

Community of Christ

Alaskan Golden Nugget News

APRIL & MAY 2008

Thoughts to Consider...

by Willa Frey

Spring is finally here! For awhile it looked doubtful with the continuing snow storms. The pussy willows are out and the promises are all there!

What about each of us? Are we ready to bloom and blossom for the Lord? Do we exhibit proof (pussy willows) in our lives that tells those around us that we are alive in Christ. Are we glowing reflectors of His love? Do we joyfully look for ways to express our joy? Do we take time to praise and thank

God for those signs of life around us, both within others and within ourselves? Are we sensitive to the needs and concerns of others or do we just go merrily along unaware of their suffering? Do we participate in intercessory prayer for others? It is such an easy thing to pause for a moment to pray for another's need or to phone someone to let them know you are there and to give encouragement. These seem like such little things, but they bring joy to others and allow us to be reflectors for Him!

Alaska Reunion 2008

"Create Pathways for Christ's Peace"

Make plans now to attend the Alaska Family Reunion which will be held at the Laverne Griffin Youth Recreation Campgrounds outside Wasilla. Camp will begin Sunday, July 6th – Friday, July 11th. Bill McFarlin AND Brad Shumate will be attending as guest ministers.

Kate Steinel of Fairbanks will be camp Director. If you would like to help in any

way, please contact Kate Steinel. See her contact information below. Flo Pearson will be camp Registrar.

Check with your pastor on current updates concerning this life changing event.

We look forward to sharing with you as we worship and live together.

Kate Steinel – (907) 452-1550, email yea4kate@hotmail.com.

ATTENTION EVERYONE!!! Please send me your e-mail address if you haven't already done so. Then you can get your GNN much quicker and it saves on costs. Send any news to willajf@gci.net. If you can't receive e-mail, I'll send you a hard copy. Promise!!!

Anchorage News...

by Lou Gilmore

Jim Williams is in the Alaska Native Hospital after having a hip replacement on April 23rd. He reports that he is doing quite well and hopes to be home in a few days.

He also reports the Anchorage Congregation is now advertising for a full time Minister/ Church Planter. We hope we will soon have the perfect person hired. Florence Pearson is attending the Samish Island Fine Arts Festival on the weekend of April 26th. The Festival is sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Mission Center.

Nicky Goodyear's mother, Mondus Chandaler, passed away earlier this month in Greenfield Indiana. Nicky has returned to Anchorage after spending time with her family and helping settle her mother's estate. We are sorry about Nicky's mother's death but missed Nicky and are glad to have her back in Anchorage.

Sterling Respass will be in Anchorage the first week of May. Anyone interested in Estate Planning should get in touch with Sterling by contacting Jim Williams, Florence Pearson or Judy Anderson.

I, Lou Gilmore, went to Hawaii the last week in March. The time was spent visiting with the Community of Christ friends Mike and I made when we lived winters in Hilo. Our friends were just as kind and good as they were those many years ago – only problem is we are 30

.years older! One of our best friends, Masayuki Nii, Celebrated his 90th birthday the Sunday I was at church. I so enjoyed being with all of the Saints – and feeling the same Spirit as was always there! I Was presented two beautiful leis and carried a box of gorgeous orchids home with me!

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DELTA JUNCTION

By Cheryl & Gary Cooper

Isn't it nice that spring has finally arrived???
(We can all keep hoping!!!)

We have been traveling since the last time we wrote. Gary has been helping with various science activities in the state with students and classes. We both went to Washington to help my parents with some medical issues. We did get time to see a friend who retired from teaching in Fairbanks and moved to the Oregon coast. The 3 days at her house saw snow, rain, wind and sleet but we did not care because we love it at the coast.

The next month had us traveling to Kodiak, Anchorage and Portland to meetings or to teach workshops. We are enjoying the geese and swans that are flying over on their way north. If the rest of the snow melts, it will really feel like spring.

Enjoy all the daylight!

New Communications Coordinator

Kathy Sharp has hired a new GPNW Communications Coordinator and she is already at work! Karen Short, lives in Renton, WA and is an active member of the Community of Christ. She brings a lot of experience with her in the field of communications design and has won 3 prestigious newsletter awards. Karen will be working Monday – Friday and is available during normal business hours. She will be reaching out to all Communications Coordinators to receive Congregational news. Her e-mail address is kshort@cochrist-gpnw.org

We are excited to have Karen join our team to promote our shared ministry to members and friends of the Community of Christ in the Pacific Northwest! Yes, she also gets a copy of Alaskan news via the Golden Nugget News which also goes to the GPNW Webmaster, Todd.

Valley News by Carol Coppock

The Long family has different plans for this summer. Jared has accepted a job as a restaurant chef on Prince of Wales Island. His parents, Neil and Ellen will join him there. Brother Brian isn't coming home this summer.

Carol Coppock has been spending a few weeks in Fairbanks training crews for their two UPS stores there. She took time off to fly to Denver to visit her father who is in the

hospital with leukemia. Their family is in need of our prayers. She has since returned to Fairbanks to continue her training activities. Dwight Coppock has remained in Wasilla (most of the time) to keep the home fires burning and to oversee a new UPS store in Anchorage. Currently he's in southern California attending an archery shoot.

FAIRBANKS NEWS – WILLA FREY

Easter service was well attended. We began with an early morning breakfast followed by a lovely service.

We were saddened this morning to hear of the death of Irene Christie's daughter Vivian who has been battling cancer. Irene will be traveling south to attend her funeral and spend some time with her family. Please keep their family in your prayers.

Tristan Meath was selected as 'Exceptional Student of the Week' by the local Kiwanis Club. Congratulations, Tristan!

Elsie O'Brien (who can't stay in one place too long) is currently in Arizona with daughters Lesa and Kim who are helping her with a project there.

Alana Malloy was part of another trip for additional police training. This time she went to Portland with an entire group.

Breanne Meath performed in a production of "Grease" put on by the students at Lathrop High School. Several members of the congregation were able to attend and enjoyed the show.

Breanne traveled with the Lathrop Choir to New York where they performed at Carnegie Hall and were able to do some touring of the city.

Brook and dad Bobby (Meath) were traveling at the same time in the other direction. They went to a NASCAR event in Texas. It's a toss-up which sibling had the better time!

Elsie O'Brien and Lesa Meath made a short trip to Anchorage to visit a friend who's seriously ill.

Al Frey had surgery on his left eye in April. It was a complete success! He is scheduled to have the right eye done May 14th and is eagerly looking forward to the completion of this event. He's been unable to drive and is eager to get back on the road!

Carol Coppock has returned from her trip to Denver. We are happy to have her back!

Sterling Respass was in town briefly and is headed to Anchorage to spend some time with the folks there.

We continue to have supper at 5 pm on Sundays followed by a worship service. We're enjoying spending more time fellowshiping with each other by reversing the normal Sunday dynamic. In our morning schedule, we'd worship together, visit with each other a few minutes and head home. Now we break bread together, spend time talking about our lives, worship together and then go home. It's the perfect end to one week and beginning of the next.

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