



Kenai River by Kimberly Lorentzen 2011

**Peter:** *It is clear to me now that God plays no favorites, that God accepts every person whatever his or her culture or ethnic background, that God welcomes all who revere Him and do right. You already know that God sent a message to the people of Israel; it was a message of peace, peace through Jesus the Anointed — who is King of all people. ~ Acts 10:34-36*

I was later getting to the dining room one evening here at the Mission and most people were finished. A few families lingered over a book from our Children's Library which is always open during the dinner hours. One family was not having fun. A boy of about four was sitting with his arms tightly crossed and his face set like a fist. His mother impatiently let him know he would be spending the night in that chair unless "all those peas" found a home in him.

He would roll his eyes and eat one before the drama would play out all over again. Refusals followed by threats. One pea was not enough. I would have settled for half and called it good but I had never wondered where my family's next meal was coming from. Food uncertainty was surely driving his mother's uncompromising behavior. I was about to assign him a bed number when he downed the last one under protest, showed her what was in his mouth and ran for the exit. A close call. Every pea had a destination. No exceptions.

All means *all*.

I love that Jesus is the King of *all* people. He didn't leave the Cross until it was finished. He did not need any persuasion and, in fact, could not have missed the cries of some to prove His power by coming down under that power. Lord of all. Savior of all and *all* means *all*.

As you read this, a new year is upon us. New days with new opportunities and challenges for you and for us. There is great uncertainty in the economy locally and nationally but we are not a people who put our trust in "chariots and horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God."

I have friends who after years of working returned to school for degrees and advanced degrees. Several have recently graduated. I have friends who opened new businesses and took risks that paid off. If you got all my friends in a circle and tasked them with coming up with a motto it would be, "Everybody into the pool!" A challenge may give them pause; uncertainty may beg a polite word, but in the end the fork comes out and every pea gets chased down. I am so proud of them, so proud to be among them.

Christ is our inspiration and He daily inspires us to move out of our comfort zones and put a down payment on our dreams. We are doing that at the Mission. Our kitchen project comes to mind. We have also expanded our women's program from six months to one year. We are cultivating business partnerships that will result in good paying jobs for our program people both men and women. We are resolved that no one homeless on our street, who will not enter our doors, goes day after day in the shadow of the Mission without a touch, a word, a prayer. We cannot allow people to deteriorate around us when Christ finished His work and became King of all.

Are we facing hard times or harder times most of us? Yes. But we are also facing new days and I hear so clearly God quoting the scripture to me, "I am doing new things, do you get it?" Let's prayerfully resolve to get it in 2022. It won't come out of Washington or Juneau or Anchorage. It will come out of Glory and it will not come empty handed.

In the year ahead share what you have. Not just money, share your lived experience if you are old enough to have some. If you are a "BOOMER" make that name mean something! It ain't over. If you are young enough to figure out your own cell phone, then join the board of a church or charity that needs young eyes and thoughts. Sign up to teach Sunday School. Do a Bible study at a shelter. Clean out your closets and give that old coat a new life with someone who will rejoice over it. Join a Community Council. Research and support political candidates that honor God's ways. Write your pastor an encouragement. Encourage yourself to try something new you have been putting off. Get more rest, the sabbath kind. God is enriching us in new ways. Get it?

Getting it is high up on my list these days. Getting it and passing it on to those who need to know what Christ sounds like, what He is offering, what He is delivering, is so important. Getting it and giving it to all, the same *all* Christ came for and is Lord of.

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Let's all pray for more forks in the blessed and unknown year ahead.

Happy New Year to all of our dear supporters. You have had a lasting impact on this Mission and on this pastor in 2021. My prayers are already releasing the blessing over your own lives for the future God has planned. May it delight your heart.

*Pastor John LaMantia*

## Art on a Mission



Our Creative Beginnings Art Recovery class had its seventh birthday. Thank you to all the folks who helped teach and organize and contribute supplies. Thank you, Terri Ensign, for managing it currently.

We have been able to enter contests, make cards for donors and loved ones, art bags, calendars, bookmarks and so many things.

We practiced art for the heart and brushed away feelings of sadness, shyness and worthlessness. When mouths couldn't express joy, hands could and we made some amazing discoveries along the way about how God's own creative design flows through us.



## She Will be Missed

Rachelle Timog, stepped gracefully into Eternity after an illness. Rachelle and her husband, Vince, have been involved in worship and personal ministry for years at the Mission. We send our sincere condolences to her family, church family and her friends. Until we meet again, Rachelle, rejoice in the arms of the Savior in a Kingdom of eternal victory.

## January Memorials



Memorial for: Herman Schliesing  
by: Loren and Carolyn Leman

Memorial for: Pastor Ben Sherbahn  
by: Darrell & Jean Peterson

Memorial for: Kathy W.  
by: James Stevenson

Memorial for: Donna Mae Kelzenberg  
by: Matthew & Lisa Kelzenberg

Memorial for: Edna Loudon  
by: David & Melinda Osburn

Memorial for: Dale Lindsey  
by: Carol Lindsey

Memorial for: Ben & Myrtle Sherbahn  
by: Grant & Keren Turner

*We light a candle in our hearts and remember ones too dear to forget.*

## Help Us to Enter the Year Ahead

God of all time, help us enter the New Year quietly, thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others, mindful that our steps make an impact and our words carry power.

May we walk gently.

May we speak only after we have listened well.

Creator of all life,

help us enter the New Year reverently,

aware that you have endowed every creature and plant, every person and habitat with beauty and purpose.

May we regard the world with tenderness.

May we honor rather than destroy.

Lower of all souls,

help us enter the New Year joyfully,

willing to laugh and dance and dream, remembering our many gifts with thanks and looking forward to blessings yet to come.

May we welcome your lavish love.

In this new year, may the grace and peace of Christ bless us now and in the days ahead.

~ Vinita Hampton Wright

Would you consider making a donation in support of our Rescue Mission Kitchen Project? For many of our shelter clients the path to the altar runs through the kitchen. Grace before meals is often a beautiful first step towards the grace available in Christ. More information is available at [anchoragerescue.org](http://anchoragerescue.org).

**FULLY FED**

## Honoring the Touchable God

Thank you to all who helped us with Cashless Christmas. It was a most heartfelt event that truly expressed the spirit of Christmas. We helped about 130 souls to carry home over 700 items. People were encouraged to build a gift (Add lotion and a shower glove to scented soap, add a scarf to a warm hat, put earrings with a bracelet, etc.) Everyone got three tickets to build three gifts for loved ones and themselves. It seemed that most gifts were for others.

One young man walked in and asked, "Is this all for us?" He was told it was and when he asked why, the volunteer helping him pointed to the wall hang of the manger scene.

We ended up accommodating several folks well after we were closed but that was fun. We even set a time to open again for a number in our

work-phase program who were out on the job during the event. What a good problem to have had.

Our donors and volunteers were amazing as was our staff. I am already hearing about doing this again.

The local news and Citygate's online newsletter covered the event.

Christmas should never be untouchable. The whole glory of Christmas was that God Himself became the touchable God. Thank you for helping us touch people in honor of the journey Jesus made to walk among us.

Pastor John



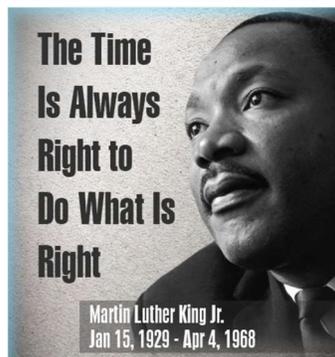
## Annual Remembrance Service



We had a very well attended Remembrance Service again this year right before Christmas and many spoke of their loved ones. We lit a candle to remind us of the fragrance those people bring to our lives. We wanted to make a special opportunity to honor the memories of those who have passed, whom we love, and to welcome them into our Christmas celebrations.

God is big enough to hold all of our histories, all of our memories. Our loved ones have not just disappeared. They

have gone to a very real place and it is my personal belief that God allows them an awareness of certain moments we have here. "The memory of the just is blessed..." Proverbs 10:7





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

*Worship Schedule ~ January 2022*

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Bob Collins  
  
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 FREEDOM HOUSE
2 AGRM PASTOR JOHN BAND	3 CORNERSTONE CHURCH GLENN HERMANN	4 CLEARWATER CHURCH ROBERT BELL	5 REHAB HOUSE TONI CASTILLO	6 VINYARD CHURCH JD FULLER	7 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH RUSS KELL	8 HOPE CHURCH JAMES MARTIN
9 HIGHLAND MOUNTAIN RONNA LOPIZICH BAND	10 CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY ARLETA LEFLER BAND	11 CALVARY COMMUNITY CHURCH PASTOR RATCLIFF BAND	12 TBA	13 CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH	14 FIRST ASSEMBLY CLARENCE GOWARD	15 LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
16 VICTORY CHRISTIAN CENTER	17 SHERBAHN EVANGELISTIC TEAM	18 ANCHORAGE NATIVE ASSEMBLY PASTOR ALAN	19 GRACE BAPTIST TEMPLE ROGER HOLMBERG	20 SHERBAHN EVANGELISTIC TEAM	21 SHERBAHN EVANGELISTIC TEAM	22 MOVIE NIGHT AGRM TBA
23/30 AGRM PASTOR JOHN BAND	24/31 HILLSIDE SDA ----- TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN	25 CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY VINCE/RACHELLE BAND	26 HOUSE OF DELIVERANCE ISAIAH GRABLE BAND	27 FIRST COVENANT VINCE & ELLA	28 DOMINION MINISTRIES	29 CALVARY COMMUNITY CHURCH PASTOR RATCLIFFE

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