

CLEAR WATER CURRENTS

January 2018 Newsletter

Just Around the Bend



Men's Retreat at Kenai Lake, January 19-20

Here is a great opportunity to get to know other guys at the church. We'll be chopping wood, hiking, and doing a Bible study on what Jesus has to say about social justice. Limited to 12 guys. Contact Steve Gordon 907-441-4572 to register or with any questions.



Women's Hike, January 20, 1-6PM

A nice, recreational hike for women to enjoy some time together on the beautiful Alaskan trails around our great city. Contact Secora Patterson 907-244-2360 or register on the Clear Water Church [Facebook](#) page.



Welcome Lunch, January 28, 12:30-2PM

If you have never attended a welcome lunch, Mike and Sabrina invite you to their house to get to know you better and to answer any questions you might have about Clear Water Church. This is a small group format with food. Please RSVP to Mike at mmerriner@gmail.com or 907-727-1382.



Kids' Climb, Every Sunday, 1:00PM

Join other Clear Water families at the Alaska Rock Gym for some after church fun. Get exercise and build relationships. This is an on-going invitation. "It's organic!" Normally, families meet upstairs. Bring your own snacks or purchase some at the gym.



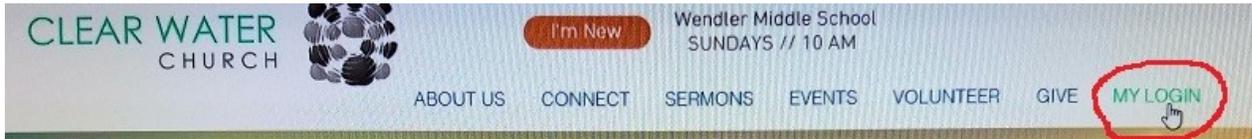
Men's Retreat at Victory Bible Camp. Sutton, AK, Feb 16-18

This year's retreat, "The Story in the Stones" will be led by an all-star team of pastors from Anchorage (including our own Pastor Mike Merriner). They will address remembering God's faithfulness, redeeming past mistakes, and taking risks to build a life story that will last. With each act of faith, a man lays down a "stone" representing God's redeeming work in his life. These "stone piles" will help those who follow after find the path of righteousness. Cost: \$155/man. After Feb 1 \$170. Register at www.alaskamensministries.com.



Journey Groups - Start 2018 with a commitment to encourage each other to pursue Christ. Journey groups are starting back up after taking a Christmas break. They are the primary way we live out our value of doing life together. An updated list of journey groups is on our website www.clearwater.church/connect.

2017 Giving Statements Coming Out Soon - Please make sure your address is up to date.



Go to www.clearwater.church or our church app and click "My Login".

Your Clear Water Church account allows you to:

1. Keep your contact information current for church staff and ministry leaders.
2. View your ONLINE giving contributions.
3. View your volunteer schedule.

Please:

1. Upload a picture of yourself. This will put a face with a name.
2. Add birthdays, especially for children
3. Fill out your profile as much as possible.

Thank you to the many who have already updated their profile. Much appreciated.

Testimonies

Excerpt from Amy Wilson Story



I knew there was a God but I did not surrender my life to him, and I wanted to be the "circle on the left"—a life entrusted to Christ where He is in the center and on the throne and the self yields to Christ. So, I accepted Christ on February 11, 2016. ~ December 3, 2017

Baptisms

On December 10, Jillian Moody, daughter of Greg and Jill Moody, was baptized. Greg Moody performed the baptism.



Care Concerns

Prayers for Speedy Recovery

Scott Taylor
Marty Gibson

Prayers for Those who have Moved

Sara Smith has moved to Willow, AK and taken a job with North Star Camp.
Bryan and Anita Underwood and Family have moved to Ohio.

Recent Ministry Report



Wendler Middle School Family Christmas Gifts -
Clear Water Church donated Christmas gifts to 15 families. Thank you to everyone who participated in this annual event. Adler Daupan, Wendler's Family School Services Coordinator, was impressed and appreciative. You made it possible for 45



individuals to have a special gift this year. A little note: Last year we gave gifts to 10 families.

Christmas Caroling at Alaska Native Medical Center - Dec 17

It was a cold night but didn't stop 25 Clear Water carolers from bundling up and singing under the musical accompaniment of Josh Adams.



December's Memory Verse Challenge - Dec 31

Congratulations to our winners - Avalynn Wood and Marty Gibson. Each received a supply of "snowballs". Oh what fun they had with their families and friends.

January's memory verse is [Matthew 13:31-32](#)



Discipleship and Evangelism Training Journey Group

led by Brian and Kristin Whitson served AWAIC (Abused Women's Aid in Crisis) during December. They made 60 stuffed bags that included 10-piece travel kit for women, ladies' devotional book, gospel tracks, Bible and lots of other items such as games and play dough for the children. Several group members told about their visit with the women and how much the women appreciated the chance to talk with someone.



Christmas Eve Service - Dec 24

Our afternoon service drew in 240 for a little bit of everything for everyone. We enjoyed live jazz music, photo booths, singing Christmas carols, a message from Pastor Mike Merriner, and yummy snacks. Our children provided an entertaining story of the birth of Jesus and the wise men. "What gifts did the wise men bring to Jesus?" A child answered, "Aaa, like baby stuff." The adults gave us a nativity from the point of view of Joseph, Mary, a wise man, and a shepherd. Thank you to Kristie Gavitt for coordinating the festive finger food.





New Year's Eve Annual Pancake Brunch - Dec 31

Our annual pancake brunch brought together 170 people. Brian Whitson and his volunteers cooked the pancakes. There were potatoes, reindeer sausage, fruit, juice, milk, coffee and good fellowship. Thank you Brian and the many volunteers who made it happen.



Report on the Elders Search - The nominating committee has concluded their work in interviewing each of the elder nominees. They forwarded to the Clear Water Church board the candidates Chip Robertson, Greg Moody, Jon DeHart and Steve Gordon. A big thank you to the committee for their due diligence carrying out their task prayerfully. The nominating committee was made up of Robin Stralka (Chairman), Mark Fondren (Co-Chairman), Victoria Busig, Katie Nash, and Jeff Wood.



Update on Church Van and Trailer - In mid-December our church van and trailer were stolen. The van was found in Wasilla, but the trailer is still missing. It contained supplies for the children's ministry, hospitality, tables, signage, banners, mics and much more. Fortunately, the sound system was not in the trailer. We are currently in the process of replacing the stolen equipment and supplies. It is our hope by the end of January we will have everything replaced and in some cases upgraded.

On Mission



Burma Vision - Bob Arnold returned in December from a 2-week medical mission to the Jungle School of Medicine Kawthoolei (JSMK) in Karen State, Burma. He worked medics and volunteers to supply eyeglasses and even a hearing aid to this young man who heard his mom's voice for the first time. Learn more and see Bob's report on Burma Vision [here](#).



Home Maintenance/Repair Group - Demonstrate God's love by helping with home maintenance/repair needs for people in our church. We'll go out as a team about one Saturday a month. If you wish to be on the team and/or you or someone you know needs help with home repair or maintenance, contact James at 907-315-3803.

Social Media

www.clearwater.church
[Facebook.com/clearwaterchurchak](https://www.facebook.com/clearwaterchurchak)

Follow us on [Instagram](#)

Get the Clear Water Church App for Apple and Android devices. Search for "clear water church ak" in the Apple and Google store. It's free. Have easy access to sermons, the memory verse, online giving, events, Bible, a daily Bible reading plan and more.

Give Us Your Feedback - What do you think about Currents, Clear Water Church's newsletter? Click [here](#) and let us know. We welcome your input. Thanks!

Due date for next edition of Currents is January 31st.

Send articles and photos to cwcoffice13@gmail.com