

Kenai Christian Church **News**

104 McKinley St. Kenai, AK 99611

April 2018

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THANK YOU TO ALL
who helped paint the church
in March!

**You are all loved and so much
appreciated. It could not have
been done without you!**

(Please see page 7 for a few fun pictures)

The Formula for Joy

By: Adam Meyers

We Learn from Eyewitness Accounts

I love how 1 John chapter 1 begins, “What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have observed and have touched with our hands, concerning the Word of life—that life was revealed, and we have seen it and we testify and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us.” John is believed to be the oldest living disciple of Jesus Christ who continued to live out his faith boldly and unashamed despite severe opposition. He reminds us in this opening of his letter that Jesus wasn’t just an idea, thought, or religion. Instead John heard Jesus, saw Him, observed Him, touched Him and knew Jesus to be exactly who He claimed to be: the Savior of the world. **Jesus left no doubt in the disciples’ minds once they saw Him crucified, buried, and brought back to life.**

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The Eyewitnesses Weren’t Selfish

And having fully experienced Jesus, the disciples knew that the evidence should not be used for their benefit only. They took seriously Jesus’ command to go into all the world and let everyone know that they could be saved from sin. In fact, all the disciples would eventually die for sharing this crucial, eyewitness message. As John’s letter continues, we see that it was for our benefit that the evidence be shared: “What we have seen and heard we also declare to you, so that you may have fellowship along with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.” Through hearing and responding to this message we can again have fellowship with God just as in the Garden of Eden, only this time for eternity.

Let us Find a Similar Joy

What was John’s formula for making his joy complete? It wasn’t just hearing, seeing, observing, and touching Jesus. John’s joy came in sharing the disciples’ experience with everyone! Let that sink in for just a second: the disciples found ultimate joy in having spent time face-to-face with Jesus, but their joy was made complete when they shared with others all that they learned from Him. I’m so thankful for John including this in his letter because it helps me with my perspective on sharing my faith. Often sharing our faith is associated with fear, discomfort, or shyness. Yet, John turns that idea upside down and says that joy finds fulfillment in sharing the good message of Jesus Christ with others. So, are you missing joy in your life? Try sharing your faith with someone who doesn’t know who Jesus truly is. Then, and only then, will you find a similar joy as the original disciples.



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Youth News

By: Caleb Beck

Upcoming Stuff

Summer is coming! It's never too early to start thinking about summer camp. July 9th-13th we will be having camp for students coming into 6th grade through students who just graduated in 2018. Mark your calendars for this amazing time that students can play games, make friends, and most importantly learn about God in a fun and creative way.

Devo Thought

1 Peter 4:8 NCV

“Most importantly, love each other deeply, because love will cause people to forgive each other for many sins.”

Do you ever have those times in your life when it's hard to love people? Ever wish you could go off the grid, live off the land, have a pet grizzly bear, and not have to deal with anyone else? I know there are many times in my life when I want to cut myself off from the world, and not have to deal with people. People can be pretty stupid sometimes. People can get on our nerves, annoy us, hurt us, etc. But one of Jesus' biggest commands is to love others. In Matthew 22, Jesus basically sums up Christianity into two things; Love God, love people. Sometimes we may want to just focus on the first part of that. We'll read our bible, come to church, serve inside the building, and pray. But sometimes we forget to love other people. We forget to take time to show God's love to somebody else. We fall short on one of the biggest commandments Jesus gives. I love how Peter writes “Most importantly, love each other deeply.” He talks about the importance of loving others, and in verses 9-11, gives a glimpse of some of the ways we CAN love people. So take some time to love someone this week. Take someone out to lunch, go to that student's play or concert, make someone a meal, invite someone over for games and pizza, tell someone you like their shirt/hat/shoes, write a card or encouraging note to someone, randomly visit someone at work, the list can go on and on. There are so many ways you can go love someone. How are you going to spread God's love this month?

Celebrations

Student lock-in was a success!

30 students in 8th-12th grade and 5 adult sponsors stayed up all throughout the night of March 8th, playing games, consuming sugar, and having a blast. There were also no serious injuries and everyone seemed to recover well from the sugar crash they must have had the next morning.

We have a new youth minister! After months of prayer and preparation, Adam was able to pass the baton of youth ministry to Caleb Beck. Caleb is from Columbus, OH and went to school at Kentucky Christian University to get his degree in ministry. Caleb enjoys hiking, kayaking, playing board games, and watching movies, especially Star Wars.

Our Regular Services And Classes

Sunday

Sunday School	9:45am
Worship	11:00am
Evening Worship	6:30pm

Wednesday

Soul Café	5:45pm
Bible Study	6:30pm

Thursday

Women's Bible Studies	9:00am
	6:00pm
Men's Bible Study	12:00pm

Mark Your Calendars

4.1

Easter

Sunrise Service 8:00am at the Daniel's Home
(Evening Service Dismissed)

4.6

First Friday Dinner @ Friendship Mission

4.8

Sunday Sundae

4.12

Last Women's Bible Study

4.21

Mission Team Prayer Meeting
(12pm in the JR. Worship Room.
Visitors welcome)

4.29

Family Sunday
Guest Speaker from IDES

5.4

First Friday Dinner @ Friendship Mission

5.13

Mothers Day
(Evening Services Dismissed)

5.20

Graduation Sunday

5.27

Memorial Day Sunday
(Evening Services Dismissed)





*Our Deepest Sympathy to
Rose and the Renner Family.
Randy Renner passed away
on February 27th, 2018.*

Matthew 28:6

*He is not here;
FOR HE HAS RISEN,
just as He said.
Come, see the place
where He was lying.*

*Thanking God
for the growth of His
Kingdom!*

Joining in Baptism:

Shelia Medcoff

3-11-18

§

Joseph Gottschalk

3-28-18

Welcome to the family!!

***Caleb Beck,
James Torkelson***

§

Lyuda Kaliberda

*They placed their membership with
Kenai Christian Church on*

3-11-18

