

MAY 2023

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR NEWSLETTER

April Showers Bring May Flowers?

BY PASTOR ANNA SILCO

I write this reflection and ponder this common quote at the end of April when it is... snowing! I am in Seward as I journey my way to Soldotna for the Alaska Synod assembly and apparently there is a Seward "snow effect" so perhaps Anchorage is not quite as snowy, (or perhaps it is!) Either way, the writer of this quote probably did not have snow showers in mind when saying "April showers, bring May flowers." But, in Alaska, it is nothing out of the ordinary. While we may feel "over it" and done with the snow and ready for flowers, I feel like the writer of this quote is reminding us of the beauty of what showers (even snow showers) can bring, and that they are apart of the cycle of what is to come. (Continue on next page..)



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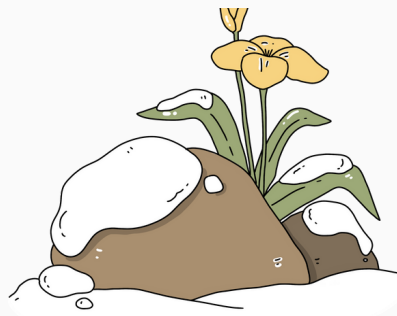
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For me, snow showers bring sense of quieting, of slowing down, of finding a cozy place to contemplate and wonder and dream and take time to plan and envision what lies ahead. I was also reminded this month at a community garden workshop at the church, that the first step for a successful garden is to make a plan! Even while the snow had not yet melted completely off the garden bed, to go ahead and think and plan out what is to come. So perhaps this is a planning and envisioning time for the church too- what are some dreams you have for the time ahead? What kind of ministry will we tend and bloom together? God is at work bringing about new life, as we remember this Easter season the new life in all of creation revealed in the death and resurrection of Jesus. "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!" 2 Corinthians 5:17. May we take time to envision what it is that God is doing: bringing about new things! April showers bring May (or June, or July, or August...) flowers!

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!

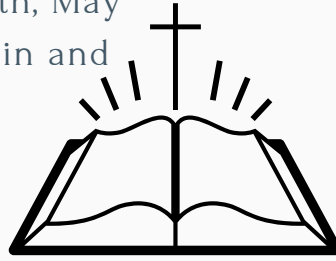
2 Corinthians 5:17



ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Anna will lead a Psalms Bible Study Series on Thursdays from 10-11am, May 4th, May 18th, and May 25th. All are welcome to join and learn more about the book of Psalms.



"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

1 THESSALONIANS 5:11

RUMMAGE SALE

We are going to have a Rummage Sale this summer on June 24th! Come help us clean out the church (or donate items of your own)! If you are interested in volunteering in any way, contact pastor.anna@coslc.ws for more information!



KIDS CORNER

- The next **confirmation** gathering is May 7th from 4:30pm-6pm at Central Lutheran Church. This is our last meeting for the year.
- **VBS**- June 12-16th 5:30-8:15pm, K-6th grade, 7th-12th as helpers. At Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.
- **Alaska Synod Youth Trip**- Valdez, AK June 26th-30th, cost \$50 ages 6th-12th grade
- **Glacier Bible Camp**- Juneau, AK, 5th-9th grade. \$50+ travel, July 17th-22nd

Contact pastor.anna@coslc.ws for more information if you are interested in any of these opportunities!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Thank you to all of our musicians! It was so wonderful having the choir back together for Easter morning worship. Thanks to all for making worship a meaningful and worship-filled time. We are still searching for a pianist for Sunday morning worship, so spread the word and send anyone interested our way! We also are grateful for Jamie Berge filling in and sharing her gift of music with us. Our next WAM meeting is May 23rd.



COUNCIL NEWS

It was so great to have our Council officially installed this past month. We give thanks for all that they do for our congregation. Our next council meeting will be Sunday May 21st after church.





COMMUNITY GARDEN



GARDEN NEWSLETTER

Check out our latest Garden Newsletter on our website <https://coslc.ws/community-garden> and all sorts of other Garden information! We still have beds available- contact us at garden@coslc.ws

GARDEN WORKSHOP-THANK YOU!

Thank you to Steve Brown from the Cooperative Extension who taught us so many tips on successful gardening in Alaska! We can't wait to see how this impacts our community garden this summer. We wish Steve luck as he attempts to grow the largest cabbage for the Alaska state fair this summer. Thank you to Jeanette Morton for coordinating, and Gary Matthews for bringing tomato starts for us, and for all who made the event a success for our church and community!

“A garden requires patient labor and attention. Plants do not grow merely to satisfy ambitions or to fulfill good intentions. They thrive because someone expended effort on them.”

— Liberty Hyde Bailey,
American Horticulturist



JOIN US MAY 13TH FOR A GARDEN BED ASSEMBLING PARTY!

