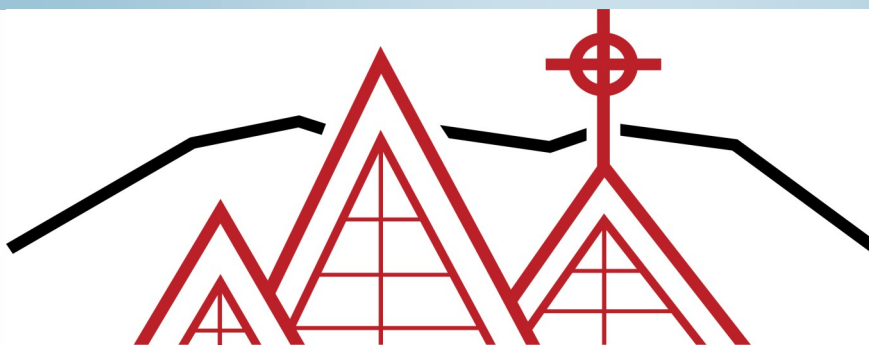


June
2025



Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church

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

Sunday Worship

10:00 am in person and via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/398434443>

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

Scan this code to donate now



... And Away

The story of the Ascension is one that often gets overlooked as it is often told in conjunction with or as a lead-in to the story of Pentecost. The ascension gets overlooked because of the profundity of Pentecost. Pentecost is a great and powerful story, but Ascension is a narrative that has a particular weight to it that we might miss.

With the story of the ascension of Jesus, we come to what is, technically, the last story of Jesus on earth. The life of Jesus on earth was about salvation and it was about teaching those who would care to listen that we are loved and that we are to love one another. Those who hear this message are, therefore, to live a life that is, itself, reflective of the Good News to the best of our ability.

Jesus is, for Christians, the one who teaches us who we are, to whom we belong, and how we are to behave towards one another. It is assumed that those who would seek to follow Jesus would take these ideas to heart. As the author of 1st Peter writes, "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." (1st Peter 2:9)

continued on next page

The mission of Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ through God-centered worship and people-centered ministry.

400 West 11th Street
Juneau, AK 99801-1512
(907) 586-3131
office@khnuc.org
Christina's office hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Minus lunch hour

Rev. Dr. Charles Ensminger, Pastor
pastor@khnuc.org
khnuc.org
(907)586-3131

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Special points of interest

- Bread for the World Offering of the Letters
- Dr. Ken Moss
- Coming to the Table
- Permanent Endowment Funds Matching Challenge continues for 2025

Sermon Series

We move now into the Season of Pentecost which continues on for a long time – until Christ the King Sunday in November! We begin that season with Pastor Laura joining us on the 1st to share with us in worship. Come and be with us in this wonderful time and place!

6/1 Philippians 4:4-9
Reflections on a Year in Berlin (Pastor Laura Krauss)

6/8 Pentecost Sunday
John 14:8-17, 25-27
Demanding Proof

6/15 Trinity Sunday
Romans 5:1-5
What a Mess

6/22 Mark 12:1-12
Them

6/29 Matthew 25:14-30
Cast Away

And away continued

So, what we find when Jesus ascends is that Jesus is, in many ways, leaving us to it. The responsibility for the proclamation of the Good News now rests in our hands. Jesus tells the disciples that the Holy Spirit will empower those who remain (that is the story of Pentecost), and then we find in this passage that closes the Gospel of Luke (24:50-53) and, I feel, encapsulates the Christian faith:

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. 51 While he blessed them, he parted from them, and was carried up into heaven. 52 And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, 53 and were continually in the temple blessing God.

What we see in this brief description of the disciples should, I believe, be the activity of the modern Christian: we have been blessed. Thus, we are to return from that blessing with great joy, and we are to offer praise to God for God's activity in and through Christ.

The Ascension narrative itself is, to me, a reflection on the idea of returning to the source. Just as Jesus returns to

the presence of God, the mysterious ascension suggests that in Christ we are returning to that from which we have drawn life, drawn experience, drawn breath. Returning *to* is suggestive of the idea of renewal, return, homecoming, even recharging. That from which we have come is that to which we return. Thus, Christ ascends to God. We, also, are to return to God in praise and worship, in spirit and in truth.

Through Christ we are to find that we are connected to the Source of all that is, the ground of all being (as theologian Paul Tillich would say). We are drawn into a relationship with one another that is to be grounded on the radical idea of love. With that love and with the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, we can worship God in spirit and in truth and proclaim that Good News is now and forevermore a message to be proclaimed. There is joy to be found and, even though Jesus ascended, we are to continue forward: the Good News is now ours to proclaim.

May we do so in good faith.

Peace be with you.
Pastor Charles

Visioning Sunday

We will be having a visioning meeting (and potluck lunch!) after worship on Sunday, June 8th. Come and be with us as we begin the process of laying out future plans!

Bread for the World Offering of Letters Sunday, June 29 following the service

“In the 1970s, Rev. Art Simon, the pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church on New York City’s Lower East Side, often found himself responding to emergency situations caused by hunger and poverty in his neighborhood. Simon, along with a dozen other church leaders in the area — Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, and Lutherans — began meeting to explore how they might address the local and global root causes of hunger. They saw a place for Christians to try to prevent hunger from happening in the first place rather than just reacting to it. In 1974, this group founded Bread for the World with the mission of ending hunger in the world by speaking out to their elected officials in Washington, D.C.

“It’s better to build a fence at the top of a cliff than to have an ambulance at the bottom.”

— Rev. Art Simon

As Christians, we are called to seek justice and to care for those experiencing hunger and poverty, and churches are especially important in telling the story of hunger and fostering change.

Offering of Letters to Congress

Bread launched its first large-scale letter writing campaign, the Offering of Letters, in 1975.

Each year, Bread’s Offering of Letters campaign engages churches, campuses, and other faith communities in writing personalized letters to Congress on issues related to hunger in the U.S. and around the world. Churches and community groups collect letters and present them as an offering to God before mailing them to Congress. Hundreds of Offerings of Letters are held each year, resulting in tens of thousands of letters. Over the years, these letters and emails have helped inspire our leaders in Washington, D.C., to pass legislative victories that have impacted millions of people.” (Source Bread for the World)

The need for our Christian voices has never been greater. The President's budget makes deep cuts to the established food security programs that have been the safety net for millions of Americans and for thousands of Alaskans. We need to stand up and let our congressional delegation know that we oppose cuts to programs like WIC and SNAP. In addition, we need to demand that foreign aid focused on eliminating hunger needs to be reinstated.

John Pugh and Melody Millard

Bible Study

We continue to have our Bible Studies! We meet on Sunday afternoon at 4:00 in Memorial Hall for an in-person study and, if you can’t join us in person, on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 via Zoom (same study topic!).

Joining the Church

If you are interested in joining the church, we would love for you to consider speaking with the Pastor about what it means to be a part of the church community. Further, we want to offer a special invitation to consider joining on Pentecost Sunday – June 6th. Feel free to contact Pastor Charles at pastor@khnuluc.org or speak to anyone in our church community!

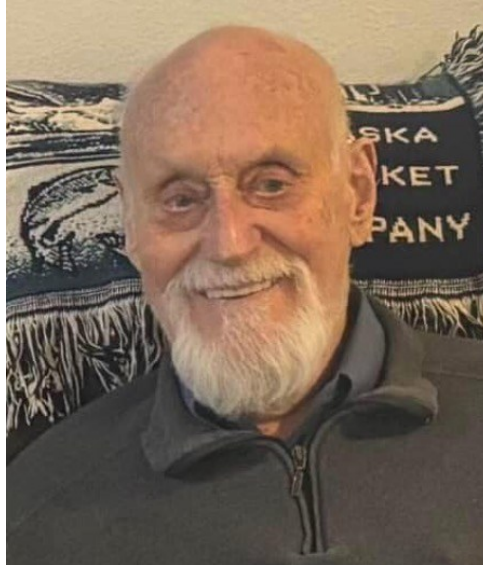
Coming to the Table

Coming to the Table is an event similar in nature to a “Talking Circle.” It is an open, safe space for people to come and share around a particular topic. Each gathering is designed to show respect and honor one another with the gift of listening. The process has proven helpful in finding common ground and creating clarity in our own positions as well as helping to understand the positions of others.

The next gathering will be on Saturday, June 21st at 10:00.

Dr. Kenn Moss, a former member of our church and beloved pediatrician in Juneau, is turning 91 on June 3.

The daughter, Jeanne Stewart Cox, of his late wife, Connie Stewart Moss, let us know of his birthday. He'd love to get birthday cards!



You can send cards to:

Dr. Kenn Moss
c/o Ryan Family
PO Box 374
Clarkston, WA 99403.

Permanent Endowment Funds Matching Challenge Continues for 2025

The Permanent Endowment Funds were created in 2021 for the purpose of providing long-term support to KHNLUC. As of May 26, 2025, the balances in the funds were \$87,016 for Capital and \$113,617 for Programs. \$1,300 has been contributed to each fund to date this year.

The Akiyama family has generously offered another challenge match for donations to the Permanent Endowment Funds. They will match donations of up to \$14,500 for the Program fund and \$14,500 for the Capital Projects fund. All donations from December 1, 2024, through November 30, 2025, will count toward the match. Please consider contributing this year to grow these funds that will help sustain KHNLUC programs for many years to come.

Margaret MacKinnon, Treasurer

Forget-Me-Not Manor



Forget-Me-Not Manor, Juneau's Housing First celebrates the opening of 28 new single compact apartments. This brings the total capacity to 92 for Juneau's most vulnerable homeless population.

KHNLUC Council has embraced this facility and its coaching living program as a key focus on our community service mission.

Mariya Lovishchuk, Juneau Housing First Collaborative Representative, has been a main driving force in moving the Housing First concept to reality. She stated, "During

this time of uncertainty of Federal funding, we have secured promised grants to complete our 28-unit addition. While we have our fingers crossed for continued operational funding, we know Juneau must have this service. This uncertainty means we rely more on community support to continue our mission." KHNLUC has pledged to cover the cost of providing the beds, bedding, shower curtains, towels, and cleaning supplies for the 28-apartment addition. The beds have just arrived in time for the first new residents scheduled for June 1st occupancy.

The 28 beautiful quilts (see below) so generously made by our church's quilters will add a colorful and homey touch to each unit.

Please consider a financial donation to these furnishings and the ongoing program. Note, "Housing 1st" "on your payment to the church's office.



Summer Lunch Program

For the tenth year, Kunéix Hidi Northern Light United Church will provide a children's summer lunch program at the Geneva Woods housing complex in Douglas where all children, whatever their circumstances, are welcome to participate. Summer lunches ensure that low-income children enjoy at least one nutritious hot meal every weekday during the summer.

This year we will serve the congregate lunches inside the Community Room or provide lunches to go. We expect to provide an opportunity for the children to participate in art projects, games and other activities before and after lunch.

We are excited to announce that Talia Eames has been hired as Summer Lunch Coordinator. Talia has the necessary skills and a passion for helping those who experience food insecurity.

Our lunch service will begin on June 2nd and end on August 12th. Meals will be served from 12:15-1:00. Our Summer Lunch program is supported by contributions of money and time from KHNLC members and friends.

Volunteers will be needed throughout the summer to cook and pack meals at the KHNLC kitchen and help serve meals at Geneva Woods. Cooking may be from scratch (with help documenting that the recipe meets the USDA standards) or preparing one of the recipes provided. Our Coordinator will have weekly menus and have ingredients ready for the meal prep.

Sign up early to choose your spots! You can sign up on the KHNLC website, choose Serve in the drop down menu. Our Summer Lunch Coordinator will transport the food, clean up at Geneva Woods and the KHNLC kitchen, and do lots of other tasks that make our program work.

Everyone who participates in food preparation, packing or serving must have a current food worker card. You can study for and take the test online; it is good for three years; and it only costs \$10 (refundable if you submit for reimbursement). To sign up: (1) click on <https://dec.alaska.gov/eh/fss/food-worker-card/>, (2) click on Getting a Food Worker Card and follow the instructions there; (3) download and send a copy of your card to Christina Maddox at office@khnchurch.org. It is really easy and the information is excellent. If you are interacting with kids, please check with Christina about Ministry Safe training, required every two years.

If you have questions contact Deb Reifenstein debreifenstein@gmail.com, Freda Westman fmwestman@gmail.com, or Christina Maddox office@khnchurch.org, or call KHNLC at 907-586-3131.

Summer Lunches is one of the ways in which KHNLC participates in reducing food insecurity for children in Juneau. Your contributions of time and money truly nourish the bodies and spirits of our community's most vulnerable.

CCW Women's Potluck Brunch

A women's potluck brunch was held on May 17th and was a time of friendship, fellowship and delicious food. Watch for announcements for the next one! Photos courtesy of Jane Ginter.



Remodeling of Walter Soboleff Jr. Memorial Hall

Part of the Reparations effort of the Healing Task Force is to remodel Memorial Hall. We would like to form a subcommittee of Healing Task Force to collect ideas from the congregation, Council, Native Ministries Committee, Deacons, Committee on Property Management, and others about what we would like to see in the Memorial Hall. Do you have ideas of what you would like to see? Would you be interested in being part of a subcommittee? Let Maxine Richert or Pastor Charles know.

Attendees of Summer Lunch Volunteer informational meeting



What's Happening at Eagle River United Methodist Camp?

We welcomed our new Camp Managers, Kevin & Nicola Voss, in May. They drove their motorhome up from Oregon and are staying there while we get the Manager's Cabin finished. We say good-bye to Jesse Stringer and Libby Sterling who have served as managers of the camp for the last three years.

We've had a lot of help getting the camp ready for the managers. Thanks to all who have come out! John Doogan organized workers to complete many tasks. We have more to do! Come out and give a hand!

The Camp is busy with many activities. There was a beautiful Memorial Service for long-time Camp Volunteer, former manager, and board member Bunti Reed. Nico Bus presented a proclamation to the family naming the lodge kitchen "Bunti Reed Kitchen."

Board member Marian Call and Pat Race organized the popular Comics Camp, which brings together professional writers, artists, and publishers from the Comics industry.

The camp is a popular place for weddings, family reunions, birthdays, retirement parties, scouts, and church groups. Would you like to reserve a stay at camp? Check out our webpage <https://www.methodistcamp.org/>.

continued on next page

Wedding Lodge



Comics Camp Lodge



Chancel Choir



Bob and Anne



Camp continued

“We have a variety of buildings for rent. A large Lodge with a huge stone fireplace and a big commercial kitchen. Two big Four Season Cabins with heat, electricity, and kitchens that sleep dozens of people. Four smaller Four Season Sleeping Cabins with heat and electricity that sleep ten people. Five Summer Sleeping Cabins without heat or electricity that sleep eight people. The grounds also include two Fire Circles with covered bench seating, a covered Pavilion with a fireplace, and a meditation Gazebo next to a gurgling stream.”

[Reserve Cabins and Facilities - Click Here](#)

Would you consider serving on the board? Or can you come out to help with some projects? Let John Doogan, Nico Bus, Sherrie Myers, or Jane Ginter know!

ERUMC Board 2025

Justin Dorn, President
John Doogan, Vice President, Facilities
Jane Ginter, Secretary
Lisa Brendle, Treasurer
Nico Bus, Assistant Treasurer
Traci Almlie, Programs
Hilary Partlow, Programs
Marian Call
Sherrie Myers

Thank yous

Many people and groups are involved in making sure things happen at KHNLC. 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: Sherrie Myers, Dori Germain, Jenifer Shapland, Bob Coghill

*those who served as Greeters/ushers: Laura Doogan, Jane Ginter, Patsy Wright

*Those who provided flowers: Susan Bus, Jean Ann Alter, Sandra Baker, Donald & Janet Kussart

*Mary Borthwick, Karen Dillon, Marianne Mills, John Pugh, Carol Barril, Pat Gorman, Jan and Don Kussart, April Rezendes, Patsy Wright, 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@khnuc.org.



Sign Up!

You can be an important part of what makes our worship together a good experience.

Our web site, <https://khnuc.org/>, offers a section where you can help with worship. You can also tell Christina to sign you up if you prefer not to use the computer.

Everyone is invited to be part of our worship service.

The liturgist reads the scripture and helps lead the service with the pastor. Sign up to be a liturgist on the sign-up sheet in Memorial Hall or call the office.

You can serve as liturgist if you worship with us via Zoom.

The ushers greet people before the service, pass out bulletins, pass the offering plate, and assist with the prayers and announcements from the congregation. [Sign up to be an usher.](#)

The altar flowers are provided by the congregation. [Sign up to provide flowers for worship.](#)

You can provide flowers even if you worship via Zoom. Flowers can be brought to the church before Sunday if that is more convenient for you. Ask Christina for the new key code to enter the side door on A Street.

We encourage you to think ahead and plan to help out. Pick a special day for providing flowers to honor a loved one. Maybe sign up once a month to be liturgist or usher.

3	Doug Standerwick
7	Dorothy Wasley
8	Rich Lyon
	John Doogan
9	Marsha Smith
11	Linda McCargar
12	Barbara Streveler
	Maxine Richert
13	Brad Hartman
16	Ginny Palmer
18	Steve Zimmerman
20	Catrina Mitchell
	Sophia Pugh
21	Steve White
22	Carlton Smith
	Bob Coghill
25	Achiya Alexander Hope
29	Geoffrey Alter
	Reveille Cryderman

JUNE 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 10:00 Worship Neighborhood Block Party 4:00 Bible Study 5:15 Youth Group	2	3 12:00 Al-Anon 2:30 Violin Lessons 2:30 Wedding Ceremony	4 10:00 Finance Committee 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Bible Study	5	6 7:30 Men's Breakfast 2:30 Violin Lessons	7 8:00 Vets for Peace
8 Pentecost Sunday 10:00 Worship Visioning Meeting & Potluck 4:00 Bible Study 5:15 Youth Group	9	10 12:00 Al-Anon 2:30 Violin Lessons Glory Hall Chili	11 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Bible Study	12 5:30 Church Council	13 7:30 Men's Breakfast 2:30 Violin Lessons	14
15 10:00 Worship 4:00 Bible Study 5:15 Youth Group	16	17 12:00 Al-Anon 2:30 Violin Lessons	18 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Bible Study	19 5:00 Committee on Property Management	20 7:30 Men's Breakfast 2:30 Violin Lessons	21 10:00 Coming to the Table
22 10:00 Worship 4:00 Bible Study 5:15 Youth Group	23	24 Newsletter Deadline 12:00 Al-Anon 2:30 Violin Lessons Glory Hall Spaghetti	25 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Bible Study	26	27 7:30 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Healing Task Force 2:30 Violin Lessons	28
29 10:00 Worship Bread for the World Offering of the Letters 4:00 Bible Study 5:15 Youth Group	30					