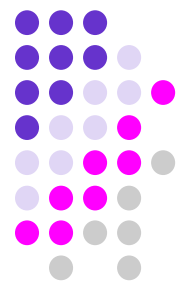


# Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church News



## From Pastor Laura



Hebert Glacier Trail

Igk/23

I had planned to end my farewell sermon with an invitation, except I had gotten too self-reflective in my narration of the 'Year in Review' slide show. In this last sermon, of the series of seven, on developing a Christian re-

sponse to the book, "Religion for Atheists: A Non-Believer's Guide to the Uses of Religion" by Alain de Botton, I presented Tenderness as the theme. During my sermon preparation, I remembered a powerful statement, written by Rev. Michael L. Lindvall for the Brick Church, NYC:

*We are called to be a place that works differently than the world around us. That is, in order to be faithful Christians, we sometimes have to become downright "countercultural." If the world is frantic, we have to be an island of peace. If the world is alienating, we*

*need to be a hotbed of hospitality. If the world is lonely, we need to be place of intimate community. If the world is selfish, we need to be a center for sharing. If the world is cynical, we must be people who trust each other. People don't come to church for more of the same old world. They come seeking God, of course. But they, just like you and me, also come seeking a family of faith where they will be embraced for who they are and where their abilities will be used for the blessing of the world.*

*continued on next page*

July 2023



*The mission of our church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ, through God-centered worship and people-centered ministry.*

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## Sunday Worship Schedule

10:00 Worship via Zoom and in person  
<https://zoom.us/j/398434443>

By phone +1 253 215-8782  
Meeting ID: 398 434 443

*No matter who you are, no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*

400 West 11th Street  
Juneau, AK 99801-1512  
(907) 586-3131  
office@khnuc.org  
[khnuc.org](http://khnuc.org)

Pastor Charles Ensminger

## From Pastor Laura continued

In my parting words, I would like to challenge you to have this same vision for KHNLUC. What if you were known as the Tender Church in Juneau?

(I wish to again express my deepest thank you for the year I was able to spend with you as your Interim Pastor. Also thank you for the

farewell gifts, cards, and words you graciously shared with me.)

Pastor Laura being presented with her farewell gift



Farewell Potluck



## SUPPORT UKRAINIAN REFUGEES!

With your help, the two Ukrainian families already sponsored in Juneau are thriving, and on Sunday June 17<sup>th</sup> a new family visited Kúnéix Hídi as guests of Nico and Susan Bus. They are a young couple, Daryna Berdnyk and Vitalii Kyryliuk, from Dnipro, who arrived in Juneau on Tuesday June 13<sup>th</sup> with their small (and well-behaved!) dog Rocky. You can read more about them in an article on KTOO's website: <https://www.ktoo.org/2023/06/20/couple-finds-refuge-in-juneau-one-year-after-fleeing-ukraine/>

They are currently staying with Joyanne Bloom, but are searching for more permanent housing. Please help us find a one-bedroom apartment or other suitable dwelling that might be available at a reasonable price **beginning in mid-August or September 1**. At this point, we're open to any possibilities since we don't know yet where they will be working or if they will be able to acquire a car.

The Sponsor Group tells us:

"Please contact [stephaniehoag52@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniehoag52@gmail.com) with any leads on housing OR on a reliable, affordable used car that might be available later this summer. We can also use **help in providing rides and transportation for shopping, classes, and appointments**, until they are able to get driver's licenses, insurance, and a car.

Please contact Annie Calkins at [anniecalkins@gmail.com](mailto:anniecalkins@gmail.com) to volunteer.

We are also hoping that you could invite them for **dinner, to go on hikes and other Juneau activities** to orient them to the community and to give them lots of opportunities to learn and practice English. Please contact [joyanneb@gmail.com](mailto:joyanneb@gmail.com).

There are more families in need wishing to come to Juneau! If you would like to **form or join a sponsor group**, we would love to mentor you and help you get started. The good news is we already have the needed financial support in our Juneau Refugee Fund. The other good news is that we have experience to guide you through the process. A final plus is that there is already a Ukrainian community here who will welcome them and share what they've learned.

It does take a concerted group effort to bring a family to our community and help them to get adjusted: federal paperwork, work permits, jobs, finding housing, transportation, applications for food stamps and housing assistance, Medicaid enrollment, registration for medical services, TB

shots, helping with English language acquisition, school enrollment, and more. We've found that you really do need at least 5 or 6 people to share the work.


If there is interest we'll put together a workshop to provide information and help other groups to get started. Or, if you have a group of friends to work with and feel like you're ready to go - let us know and we'll meet with you!

You can reply to [stephaniehoag52@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniehoag52@gmail.com) or [bridgetannsmith49@gmail.com](mailto:bridgetannsmith49@gmail.com) in the next couple of weeks and we'll find a time for a meeting, workshop or Zoom seminar.

Thanks for your generosity and all you do for Juneau!"

The Sponsor group is currently supporting at least 6 families, and hopes to sponsor more, so they can always use MORE financial support. Here is the link to the donate button for the relief fund: [www.jahc.org/juneau-refugee-relief-fund/](http://www.jahc.org/juneau-refugee-relief-fund/)

George Partlow, for the Social Justice and Service Committee

	
<p><u>Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church</u> hosted two Family Promise Juneau (FPJ) families during our first two-week rotation, June 4-17. Our first family Merci and her two boys stayed with us the entire two weeks and is close to finding permanent housing. Our second family was only with us 3 evenings, then moved to Tacoma for a job and more affordable housing.</p> <p>We would like to thank the following people who helped serve our FPJ families: Alan Akiyama, Jean Ann and Jim Alter, Carol Barril, Nico and Susan Bus, Karen Dillon, Kimberly Homme, Christina and John Maddox, Linda McCargar and George Partlow, Kristi Peel, and Patsy Wright. Also big thanks to Tucker, Dayna and her dog Rainy of FPJ for being overnight hosts for us 8 nights.</p> <p><u>Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church</u> will host 1-2 families for our second two-week period, <b>July 30- August 13</b>. We are looking for volunteers to cook dinners, be overnight hosts, cook breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings, and wash bedding once a week while KHNLUC hosts. <b>Look for the Sign-up link on the SERVE page of the Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church website.</b> Or you may contact Linda McCargar or Kristi Peel directly (contact info at the bottom of the next column).</p> <p>The six weeks in between our 2 rotations will be hosted at KHNLUC by FPJ Board members and other congregations that do not have the physical space to host families.</p>	<p>Financial contributions to the <u>Kunéix Hídi Northern Light Food Security Fund</u> help us buy breakfast and lunch items for the families when they are housed in our church building. You may donate on-line at the church website or by mail. Please specify that the donation is for the Food Security Fund. (it is not necessary to say it is for Family Promise).</p> <p>Financial support for FPJ is always welcome. Try the easy on-line option through Family Promise Juneau website. <a href="https://www.familypromisejuneau.org/donate">https://www.familypromisejuneau.org/donate</a></p> <p>FPJ has enrolled with the <u>PayPal Giving Fund</u>. We will now receive 100% of your donations with no fees taken out.</p> <p>Call Family Promise Juneau: (907) 586-0160 Or mail check to: PO Box 32775, Juneau, AK 99803</p> <p>If you have an electric car and don't need to buy gas at Fred Meyer, you can donate fuel points to Family Promise for the van by giving FPJ the phone number associated with your card. You may be able to do this with Safeway as well.</p> <p>Or you can contact: Linda McCargar, <u>Kunéix Hídi Family Promise Coordinator</u> @ 971-241-0534 or <a href="mailto:ducky6670@gmail.com">ducky6670@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Or Kristi Peel, Assistant Coordinator @ 907-321-3163 or <a href="mailto:kristipeel1@gmail.com">kristipeel1@gmail.com</a></p>



## **Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church Community of Christian Women Bazaar**

We'll be holding our auction both ONLINE and IN PERSON this year! We are putting together our catalog early! Please think about what you can contribute! You can start right away, July 1, using our website to enter info and a photo of your item. You will hold on to item until you know it has sold. November 1 bidding will begin! Bring your item to the church on Friday, November 17. On Saturday November 18, buyers will pick up their items AND they can be part of our traditional Bazaar Lunch, with soup, bread, and pie available for purchase.

Be part of the IN PERSON and Virtual Online Bazaar in November! We will offer items to purchase through the Auction. Come to the bazaar on Saturday, November 18 from 9 am - 2 pm and enjoy our traditional lunch.

Register so you can bid on auction items. Check your email or your email JUNK folder to confirm your registration. Email [help@auctria.co](mailto:help@auctria.co)

[m](mailto:gin-teralaska@gmail.com) or [gin-teralaska@gmail.com](mailto:gin-teralaska@gmail.com) if you have difficulty.

Click on CATALOG to view items. You can also DONATE items or make a DONATION. You pay for your items using a credit or debit card. Please consider making a DONATION to cover processing fees.

**Saturday, July 1 through Saturday, October 28, 2023:** Submit photo and description of all items to be included in catalog.

**Wednesday, November 1, 2023 6:59 am:** The Auction Catalog is available online to purchase or bid on items.

**Saturday, November 11, 2023 at 2:59**

**pm:** The Auction will close for all items.

**Friday, November 17, 2023 from 9 am – 5**

**pm:** Donors drop off all sold items to Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church. CCW volunteers organize donated items.

**Saturday November 18, 2023 before 9**

**am:** Fresh baked items can be dropped off at the church.

**Saturday November 18, 2023 from 9 am – 2**

**pm:** Buyers pick up items from Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church.

*If you cannot pick up or drop off or pick up items at designated times, please send an email to Jane Ginter [ginteralaska@gmail.com](mailto:ginteralaska@gmail.com), or call 907 209-8185.*

Hosted by Community of Christian Women of Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church.

This year, we will have a traditional lunch with soup, bread, and pie or other baked goods. You can pick up your auction purchases at the church.

We will not mail any items purchased.

Please be sure to arrange for a local person to pick up your orders.

<https://auctria.events/NorthernLight>

We are working on our auction early this year as many of our volunteers will be away in the early fall.

CCW will be organizing a Zoom meeting in July to start planning. Stay tuned!

## Imposter Email

Hi,

Someone is already attempting to Spam KHNLUC members and friends with our new pastor's name. Be aware that any legitimate email from our church will have @khnluc.org as the URL.

I've copied the spam email so you can know what to look for. Notice that the sender is using @gmail.com instead of the church URL. Another clue is "please no calls" which is often used by Spammers. They don't want you to check to see if the request is legitimate. Although it isn't used in this example, if you respond, the Scammer may ask you to purchase gift cards. Be aware that this is something no legitimate Pastor would ever ask of a member or friend.

Should you receive an email from anyone in the church office that you suspect to be Spam, please forward it to Christina: office@khnluc

“----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Senior Pastor <[seniorpastor713@gmail.com](mailto:seniorpastor713@gmail.com)>

**Date:** Sun, Jun 25, 2023 at 12:55 PM

**Subject:** Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church

**To:**

**Grace and peace of the lord be with you and your family , please respond to this email I have a request and I need you to get this done confidently please no calls**

Reverend Dr. Charles Ensminger”

Pastor Laura had another new experience in Juneau! The three Wall daughters, Acey, Ellie, and Lucy were all baptized in the waters of Auke Lake in the pouring rain! Bob Coghill assisted in presenting the three girls.



**Bob Coghill** is 😊 feeling blessed at ... X  
**Auke Rec.**

2m · Juneau · 🌐

Three of my favorite teenagers were Baptized at Auke Lake Sunday. Over a dozen witnesses were present. There was great joy and rain. KHNLUC pastor, teens and parents entered the water without complaint. I wish I had looked to the sky. I am sure I would have seen the Holy Spirit descending like a dove.



## Charles Blankenship Obituary

Our beloved husband, father, brother, uncle and friend, and lifelong Alaskan, Charles "Chuck" Leroy Blankenship passed away at Queen Anne Healthcare Facility in Seattle, WA on January 5, 2023.

Celebration of Life will be held Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at the Mayor

Bill Overstreet Park, (aka the Whale Park,) in Juneau, Alaska. This date would have been his 71<sup>st</sup> birthday. Brief memorial service will begin at 5 pm followed by a potluck meal and fellowship. The family will begin setting up around 2pm, and anyone is welcome to swing through earlier to

share memories, hugs, or help setting up. We hope that anyone who has ever been touched by Chuck's love of life and sense of humor, to come help us celebrate his birthday and his life with us.





## Healing Task Force Update and Call for Action

A year ago this month, the PC(USA) General Assembly approved by unanimous consent the Overture submitted to it by the Northwest Coast Presbytery (“NWCP”) on behalf of our church regarding the racist closure of the Memorial Presbyterian Church (“MPC”). On behalf of our Council and congregation, the Healing Task Force (“HTF”) has been working to implement the commitments [Kunéix Hídi](#) Northern Light United Church (“[Kunéix Hídi](#)”) made prior to submitting the Overture and engaging with the Presbyterian Mission Agency Center for the Repair of Historic Harms and the NWCP about their plans for meaningful addressing the reparations to which it committed.

PC(USA) reparations include formal acknowledgement and apology for the closure conducted in culturally appropriate ways, support for Native churches, and scholarships for Native students. A delegation from the PC(USA) and NWCP will be in Juneau August 28-31 to prepare for the formal events that will occur October 7-9, 2023. Their activities will in-

clude:

- meetings with the family of Dr. Walter Soboleff and former members of the MPC, learning about Juneau’s past and present,
- discussion with panels regarding historical trauma and resilience,
- site visits to programs that serve Alaska Native people,
- meetings with representatives of other small and Native churches (or former churches) in Southeast Alaska, and
- meetings regarding how to provide effective access for scholarships.

In addition, a special service will be held the Tuesday evening, August 29, as an introduction to the theology of Dr. Soboleff and discussion about the impact of its loss. On Thursday, August 31, there will be a closing session in which the delegation and leadership of [Kunéix Hídi](#) will report on the experiences of the week and the plans for the October events. Dinners to which everyone is invited and encouraged to attend will follow each of these

events. They will be hosted by the non-Native members of [Kunéix Hídi](#). The Sunday October 8 service at [Kunéix Hídi](#) will be dedicated to a formal service of acknowledgment, apology, and commitment to reparations, to be followed with a luncheon or dinner.

Planning and preparations for these events and others are still underway. The HTF is meeting weekly. If you haven’t participated, but would like to, anyone is welcome. Meetings are generally scheduled for Wednesday’s at 6:30 pm and occur over Zoom. Even if you can’t attend meetings or join the HTF, we are starting to make lists of the things that you may be able to help with. Here are some ideas:

- offer a place to stay for members of the SE AK churches who accept the invitation to come to Juneau for the August events;
- help plan, cook, serve, and clean-up after the two dinners planned for August 29 and 31;
- help with beverages, snacks or lighter

## Healing Task Force continued

meals that may be offered when meetings are being held in the church;

- share your ideas; and
- most importantly, put these events in your calendar and plan to attend all Special Services and dinners. Your presence and engagement with the

visiting delegation will be as important as anything else that we may plan.

Reparations are not one time and done! At Kunéix Hídi, the Presbytery, and PC(USA), we must be committed to a lifetime of partnership and actions that ensure that history does not repeat itself and that

we live up to our promise that all are welcome.

For more information or to volunteer, call, text, or write Myra Munson, HTF Chair, 206-795-2972 or [myra.munson@outlook.com](mailto:myra.munson@outlook.com).



We held our first Neighborhood Picnic after Covid on a beautiful Sunday after the 10 a.m. worship service on June 11, 2023.

Thanks to all who helped cook hamburgers, hotdogs, and delicious dishes!

It was fun to see our friends from church and from the neighborhood!

Plan to join us for the Church picnic at log cabin Sandy Beach shelter on Sunday, August 27.





## Juneau Rotary Club and Native Ministries

The Juneau Rotary Club invited members of the Native Ministries Committee to speak about the closing of Memorial Presbyterian Church. Barbara Searls introduced Maxine Richert, who presented the film "The Native Church." Myra Munson also spoke.

We were well received and received a kind note from Bob Rehfeld:

*On behalf of our members, thank you for your presentation today. Today and at the beginning of every meeting, we state our Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States and everything it stands for including liberty and justice for all. For many and for too long those words have rung hollow and for people my age, it is*

*troubling that events like this happened in our lifetime. Presentations like yours today help us to appreciate that our pursuit of a more perfect union does not have a finish line. It is a continuous process.*

*Thanks again.*

*Bob Rehfeld*





Eva Sturm is managing our summer lunch program.

Sign up to help!

<https://signup.com/go/UYwwSYN>



Pastor Laura gathered up a total of 12 members and friends of KHNLUC and embarked on an adventure to the Aleutians on the Tustumena!



## ERUMC News

Julie and Don Cramer from Michigan are leading a work group to ERUMC in August. Julie is a pastor at Melvin United Methodist Church and Cole United Methodist Church in Michigan. Julie came here with a work group 30 years ago. She contacted us at the end of last summer in hopes of bringing a work group here. They are

bringing a group of about 20 volunteers August 15 - 23.

They are a talented group with some skilled workers with electrical, plumbing and contracting skills. Randy Peterson is organizing the work plan. We'd love to have you meet them! Come out to the camp for an evening campfire or

come join the work if you can! They'd love a chance to explore some of Juneau if you can take some of them for a hike or fishing or just exploring! Contact Nico Bus or Jane Ginter or the camp manager (907) 789-3734, [manager@methodistcamp.org](mailto:manager@methodistcamp.org).



Chancel Choir led by Jacque Farnsworth singing "Simple Song of Freedom."

The choir dedicated this anthem to Rev. Dr. Laura Krauss, who is departing Juneau after being our Interim Pastor. Thank you, Pastor Laura!

Come and Sing a simple song of freedom.

Sing it like you've never sung before.

Let it fill the air, tell the people everywhere,  
we, the people here, don't want a war

Bobby Darin wrote "Simple Song of Freedom" in 1969

<https://youtu.be/P2NjipDzVyY>

Chancel Choir conducted by Jacque Farnsworth and accompanied by Anne Standerwick singing "Water Me."

[https://youtu.be/Q8fgcC4\\_uCU](https://youtu.be/Q8fgcC4_uCU)

Chancel Choir conducted by Jacque Farnsworth and accompanied by Anne Standerwick singing "From This Very Place."

<https://youtu.be/615wxeGs0gM>





## Birthdays

1	Laura Doogan	6	Nico Bus	19	Kathleen Jensen
2	Sherrie Tinsley-Myers	8	Douglas Ecklund	26	Saylor Satran
	Cherry Ecklund		Dabney Meachum	27	Tionne Green
			Hunter Meachum	26	Julie Williams
3	Myra Munson	10	Billy White	29	J Allan MacKinnon
	Margaret Katzeek	12	Kate Burkhart	30	Connie Williams
5	Neil Nickerson		Mark Banda		Kristy Germain

## Thank yous

Many people and groups are involved in making sure things happen at KHNLUC. Each month we would like to recognize some of those individuals and groups for their special services. Special thanks to:

\*those who served as Liturgists: Bob Coghill, Linda McCargar, George Partlow, and Nola Lamken

\*those who served as Greeters/ushers: Marianne Mills, Pattie Adkisson, Carol Barril, and Jane Ginter

\*Those who provided flowers: Margaret & J Allan MacKinnon, Elizabeth Wheeler, Jane Ginter and Carol Barril

\*Mary Borthwick, Karen Dillon, Marianne Mills, John Pugh, Carol Barril, Pat Gorman, Jan and Don Kussart, April Rezendes and Jim Alter for their help in counting and recording financial gifts received by Kunéix Hídi Northern Light.

*If you have a suggestion for a thank you, call Christina at the church office, 586-3131 or e-mail her at [office@khnluc.org](mailto:office@khnluc.org).*

## Sunday Servers needed

Liturgist are needed July 9, 16, 23 and 30. Use the link below to sign up.

[Sign up to be the liturgist.](#)

Ushers are needed for July 9, 23 and 30. Use the link below to sign up.

[Sign up to be an usher.](#)

Flowers providers are needed July 9, 16 and 30. Use the link below to sign up.

[Sign up to provide flowers for worship.](#)

Signup to provide Summer Brunch after the 10 a.m. service. It's up to you what to provide! Maybe coffee and muffins, or a full-fledged brunch! Get someone to help! You can get reimbursed from the donations collected or submit receipts.

<https://signup.com/go/LpOmznQ>

or call the office: 586-3131

Through September 3.



# JULY 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Communion Sunday 11 Worship in person and via Zoom 5:15 Youth Group	3	4 Church office closed in observance of Independence Day	5 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Healing Task Force	6	7	8
9 11 Worship in person and via Zoom 5:15 Youth Group	10 10 Finance Committee via Zoom 5:30 Worship Committee	11 Glory Hall Chili	12 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Healing Task Force	13 5:30 Church Council via Zoom	14	15
16 11 Worship in person and via Zoom 5:15 Youth Group	17	18 5:30 Staff Parish Relations Committee	19 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Healing Task Force	20 12 Social Service & Justice Committee 5 Committee on Property Management	21	22
23 11 Worship in person and via Zoom 11:15 Deacons Meeting 5:15 Youth Group	24	25 Newsletter Deadline Glory Hall Spaghetti	26 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Healing Task Force	27	28	29
30 11 Worship in person and via Zoom 5:15 Youth Group Family Promise through Aug. 13	31					