



The Caller

The Pastor's Page

It's summertime! Or at least that's what the calendar says. Hopefully the weather will soon agree! Here in Alaska, with our comfortable temperatures and long hours of daylight, summer is time to be out and about. People go camping, fishing, and hiking in the wilderness, there are running races or fundraising walks every weekend in town, and festivals and celebrations abound. Alaskan summers may be short, but they are jam-packed with activity and opportunities to get outside.

This summer, I would love to see Immanuel be out and about as well, getting out into the community as a congregation and/or on behalf of the congregation. We can participate in events such as the Pride Parade on June 24, marching together as a congregation. Perhaps a team of Immanuel women could participate in the 25th annual Run for Women on June 10 to support breast cancer research and education.

We could host a church picnic in a public park, inviting others to join us for worship. Do you have other ideas for how our congregation could be out and about, helping to meet a community need while also making the congregation's name more known to those around us?

As a congregation, we have much to offer the community, but our offerings can't be put to good use if the community doesn't know about them. For example, as of this past weekend, only half of our garden plots have been claimed for this year, meaning that the other half are still available. Is there someone you know that might like to use one, so that our gardens are truly community gardens which benefit not only our congregants but others as well?

In mid-summer, a youth group from Vancouver, WA, will be staying at Immanuel while on a mission trip to Anchorage. They will be leading Vacation Bible

School on July 10-14 (exact days and times to be determined). Although they will certainly need some support and assistance from our members, their leadership means that we won't have to plan and lead VBS on our own. I hope that some of the time and energy that might otherwise be spent planning and leading can instead be used to publicize and promote VBS in our wider community, so that children from the local neighborhood might also benefit from the opportunity to learn about God's love for them.

These are just a few suggestions for how our congregation can get out and about this summer, in order to help support the needs of our community while also enjoying the countless opportunities of an Alaskan summer. Maybe you have some of your own ideas. If so, please take that idea and run with it, letting the rest of us know how we can help!

Summer blessings,

Ellen



Immanuel's Mission

We believe that all people are children of God and affirm the worth and dignity of all races, ethnicities, ages, abilities, genders and sexual orientations. Recognizing that we are an increasingly diverse culture and that there are differences among us, we make a commitment to lovingly accept our diversity, as did Christ, with respect, compassion, understanding, and love. We welcome all people into the full life and ministry of this church.

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Summer Schedule

- ◆ *Worship Service @ 10:00 AM*
- ◆ *Lite Continental Breakfast & Fellowship @ 9:30 AM*
- ◆ *No Adult Forum or Sunday School until after Labor Day.*

Mark Your Calendar

- Ushers for June are the Turners
- Sat., June 3, 11:00am: Memorial Service for Rev. John Carey Potluck will follow; church will be open at 8:30 am for bringing of food, flowers, etc.
- Sun., June 4: Pentecost and More Light Sunday AND
- Worship committee meets after worship AND
- Continental Breakfast courtesy of the Herb, Nes, and Arlene
- Wed., June 7, 5:30pm: Buildings & Grounds & Finance committees meet
- Sun., June 11, after worship: Session meeting AND
- Continental Breakfast courtesy of Candace
- Wednesday, June 14, 6pm: Ladies' Night Out at Sea Galley
- Sun., June 18: Father's Day AND
- Mission committee meets after worship
- Mon., June 19, 6:30pm: Men's Night Out at Ray's Place, 4212 Spenard Rd.
- Sat., June 24, 11am: Pride Parade
- Sun., June 25, after worship: Leadership Work Day (Session and Deacons)
- Wed. July 12, 6:00pm: Ladies' Night Out at TBD
- Mon., July 17, 6:30pm: Men's Night Out at TBD
- Sign-up is being taken for church cleaning or donations for cleaning during June & July

Calling all Youth—**Summer's Here!**

Keep your youth (6th—12th graders) active in faith & fellowship activities!

- ◆ Tues. 5/30, 1-4pm: VBS Youth Volunteers' Orientation at 1 pm followed by Youth Work Day
- ◆ Wed. 5/31, 1-4: VBS Youth Work Day at First Presbyterian Church (Even if you are not going to be able to help with the VBS, come & help us get ready on one or both days!)
- ◆ June 4-12: Trinity Presbyterian Church Intergenerational Mission Trip to Anuktuvik Pass
- ◆ June 5-9, 9am-12:15pm: First Presbyterian Church VBS (Youth are needed to help with the VBS as leaders of the different classes. On Wednesday we will stay later & go out for lunch as a group. Parent pick up on that day will be 1:45 pm.)
- ◆ Tues. 6/13: No Youth Group Meeting
- ◆ Tues. 6/20, 6:30-9:30pm: Youth Group Meet at Stevie Anderson's for hike (8450 Pioneer Dr.)
- ◆ Tues. 6/27, 6:30-8:30pm: Youth Group meet for Frisbee Golf (location TBD)
- ◆ Tues. 7/4: Happy July 4th - No Youth Group!
- ◆ Sun. 7/9, time TBD: Joint Youth Group Picnic at Amanda and Luke's homestead in Wasilla (with youth group visiting from California as well as Palmer & Wasilla youth groups)
- ◆ Fri. 7/14 to Sun. 7/16: Trip to Homer to Lindemuth's homestead
- ◆ Tues. 7/18: No Youth Group
- ◆ Tues. 7/25, 6:30-8:30pm: Farewell Youth Group Party for Tanner (Location TBD)
- ◆ Tues. 8/1, 6:30-8:30pm: Youth Group Cook-out at Dora's house
- ◆ Tues. 8/8, 6:30-8:30pm: Youth Group Outdoor Activity
- ◆ Tues. 8/15: No Youth Group
- ◆ Wed. 8/16: School Begins

Celebrating a Centenarian—Rev. Alice Green

Rev. Alice Green will be celebrating her 100th birthday on July 21st! Please join us as we celebrate this momentous occasion.

The festivities will be held on Friday, 7/21, at 11:30am at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Anchorage. It will be a potluck luncheon.

For questions on what to bring or other questions about the event, please contact Vi Markson at 345-

1334 or vamarkson@gmail.com.

If you will be attending, please RSVP no later than Monday, July 17th to the Trinity church office at trinity@trinityalaska.org or by calling 345-4823.

Trinity is also accepting birthday cards and any memories you'd like to share about Alice – they can be mailed to Trinity's office. So even if you can't attend, consider sending Rev. Alice birthday wishes!

Gambell Presbyterian Church & Community Services Building

A Partnership w/the Gambell Presbyterian Church, Presbytery of Yukon, & Community of Gambell

Building work teams are still needed for construction of Gambell's new church!

The Yukon Presbytery is still in need of about 25 people to donate a week's time to go to Gambell and help with the construction of the new church/community center building in Gambell. Teams will be going in July and August. To date there are still four open weeks that are available for either a church to fill OR

individuals to team up with others.

We are hoping all teams will be filled by June 9 so our building supervisor will have the time needed to prepare for the summer teams. Please note: team members do NOT have to be members of the Presbyterian community; they can be any person with skills and abilities and willing to assist. So if you have any friends looking for a once-in-a-lifetime service opportunity, invite them!



60 years in subarctic Alaska can take a toll on a building. In 1953, the faithful members of Gambell Presbyterian Church built a replacement for their original drafty and failing building. That 2nd structure has now deteriorated: water leaks through the roof, cold air blows in through the walls, and the heating system is rapidly failing. Soon the building will be unsafe to occupy.

This project has been in process for over 12 years. Initially, the church began exploring a new building primarily for church activities. However, the vision for the new building began to change and over the past three years, the presbytery and the church have hosted meetings in Gambell that included church leaders, their architect, and officials from three local Native agencies, to assure that the mission for this building will continue to be shaped as a collaboration between community leaders. The new building will provide the following:

- ◇ Worship space for the congregation
- ◇ Housing for a pastor/administrator
- ◇ Multi-purpose space, with moveable walls
- ◇ Space for a community food bank, elder nutrition program, and other community groups
- ◇ Other possible community activities such as funerals, traditional drumming and dancing, cultural celebrations, AA meetings, youth gatherings, and training events.

The building has been designed using the latest construction concepts for cold climate structures, saving thousands of dollars in energy costs each year but building on St. Lawrence Island is expensive; about \$550 per square foot. To date \$2.4 million of the \$3.2 million needed for the building has been secured. Recently a \$500,000 grant from the Rasmuson Foundation was received and additional grants are being written to secure funding. It is hoped that with the continued contributions and substantial grants, this project will be completed in the fall of 2018.

- * Can a village on the edge of nowhere provide the spark for a new revival of the faith?
- * Can a building project engage countless congregations in the work that God is doing there?
- * Might we be part of this **movement of God's Spirit** – providing funding or sending a workers to help with this unique mission effort?

4 Ways You Can Help: 1) *Share the story* with others in your family, friends. 2) *Contribute financially* to help us raise the final \$700,000 to complete the building. 3) *Organize a mission team* through your congregation or presbytery or invite individuals to join another work team to help with the construction. 4) *Pray with us* as we continue to partner with the Gambell Community and Presbyterian Church. Go to: http://pbyukon.org/gambell_bld.html for videos, mission team info, and donation options.

Keeping God's Spaces Beautiful

From the Building and Grounds Committee:

We have been very busy with spring cleaning and lots of other activities this month.

- 1) Abandon vehicles in lot. We had three abandon vehicles in the lot recently. We only had to pay to have one of them hauled off (a cost of \$100!). We assume the other two vehicles were hauled off by the owners. More on this later.
- 2) Immanuel Presbyterian **Church's friend, Terry Jackson**, spends more time around the church in the summer and by agreement, keeps his RV in our lot, puts the trash cans out and hauls them back in. We hope, with Terry around the church more, fewer abandon vehicles will show up in the lot. Give him a HUGE thanks when you see him!
- 3) Sandy and I saw one group of people bringing a beat up looking vehicle into the Church lot, as Sandy took digital photos of the licenses plates; I confirmed with them that they were not bringing the beat up vehicle into the lot.
- 4) Spring Cleanup happened on

May 20, 2017. Good work, good fun, and good food was had by all. There were too many clean up and repair projects to discuss them all or even complete them all! But a few notable items are: a tidy forest on the corner in front of the church-thanks Dan; a nicely sanded and stained fin-tube **cover in the women's restroom**-thanks David; level bricks at the main side entrance, much less likely to trip you-thanks Aaron and Oakley; front steps without the trip hazard of boards sticking up to catch your foot-thanks Aaron; community garden without **last year's growth and weeds**-thanks Sarah; raked and cleaned out gardens out front-thanks Heather and Donna; cleaner windows and sills down stairs-thanks Beth, Marty and Josie; clean sanctuary-thanks Sandy and Stevie. Undoubtedly you noticed the clean parking lot, sans gravel-thanks Jane; and be sure and thank Norm for all those things that Norm does behind the scenes to keep our building maintained!

- 5) I am sure you may have noticed the access hatch open in the entry foyer; due to a leak in the heating system. When the

plumber looked into the heating system further, many more leaks and soon to be leaks were identified. The system had to be drained, repaired, and restored. The cost of the repair was \$2045. An anonymous donor paid the entire cost!!! Thank you Anonymous, AND, thank you Jesus, for sending us such a generous friend!

- 6) We were VERY lucky to have a group of college students from Westminster College in PA spend 6 hours at our church doing additional cleaning. Thank you Danna Larson for setting this up and THANK YOU Westminster for washing out every cabinet and drawer in the kitchen, organizing the craft storage room, cleaning EVERY toy and bin in the Nursery, vacuuming around the baseboards of the entire downstairs, dusting the office **and pastor's office, vacuuming** and dusting the choir room, washing the exterior windows, cleaning the elevator, repairing the classroom exit door frame, removing, the accordion door of the adult forum room, fixing **the door lock to the pastor's office**. AGAIN, thank you Jesus for sending us the many hands it took to repair and beautify **our and God's space!**

Pentecost Sunday at IPC



Sunday, June 4 is Pentecost! Wear red to worship as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the "birthday" of the church! That day we will also celebrate More Light Sunday with guest preacher the Rev. Denise Sudbeck. Denise is the pastor of the Last Frontier Metropolitan Community Church, a new church plant here in Anchorage. Last Frontier MCC will be meeting at Immanuel on Sundays at 3pm beginning in June. Welcoming Denise into our pulpit will not only be a wonderful way to recognize More Light Sunday but also to build our relationship with our newest building users.

WANTED: Coordinator for Immanuel's participation in Anchorage's 40th annual Pride Parade - Saturday, June 24, 11:00am. Immanuel was one of the first churches in Anchorage to publicly support and participate in Pride, but in recent years our activity level has waned. The 40th anniversary of this annual event is a great opportunity to renew our support! Please let Ellen know if you're willing to coordinate our efforts this year (complete official sign-up with Pride committee, publicize in the congregation, make signs to carry, etc). Everyone else, please mark your calendars and plan to help us put our beliefs into action!

From the Executive Presbyter...Curt Karns

Bingle Camp

Bingle Camp had a bit of a crisis this spring, when their program director resigned; leaving much footwork for **this year's camping program**. As such, the Bingle Board decided to put the Camp Program on hiatus for one year, while they work on renewing the camp vision, and reorganize its leadership. Being considered for uses of Bingle Camp in the future are a Presbytery meeting and the possibility of a new Worshiping Community for the some 350 families with property at Harding Lake, where Bingle Camp is located.

Native Ministries Face-2-Face Meeting

The Native Ministries leadership team met to discuss their annual face-2-face meeting. It will be August 18-21 with a very full agenda. Location of meeting TBD. The Native Ministries Region leadership is exploring new, and more effective ways of developing church leaders in the Native Ministries. Some of the ideas include:

- a. **Exploring the role of senior elders in helping people discover their call into God's service.**
- b. Exploring the best type of partnerships between Teaching Elders and Commissioned Ruling Elders (CREs) for effective leadership in each community.
- c. Exploring how to compete with other agencies also seeking promising leaders, which might point to a need for raising funds and paying salaries for CREs.
- d. Exploring the practicality of a Native-designed, and Native run academy for training church leaders

Presbytery-sponsored Conferences

The Presbytery of Yukon occasionally has found large conferences to be of value in strengthening and reshaping ministries. In recent years PoY co-sponsored the New Beginnings Reconciliation Event, Presbyterians for Earth **Care Climate Conference**, and **this year, the Renewal and Healing Event in Utqiagvik**. Other conferences are being considered.

All in June

by William Henry Davies

A week ago I had a fire
To warm my feet, my hands and face;
Cold winds, that never make a friend,
Crept in and out of every place.

Today the fields are rich in grass,
And buttercups in thousands grow;
I'll show the world where I have been--
With gold-dust seen on either shoe.

Till to my garden back I come,
Where bumble-bees for hours and hours
Sit on their soft, fat, velvet bums,
To wriggle out of hollow flowers.

Immanuelites! We have heard a call for help!

Immanuel has a neighbor that lives on a small fixed income. She recently became the frequent caregiver of her Grandchildren and is looking for ways to supplement her income, i.e. yard work. **We don't have extra church funds to hire folks** to do yard work but some of you may have a need or a desire to have someone else do your yard work. If so, consider calling Nancy Sanchez at 891-2669, 538-3167, or 406-5962.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) annual meeting was held in Atlanta April 21-24 and Rev. Dan Ketchum attended. Members of the volunteer National Response Team (NRT) and National Volunteer Team gathered to expand their knowledge of disaster ministries and response.

PDA members receive training year-round in areas such as natural and human-caused disasters, emotional and spiritual care, church damage, post-disaster volunteer workforce housing, long-term community rebuilding, and refugee and immigration in disaster response. Sessions also included dealing with racism and privilege as well as suicide awareness. Guest speakers were from FEMA and other organizations who respond to disasters.

PDA includes 102 clergy and lay members representing 34 states and Puerto Rico. NRT members commit to 1 month of service annually. In 2016, volunteers spent about 2,377 days in 62 presbyteries in response to church damage, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, storms, other disasters, and in the refugee ministry.

PDA enables congregations and mission partners of the PCUSA to witness the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic events. The organization gratefully receives support through your One Great Hour of Sharing donations.

Out of Chaos, Hope

Immanuel Presbyterian Church

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IPC Session

Rev. Ellen Johnson-Price, Pastor
Mark Anderson, Building & Grounds
Candace Arlian, Finance
Sandy Haldane, Clerk
Sara Johnston, Worship
Heather MacAlpine, Pledge Clerk
Diane Marquis, Treasurer
Herb Turner, Mission
Laurence Zeh, Christian Education

IPC Board of Deacons

Patti Collins, Deacon
Rozann Kimpton, Deacon
Gale Smoke, Deacon
Sarah Weaver, Deacon



6/3 Rev. Richard and Mary Ellen Oman
6/30 Herb & Nes Turner
7/27 Bill & Ellie Reiter



6/2 Chris McKnight
6/16 Rev. Richard Oman
6/21 Sharon Arlian
6/21 Frank Haldane
6/21 Rev. Ellen Johnson-Price
6/23 Stevie Anderson
6/26 Jason Paulsen
6/30 Patti Collins
7/20 William Reiter
7/21 Alice Green – 100
7/23 Lauren Green
7/29 Heather MacAlpine



Immanuel VBS

Immanuel welcomes all children ages 4 through 6th grade to its VBS, July 10-14, time TBD. A Presbyterian Youth Group from CA will be assisting!

Contact Heather MacAlpine or Laurence Zeh for further information. Volunteers needed and appreciated!

1st Pres. VBS

First Presbyterian Church welcomes all children ages 4 through 6th grade to its VBS, June 5-9 from 9:30am to 12 noon each day. Registration forms can be downloaded at:

www.fpcanchorage.com.

Contact Danna Larson at First Presbyterian Church if you have questions at dllsit-ka@gmail.com or 538-7313.

Trinity UPW

Trinity Presbyterian Women's tea is Sat. Sept. 30, 2017 from 1-3:30pm.

It will include a silent auction from which proceeds go to mission work and The Thank Offering for UPW will be collected.

Of course you're guaranteed to experience great fellowship with other women of faith as well as good food. ALL WELCOME!

My Heart is in July

by Niji Chrys

shifting away from June's bud
to leave dandelions scattered in the yard
this dawn of July
marks the end of a lie
a lie from past season
for a strong reason

in July
robin will make herself shy
and cover her reddish breast
with her celestial hued crest
then flap her wings to fly
close against the sky

i want to kiss July
and make July
lasting forever
in beauty but not ephemeral

i will preserve July
on my canvas and with magic brush
so that she will be enthralled and blush

i will paint July
with charming colour
so that she will be captured in delight
and her soul enraptured

Taize @ IPC

Taize worship services are back! As we did last year, we will worship in the Taize style on the 4th Sunday of the month throughout the summer. Come and experience a reflective, meditative worship service of music, Scripture, and prayer.

Celebrating the Life of Rev. Dr. John Carey



A Memorial Service celebrating the life of Rev. John Carey will be on Saturday, June 3 at 11:00am at Immanuel. A

potluck luncheon will follow **the service.** Immanuel's doors will be open at 8:30 am for the delivery of food, flowers, etc.