CHURCH LIFE NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2022

From Pastor Ben's Pen

RENEW 2022

I saw a meme on Facebook that the picture of a woman screaming with the caption, "The moment you realize 2022 is pronounced 2020 too." I remember the hope and optimism that surrounded the start of 2021. We were anticipating the pandemic coming to an end. The promise of a vaccine brought a sense of possible return to normalcy. But then things got worse. Delta arrived. And in some places, 2022 is beginning with similar discussions that took place in 2020. It brings us to cry out truly, "How long oh Lord?"

It is my prayer that while COVID might inform different parts of our life and practice, that it doesn't drive it as we have had to endure in the past. As a church, we need to do the work of the church - fellowship, worship, study Scripture, pray, serve, witness, and be a place where fear dies and hope lives. This needs to be the church's normal.

So, I call us to begin with a renewed and unified focus around prayer so that we will be shored up and equipped by God's Spirit to do his work.

Renew 2022 is a prayer focus that we will have during the next year. We already have the monthly prayer calendar that includes families and individuals of the church to pray for, but on the back of that, we will be including a theme-based prayer focus that I ask all of us to focus on.

The focus is formed around the acronym RENEW.

- R- Revelation from God
- E-Escape from Sin
- N-New Believers in Christ
- E-Equip for Service
- W-Wisdom to be Godly Witnesses

Each month, as you can see in the January calendar, I will lay out specifics under each of those headings that will guide our prayers.

My hope is that as our focus is unified together around these matters, that God will show us unimagined growth and development as a church community.

Let us lead with prayer and be led by prayer.

May 2022 be a new start, so to speak, to get back to normalcy the normalcy of the church's work. This work doesn't stop, no matter the circumstances and we know from history that the church has weathered far greater storms than COVID-19.

Let us move forward in prayer and faith in our Almighty God!

Sacred Concert 2022

1st Quarter Schedule

KLEF-FM 98.1 Sundays: 6 to 9 AM

A lifelong interest in sacred music encouraged me to apply to produce a 3-hour weekly program of classical sacred music on the local classical music station in Anchorage, 26 years ago. It turned out to be a wonderful avocation for me, for it was an avenue for expressing my faith in a unique way - the only program like it on Anchorage radio.

"Sacred Concert" is relegated to early hours on Sunday mornings, from 6 to 9, sort of a choral ghetto time. But the station manager was amazed that listenership to KLEF at that time slot is high. And the program has consistently been sponsored by local businesses.

Programs reflect Christian holidays, theological truths, expressions of faith, and biblical themes, all with classical music, which covers a much broader spectrum than Mozart Masses and Bach Cantatas. You will often hear recognizable traditional hymns. A lot of the music comes from contemporary classical composers, and much of it has English-language texts. I usually add concise translations of foreign language texts to help listeners understand the music better. An interesting comment I got from a listener I knew to be atheistic was that he liked to listen because the music was peaceful, unlike anything else on the radio. There's a lot more than peace in the content, and I hope he apprehended that. It has been a real joy for me to produce "Sacred Concert" programs for every Sunday of the year, and I hope you can listen in. "Sacred Concert" is worth awakening for!

~ Jon Sharpe

January:

- 2nd | Orthodox Christmas and Epiphany Sunday Combined
- 9th | Top Sacred Hits of Vivaldi and Mozart
- 16th | Sacred Music and Spirituals promoting freedom and justice
- 23rd | Vespers from Angilican and Orthodox sources
- 30th | Warm sacred music from "South of 'Our' Border"

February:

- 6th | The Sacred music-making of John Rutter and other contemporary Brits
- 13th | The "Messe a Quatre Voix" of Camille Saint-Saens
- 20th | Haydn's " The Seasons" tells us there are other seasons than winter
- 27th | Early American sacred music culminating in John Paine's "St. Peter"

March:

- 6th | John Tavener: "The Hidden Face" and Lamentaitons and Praises
- 13th | Rheinberger's "Sacred Songs" and Mass in G Minor"
- 20th | Georg Telemann's "St. Matthew Passion"
- 27th | John Tavener's "We shall see Him as He is"



An Anchorage Sunrise

With Winter Solstice behind us, our days grow longer. We give God the glory of each new day, and each beautiful sunrise that we experience.

These pictures are from December 27, 2021, as a new day began. If you have pictures that you would like to share, please send them to office@trinitycrcalaska.com or text them to Sharon Boegel at 907 884-5218.





Community Pregnancy Center



Community Pregnancy Center is a Christ-centered organization created of offer support, practical care, and accurate information to women and men facing unplanned pregnancies. The many services available empower parents to choose abundant life for their families.

Our congregation donated much needed diapers, baby wipes, and formula. Heartfelt thanks for the many quilts and blankets that were given, they are beautiful and will provide warmth to a little one! Additionally, Trinity collected \$1,000.00 in monetary donations as well.

Many thanks for your generous contributions to the Community Pregnancy Center!



Free, Gently Used Items

Do you have something that you'd like to re-home, something still in <u>good repair</u> and good <u>working condition</u> that another could get use out of? Please contact Sharon Boegel at office@trinitycrcalaska.com. Sharon will see that your item(s) are listed in the newsletter so folks can connect directly with you. Please note that this space is not for selling anything. It is for free items for the potential benefits of our church community and those in need beyond it that we might know. Sharon will use her discretion to discern what items are fit to be listed as items of broad general appeal. Thank you!

Free to a Good Home

**Wood dinette table and six chairs. In great shape, must pick up and transport yourself. If interested, call or text Sharon at 907 884-5218.

**A manual non-powered rug sweeper, perfect for cleaning rugs in remote cabins and in great shape! Additionally, we hae some Electrolux vacuum cleaner bags. If interested, contact Joy Sharpe at 907 333-6180 or 907 764-4451.



Council Report

Here are some highlights from recent council meetings.

1. Seeding a New Season Basement Project

- A. By the end of December, we have spent about \$35,000 on the project. This includes carpet and installation, majority of painting, Fellowship Hall remodel, countertop for kitchen, bathroom fixture purchases, and initial significant plumbing work on the bathrooms.
- C. Bathroom flooring is installed. New bathroom door is in. Next step is bathroom fixtures, kitchen tile and flooring.

2. New Elder / Deacon - By way of the drawn lot, Joel Adams was chosen as a new elder and Susan Dykema was chosen as a new deacon. We are grateful for those who finished their terms, Ben DeVries, elder and Charlotte Long, deacon.

3. Budget for 2022 was approved by congregational vote at the Congregational Meeting.

4. At our December meeting, the following officers were approved:

President: Pastor Ben Hulst Vice President: Mike Lindeen

- Clerk: Mike VanderLugt
- Treasurer: Denise Hopewell

Chair of Deacons: Ron Lindemulder

