

JULY 2023

# CHRIST OUR SAVIOR NEWSLETTER

## I'm Going to Let it Shine

BY PASTOR ANNA SILCO

On the last week of June, I had the opportunity to join the Alaska Synod Youth Trip, where 21 youth from Anchorage, Soldotna, and Fairbanks traveled to Valdez, Alaska for a week long youth trip. We kept busy by enjoying waterfalls, lakes, and sightseeing, as well as doing service projects for the church and local parks department, and learning at museums and hearing from speakers about the oil spill and receding glaciers. It was a busy week! Also, it was really powerful to learn alongside the youth, who are the next generation, about how we can be sure to take care of our environment, learning from our past, while also enjoying its beauty together. The most powerful moment for me on the trip though, was at our closing worship.

## This issue:

Pastor Anna's Message  
PAGE 1-2

Garden Party Fun  
Rummage Sale Success  
Kids Corner  
PAGE 3

Worship & Music  
Council News  
Birthdays  
PAGE 4

Community Garden  
Pastor's Corner  
PAGE 05

Lutheran Social Services of  
Alaska Update  
PAGE 06



On the last night together, we had a worship where each leader had a station that the youth could go to and be affirmed and prayed for, and then they would light a candle in the sand. While this was going on, I was in charge of playing the guitar and leading music for the time. Towards the end, a group came closer to me while I was playing guitar, that I decided to ask them what they wanted to sing, and one said "This little light of mine." This song was perfect, as behind me, they had lit all their candles. As it was our last night, it was a great reminder for everyone to take their light out into the world as we would go our separate ways, changed by our time together, and we can share that with others. What was beautiful, is that they made this connection themselves too. May we be inspired by the youth to make that same connections. To be reminded to let our lights shine, and share what God is up to in our lives this summer and always.

**"This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine"**





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GARDEN PARTY FUN

Thank to all who made the Garden Party such a fun event! We had around 40 in attendance, a wonderful spread of food, and door prizes. It was great to gather and see the garden growing with all the new beds in place.

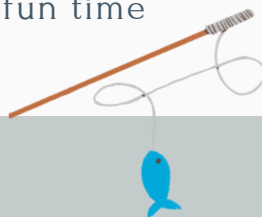
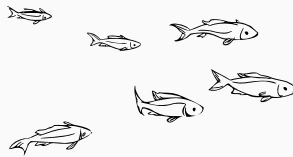


## RUMMAGE SALE SUCCESS

Thanks to all who made the rummage sale such a great success! We had a steady flow of visitors, raised almost \$1000, and donated all our extra items to Lutheran Social Services of Alaska. Special thanks to the volunteers who helped set up, run the sale, and all who donated.

## KIDS CORNER

One of our youth, Kayda Hellmich, had quite the catch on a fishing trip in Homer! Jesus said: "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people" Matthew 4:19 With this 224 pound fish, it makes you wonder if this is what Jesus meant?! All jokes aside, great catch Kayda, and may everyones fishing this summer be a fun time enjoying the wonders of creation.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

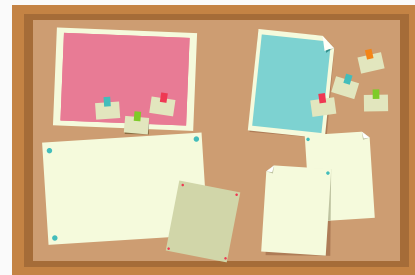
## WORSHIP & MUSIC

We have been grateful for technology in allowing us to use Mary Munson as our pianist through Youtube. We also have a new bulletin format! Let us know what you think of these changes. We also are taking hymn requests this summer so we can sing what YOU want to! Our next Worship and Music Meeting is July 18th at 7pm.



## COUNCIL NEWS

This past month we chatted about the best ways to utilize our technology subscriptions for our church, a facility report (the preschool has new carpets!), feedback on changes to worship and bulletin, and much more! Feel free to reach out to any council member with your questions, comments, and concerns at any time!



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

Kay Awe (July 3rd)

Ruby Foster (July 13th)

Aidan Silco (July 29th)





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## COMMUNITY GARDEN

It is so exciting to see the garden continue to grow! We may have had some cut worms, but hopefully they are on their way out. We are excited to see how much produce we will grow this summer, so if you are a gardener, be sure to keep track! Also, be sure to check out the news story featuring the garden. The link can be found on our website under community garden.



## PASTOR'S CORNER

In June, my husband Aaron and I traveled to Denver to visit my in-laws, and my parents and sister traveled to see us as well. We had our son Aidan baptized (by my Dad who is a pastor) on June 9th, which is Saint Aidan's feast day in the Lutheran church. We also completed a week of continuing education while we were there by attending online the "Festival of Homiletics" which is a preaching conference.

In July, Aaron, Aidan and I plan to attend Glacier Bible Camp in Juneau on July 17-21st.

Also, we will be doing a Summer Silco Swap, so you can meet my husband Aaron who is also a pastor! He will be at COSLC on July 16th and July 30th.



Newsletter Article  
July 2023  
Lutheran Social Services of Alaska

Summer is upon us and this means the busiest time of the year for the Food Pantry. We traditionally see an increase in the number of households seeking help when school is out. So we need your help. Anything you can do to help us stock our shelves will be greatly appreciated. Items like canned meats (especially tuna), soups, mini ravioli, peanut butter and jelly, canned fruits (especially peaches), cereals, oatmeal or hamburger helpers are in high demand. Also if you have rhubarb growing in your gardens that you would like to share please drop it off at the Food Pantry.

HUGSS (Help Us Give School Supplies) distribution will be August 9th at Bettye Davis East High School. This will be our 22nd year and we anticipate serving over 2,500 students.

We will be back to distributing at East High from 10am to 6pm. You can help us by purchasing school supplies and dropping them off at your congregation or here at LSSA. Also you can make a financial contribution and we will do the shopping for you. We will need volunteers to fill backpacks with school supplies on August 8th from 10am to 12noon or 1p to 3pm. Volunteer opportunity the day of distribution are from 9:00 am to 12noon, 1pm to 4pm, or 4pm to 7pm. Please call the office to sign up for any shift

Thanks to everyone who helped with the National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive on May 13th. LSSA received 3,520 pounds of food from the Sand Lake Post Offices.

Special thanks to those who left food in your mail box and those who helped sort the food for our distribution.

The Harvest of Hope Auction is scheduled for Friday, September 15, 2023 at the Sheraton Anchorage. If you would like to be a part of the planning committee, please give us a call. We are still looking for silent and live auction items as well.

Let your heart shine with the warmth of summer.

Together caring for others,

Alan Budahl,  
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