreat
October 1, 2, 3, 2010

at Star of the North Lutheran Church
in Kenai.

Registration forms available on the board in the east entrance or
see Eleanor Allen.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League will resume their monthly
meetings on September 7, 2010 at 7:00pm in the Church Fellowship
Hall. All ladies of St. John are warmly invited.



QUILTING for World Relief will start
Wednesday, September 8th at 9:30am in the
Fellowship Hall. There are quite a few quilts
ready for typing and help will be needed to catch up
on tying the tops which Willie Pederson has worked
on putting together all summer. All ladies are invited
to come and enjoy the fellowship. It is noted that
many hand make light work and our goal for the year

is to put together 150 or more quilts that will be sent to World Relief in Octo-
ber. Thank you, Willie for all your work.

KOINONIA

"KOINONIA" (The word means "Fellowship" in the original Greek ver-
sion of the New Testament) meets the 4th Friday of each month at 6:00
p.m. for a potluck meal and fellowship. This group has been for those 50
and older in recent years. September Koinonia will be held at the home
of Richard and Donna Firmstone. See Pastor Allen or Arlene Fox for
more information on scheduled Koinonia meetings



LWML LAYETTE KITS

LWML will be collecting the following items to be placed in the LWML layette kits and sent to Lutheran World Relief in the fall

LAYETTE INFORMATION:

You may donate all items on the list or certain items on the list. Donation of money is another option. LWML will take the money and then purchase the items for completion of the layette kits. Call Linda Harm 688-2585 or Lenita Deda 745-3413 for more information about the collection of items.

- Two light weight cotton shirts (or similar items)
- Two long or short sleeved gowns or sleepers (with or without feet)
- Two receiving blankets, medium weight cotton or flannel, can be crocheted or knitted with light weight yarn (suggested size is 36X36 inches.
- Four cloth diapers,, flat fold preferred
- One sweater or sweatshirt
- Two washcloths (full size preferred)
- One bath size bar (4-5 oz) of gentle soap, in its original wrapping
- Two diaper pins or two large, metal safety pins.

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed above. Gently used, clean items can be substituted for new ones. Before sending, items will be wrapped in one of the blankets and secured with diaper pins. All the kits will not be enclosed in plastic bags.

TIPS:

Sizes up to 24 months may be used. Consider varying the size of the clothing items included in the layettes so it will continue to be useful as the baby grows.

Sweaters may be knitted or crocheted from leftover yarn, or made from heavy double knits or fleece. Select a pattern that fits your skill level. Preferred styles have buttons or ties down the front.

Diapers can be made from flannel or even by recycling Tee shirts. There will be a collection box for items in the Gift Nook area.

CHRISTMAS BOXES FOR OUR ALASKAN TROOPS

Items are being collected to send to our Alaskan troops serving in Afghanistan and Iraq for Christmas. You may bring your items and place them in the box located in the Narthex. Items will be accepted until November 1st.

For questions contact Mary Ann Probasco at 745-3182.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR HELPING US, BUT MORE IMPORTANT, FOR HELPING OUR TROOPS!!!

Drinks

- Crystal light to flavor water
- Sweetened Kool-Aide (small)
- Coffee singles
- Spiced Cider (packs)
- Hot Chocolate (packs)
- Flavored Tea bags

Snacks

- Pepperoni sticks
- Vienna Sausages
- Beef Jerky
- Peanut packs
- Fruit Roolups
- Dried fruit
- Sunflower seeds
- Pringles in the can
- Granola Bars
- Pumpkin seeds
- Top Ramen
- Cup-O-Noodles

Sweets

- Indiv. Wrapped Bubble gum
- Indiv. Wrapped Candy
- Packs of Regular Gum

Hygiene Items

- Shampoo
- Gold Bond Powder
- Mosquito Wipes/Sprays
- Tooth Brushes
- Tooth Paste
- Eye Drops (Ex. Visine)
- Dry skin Lotions
- Pocket size Kleenex
- Sun Screen (SPF 25+)
- Lip Balm
- Hand Sanitizer
- Soapless hand/body wash
- Disposable Razors (Men & Women)
- Shaving gel/cream (Men & Women)
- Deodorants
- Tampons (for the "prettier" troops)

Misc.

- WHITE** socks
- Playing cards
- Handheld games
- Disposable cameras
- Pens & Writing tablets
- Envelopes (small)
- Phone cards
- (must work in the Middle East)**
- Paper Back Books
- (No "War" or "Obscene")**