



## ***Finding Our Way to the Glory Side***

***Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? -Matthew 7:3 ESV***

We have all heard the old saying that points out that we find our own faults in others. The very things that drive us to distraction in someone are almost always our own unacknowledged failings of behavior or character. We seem to identify that pattern in everyone else in our orbit but not ourselves.

I recall complaining once about another driver's bad road habits only to have everyone in the car I was driving at that moment give me the horse laugh. Who *me* wait until the last moment to brake? I am sure I *never* miss my exit. When have you seen me pass up a dozen good parking spaces while looking for the perfect parking space? You get the idea. My audience was unsparing. I just didn't see it. Sometimes I still don't.

It is one thing to not "get it" in small things. It is another to miss the self-awareness that allows us to move through life without hindering the message of Christ in both the lives of believers and those yet to respond to the Savior's call.

Christ comes into our lives and the Father views our lives through the perfection of His Son. We are no longer living under the penalty of our sinful past, but we are far from being perfected. That is a daily work of the Holy Spirit in agreement with us throughout our lifetime. We are, all of us, a work in progress and we are going to be challenged by the flaws of this world and all the folks in it. It can still be so easy to see things from only our perspective.

A book I am reading makes this point by telling a story about a man who is standing on one side of a fast-flowing river. A woman approaches the bank across the river from him and calls out to him

asking where she might safely cross over to the other side. He calls back in answer to her question only to point out to her that she was already standing on the "other side of the river." Any side but his side was the other side.

I love how Jesus was willing to engage people who had different ideas without making them feel less. Even the woman at the well experienced courtesy and interest. She had to feel like Christ really saw her and not just to point out her sins but to share with her the promise of the ages and to bring her alongside. It is the nature of Christ working through our lives that can rub elbows with our neighbors in ways that are Kingdom coming.

The scripture tells us that the person who is forgiven much loves much. By that standard we all should be famous lovers of others, easily entreated, eager to help, slow to judge. If we can learn this lesson then we can model it for the rest of the world or at least our families, friends and those we work with.

Here on Tudor Road we are praying for surrendered lives- ours and our dear clients. Those surrendered lives will cause walls to fall and will lead us to discover that safe place to cross the river so we may all find our way, not to the *other* side, but to the *glory* side.

In a month famous for love, let's all love much in honor of the One who first loved us and gave Himself for us.

With affection,  
Pastor John LaMantia

## *The Voices of Christmas*



Christmas music was provided by the choir from Northern Tides Mennonite Church of Soldotna AK. Heartfelt and greatly appreciated by all in attendance.

## *A Nice Touch*



Thank you to the Men's Caroling Group from Muldoon Community Assembly. They sang to our clients before the evening chapel service and it was such a nice touch of Christmas.

## *Happy Graduation*

Our best wishes go out to Jonathan Francis who just graduated from our Men's LifeSkills Program. Jonathan is a wonderful person who has also helped us in the front office. He is kind and reliable and is looking forward to the future. He is currently working at Sadlers in furniture and appliances. Blessing to you, Jonathan.

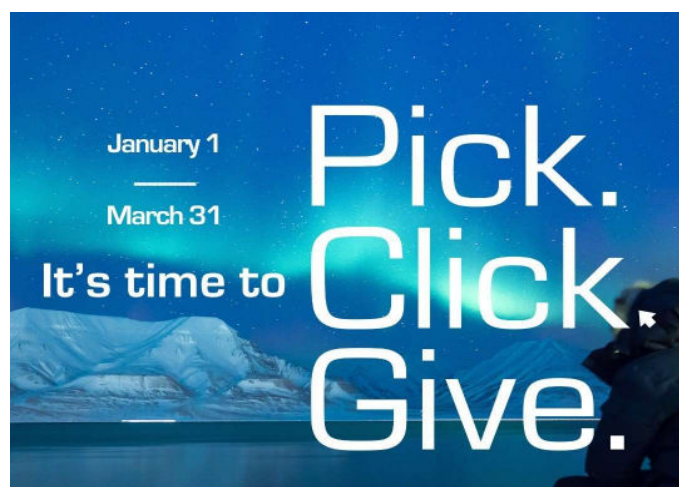
Pastor John, Board, Donors and Staff of the Mission



## *Pick. Click. Give.*

Please prayerfully include the Rescue Mission in your Pick-Click-Give directed giving.

We sleep the homeless, feed the hungry, shelter women seeking housing and employment, support sobriety, recover men through our LifeSkills Program, deliver the undiluted and life producing word of God to the lost and encourage community cooperation in meeting persistent homeless needs. **Homeless does not mean helpless. We are here.**



## *A Beautiful Season*



We had a lovely Christmas service and dinner, movies, snacks and gifts for our program men and women as well as clients.

**Thank you** to so many of you who responded to our glove and sock needs. You overwhelmed us. We also received blankets and warm clothing from many individuals, churches and businesses. Those are essential items for us this time of year.



## February Memorials



*"The love of God is greater far than gold or silver could afford. It reaches past the highest star and covers all the world."*

Memorial for: Alex Best	by: Anne Metz
Memorial for: Celia Heath	by: Dennis & Kathy Purviance
Memorial for: Fred Pomeroy	by: Cynthia B. George
Memorial for: Jim Laban	by: Dennis & Diane Allen
Memorial for: Lloyd Travis	by: Carmen Travis
Memorial for: Anetta Vander Jagt	by: Ron & Jan Veltkamp
Memorial for: Greg Hamm	by: Sally L. Hamm
Memorial for: George Rakos	by: Anonymous
Memorial for: Stanley Bronczyk	by: Karen Bronczyk

## From Ten Different Countries



Charis Bible College based in Woodland Park, CO. The group in this photo includes students from 10 different countries. This group sang and ministered in two of our services over the holidays. We loved having them.

## Lunch at the Tooth

A special thank you to the staff and volunteers who helped move all our food from the old warehouse to the new one. No small job. Lunch at the Moose's Tooth courtesy of one of our donors.



## Beautiful Blankets



Thank you First Christian for homemade blankets and also for gloves.

## Thank you Royal Rangers



A sampling of the 124 pair of socks from the Royal Rangers of South Anchorage Assembly. We appreciate that children are being encouraged to love and give to those less fortunate.

Christmas pictures come to you in February as our January newsletter goes to print in mid-December.

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**Nightly Services 7:30PM - 8:30 PM**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



## ***The Taco Twins, Livin' the Dream!***



**Every Tuesday is TACO TUESDAY!** A favorite day at the Mission. We dressed up to highlight the meal and also the One who provides for all of our needs. One of us was all about producing a Mexican lunch and the other was all about eating it. You can guess who was which. Thank you, Kitchen Manager and Taco Ninja, Steven McGuire, for a delicious meal appreciated by all.

We are now providing lunch meals for all who shelter with us. If you would like to help us bring lunch to the table, the following items would be helpful: Canned tuna, mayonnaise, hot dogs and buns, lettuce, tomatoes, salad dressing, frozen hamburger paddies and buns, low sodium chicken stock, small soup shells.