



Choose Wisely

Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.

~ John 14:19

I have a raven that rings my doorbell. No kidding. That clever bird stands on a place on the porch that makes a good perch, and he rings the bell until we toss an offering out on the walk. Kathy has spoiled the birds horribly and they adore her. They sit on the streetlight and watch our comings and goings. They call to her when they see her. I get the silent treatment. When I pull into the drive, fresh from the laser wash, they target my car. Only *my* car. Never Kathy's.

Last week I came home to the smell of homemade bread cooling on the counter. I cut some and made a meatloaf sandwich. It was not the greatest. That bread was really dense and full of seeds and had an unusual taste. The next morning, I made toast out of it because I hate to waste food and I was not about to tell my darling wife that she had failed as a baker. Kathy, smiling, fed the remainder to the birds. "How did you like that bread?" she asked trapping me. "Well now that you mention it, you have baked better." She burst out laughing and told me I had eaten the bird bread she baked for the ravens out of wild bird seed and suet but let me know how lucky I was that she was out of mealworms. Lucky? Really? She let me eat it for two days!

When I stopped feeling like the punchline, it occurred to me how beautiful that fresh, warm loaf looked, how tempting the aroma was. I would never have imagined it was not for human consumption or packed with ingredients from ACE Hardware.

We see men and women every day in our work at the Mission who, for lack of the real thing, pursue something that can never satisfy. False doctrines, drugs, alcohol, sex and anger lure people back over and over and they become hungrier with each attempt because there is no life in substitutes. Jesus is as real and genuine and full of life as it gets. If someone looks to Christ, they have Bread forever.

There have been a number of people who have given up the false for the true in their sojourn at the Mission. God is feeding, leading and nourishing their souls. I know it is the partnership of the Divine with the people of Anchorage who see this ministry as valuable that is winning the day.

In an ever-changing economic environment, it is all the more vital for us to support the organizations that are not decorative but substantive. The "Soul well fed" in our mission statement is the real thing. Our Board and our staff are in agreement. People need Jesus. If they have Jesus they will live.

Let us dispense with anything in our lives that is a cheat. Let us toss out once and for all the things that miss the mark, that do not fill our souls. Let's embrace what *is* good not just what looks good. If it is *for the birds* then let them have it and give us Jesus.

May His grace and mercy abound as you flourish in His plan for your life.

Blessings,

Pastor John



May Memorials

Memorial for: Dale Lindsey	By: Carol Lindsey
Memorial for: Kathy Purrington	By: Cecil Purrington
Memorial for: Walter Malkowicz	By: Michael & Judith Habla
Memorial for: Ken Hall	By: Donald & Gladys Kentner
Memorial for: Art "Mo" Mohwinkel	By: Mary Doppelfeld

"In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song."



May 4th celebrates our teachers. We all know the ones with a real vocation who make their classroom an adventure in learning, who spend their own money on supplies and who pray over the souls in their charge. May all that goodness be returned to you.



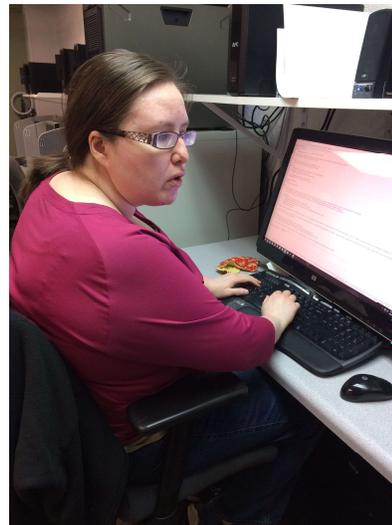
May 6th, we celebrate National Nurses Day. This past year has run them off their feet. We will always be grateful. I am blessed to be surrounded by nurses in my own family. ~ Pastor John



God Bless You!

To the mothers who are doing their best work, God Bless You.
 To the mothers whose children are in God's keeping, God Bless You.
 To those who stand in a mother's place, God Bless You.

From Client to Teacher



Alyssa Olgin was in one of the first groups of women sheltering at the Mission when I became Director. Alyssa was using the Mission as a base of support while applying for employment. Upon getting to know her, it became evident that the Mission could use her office and computer skills. We hired her to work in our front office processing client information and helping with donations.

She now runs our computer lab and helps our clients and program people to secure computer skills and to apply for employment online.

She has been invaluable to me in creating and updating videos and brochures.

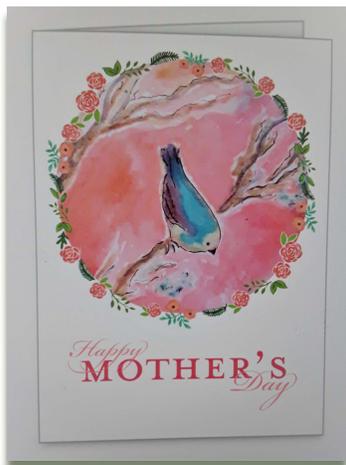
Alyssa was able to move into her own apartment and has generously opened her home to her mother. She is a trusted and valued employee we are fortunate to work with. Alyssa is currently working on a new database and says she is getting up to speed on topics she had no idea she would need to learn about but enjoys it because there are few things she enjoys as much as discovering new things.

She tells me that is how she knows God put her here; there is always something new to figure out. I feel the same way. ~ Pastor John

Mission Needs

- Season are changing and we could use sneakers, tee shirts and athletic socks, light jackets.
- Meal carry needs lunch meat, canned tuna, drinks in cartons, snack size chips.
- We could use hanging baskets for the Mission. Consider one as a memorial.

Mother's Day Card Sale



Mother's Day is coming and our art department is raising money for supplies by selling 75 cards on a first come first serve basis. They are \$5.00 each and cash only. No credit cards. Pick up at the front office only 7AM-8PM. No mail outs.

The price of the card includes the cost of a meal for one of our shelter guests and the remainder will go to the art department. The production cost and the watercolor images have been donated so 100% the money collected will benefit the ministry.

The verse and the sentiment are appropriate for mothers, grandmothers, friends, anyone who is a mother. They are unique, heartfelt, colorful and they will bless those less fortunate. We made a prayer circle around the cards and prayed strength, refreshing and blessing into the life of each recipient.

Drawing Winner



We had a donor thank you drawing for Mother's Day and our reusable shopping tote, pin and greeting card with poppies from our art department will be mailed out to the winner, Julia Kewin. There is also a gift certificate to Bell's Nursery so she can treat herself to real poppies or whatever speaks to her heart. Poppies have many meanings but most especially beauty, success and sleep. Every mom needs those but maybe in reverse order. Blessings, Julia, from all of us at the Mission.

Generous Children Become Generous Adults



Some wonderful and generous boys made a stop at the Mission. They set aside part of their personal money and purchased snacks for our meal carry service. Mom wants them to be active participants in making the world a better place by caring for people Jesus loves. We gratefully accepted their kind contributions and passed that good will right on to some very hungry folks. Special thanks to Cathy, Daniel, Gabriel and Josiah.

Growing Our Kitchen Fund

Please remember we are moving ahead with our kitchen project. We need more space to feed those in need and more space for instruction for those in our program who are learning to cook. Your prayerful support is appreciated. Please consider a monthly pledge, a fundraising project through a church or organization you belong to or as part of your estate planning.

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 Email: info@anchoragerescue.org | Website: www.anchoragerescue.org



Nightly Services 7:30PM - 8:30 PM
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



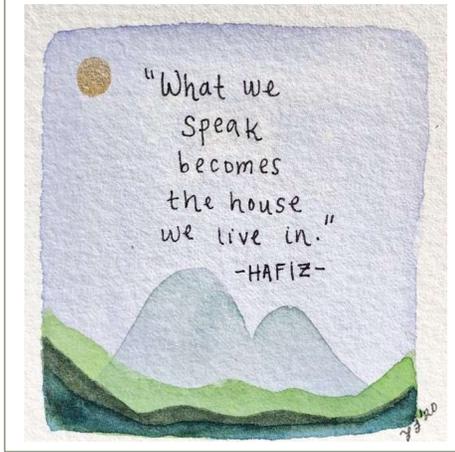
Lovely Easter

Easter weekend was special. First time in a year we had live music for worship for our Saturday evening chapel service. We were blessed to have someone volunteer to put together Easter bags for our shelter clients, our program men and for our meal carry. Every bag had treats, a plan of salvation and a card. Our kitchen angels made a delicious Easter lunch that was extended to our meal carry folks. In the evening we watched RISEN in chapel and ended with cake and milk afterwards. Also had some special prayer and a testimony from a recently saved brother. It was a full and a lovely Resurrection day.

May 6th is The National Day of Prayer. Join those around the nation who seek the Lord on this special day.



May 9-15, 2021 is National Police Week. May the Lord bless and protect those who protect our community. We pray for our officers and their families.



Until further notice, Pastor John is covering the worship schedule for May, 2021. Thank you!