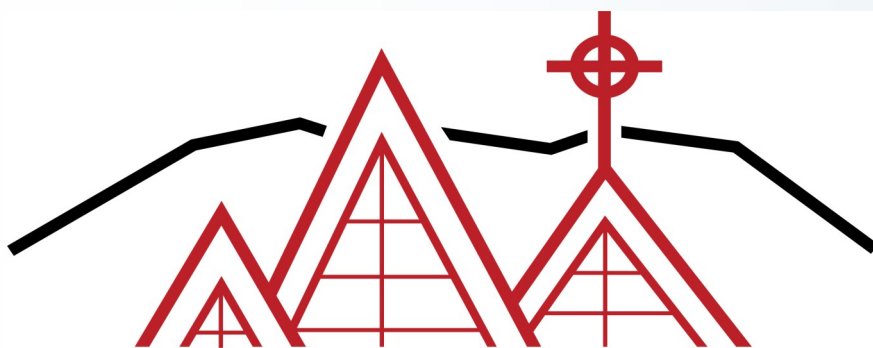


May
2025



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



*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

After Easter

One of the points that people seem to miss with the writings of the New Testament is that they are all *post*-Easter. Everything in the New Testament was written *after* the resurrection. None of the Gospels were written *prior* to that event. We don't have a passage in the Gospel of Matthew that says, "...and we hope this works out for the best!" No, each Gospel was written after Jesus' death and resurrection – as were all the other writings in the New Testament. Which means that it was the profundity of Easter that prompted not only these writings, but the situations to which these writings were addressed.

Within the Gospels we hear each author working to explain how *they* or their community understood Jesus and what it meant both to be a follower of Jesus and what it is that Jesus calls us to be. Likewise, Paul was writing to a wide and diverse group in and around Greece – a place Jesus had never walked – and was working with communities that he had founded as well as with communities that were already in existence (Romans was written to a Christian community that was already active, for example). The Gospels each

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Special points of interest

- Bread for the World
- New EV Chargers
- Summer Lunch Coordinator Needed
- Easter at KHNLC
- Spring Clean-up

Sermon Series

With Easter behind us, we move into the Easter Season – a season that lasts until June 8th (Pentecost Sunday). It is a time of reflection on what it means to be followers of Christ and I want to look at the challenge we face when we hear that “Jesus ate with sinners” as well as the puzzling statement Jesus makes in Mark about “her.” Finally, I want to face the fact that even with the Good News of Easter surrounding us, there are still moments when we are simply overwhelmed.

We will also be joined on Sunday, April 25th by Pastor Laura Krauss who will be bringing our message to us.

Come and be with us!

5/4 3rd Sunday in Easter
Matthew 9:9-13
Jesus and the Sinners

5/11 4th Sunday in Easter
Mark 14:3-9
In Memory of Her

5/18 5th Sunday in Easter
Job 23:1-9, 16-17
Nothing Left to Throw
but Words

5/25 Pastor Laura Krauss
preaching
A Reflection from Berlin

After Easter continued

had their intended group, Hebrews was written as a philosophical and theological treatise on the nature of Jesus, and some of the letters were written to talk about emerging church structure.

In some ways, the church continues to be in this phase. We still strive to understand Jesus and his message, meaning, and call upon our lives. Jesus seems elusive. But that might reflect his very nature. Within the Christian faith, Jesus is understood in the Trinitarian formula as the “second person” of the trinity and, in Christian parlance, as the incarnation of God. Thus, in Jesus we see “not the revelation of ‘all’ of God, but of what can be seen of God in a human life.”¹ This suggests that there is always more to Jesus as there is always more to God.

Sometimes we work too hard to develop an “accurate” or “historical” picture of Jesus and fail to focus on what it means to *follow*. It seems, at least to me, that in following Jesus we begin to encounter him more fully. Perhaps this idea is best summed up by Albert Schweitzer:

He comes to us as One unknown, without a name, as of old, by the lakeside, He came to those men who knew Him not. He speaks to us the same word: ‘Follow thou me!’ and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfil for our time. He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple, He will reveal Himself in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings which they shall pass through His fellowship, and, as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience Who He is.²

In the “toils, the conflicts, the sufferings” which the church shall continue to pass, we continue to find God with us. May we take upon ourselves to keep working out what it means to follow Christ.

In Hope,
Pastor Charles

¹ Marcus Borg *Jesus* (San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 2006), p. 7.

² Albert Schweitzer *The Quest of the Historical Jesus: A Critical Study of its Progress from Reimarus to Wrede* (Suzeteo Enterprises reprint, 2011), p. 397.

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 8th. Feel free to contact Pastor Charles at pastor@khnLuc.org or speak to anyone in our church community!

Community of Christian Women (CCW) “Supporting Women and Children Across the World”

CCW is a group of women, most of whom are affiliated with KHNLC, who get together for fellowship and various activities, the most well-known being the planning of the annual church bazaar. CCW has supported many organizations over the years including United Women in Faith, Presbyterian Women, AK Child & Family, Camp Champ, Front Street Clinic, Mission for a child-size Personal Energy Transportation Devices, Weekend Snack Pack Program at Kaxdigoowu Héen Elementary School, Summer Lunch Program, Imagine No Malaria, Days for Girls, Youth Group Mission Trips, Haven House, Family Promise, Housing First, Zach Gordon Youth Center, Juneau Youth Center, Juneau Youth Services, Johnson Youth Center, The Glory Hall and many more.

All women are invited to a “Meet & Greet” potluck brunch which will be held Saturday, May 17 at 10:00am in the Memorial Hall. Ideas for the brunch include muffins, quick breads and fruit. Coffee, tea and juice will be provided. The purpose of the brunch is to get together for fellowship and fun and if you are unable to bring something, please come anyway! Hope to see you there! If you have questions, please feel free to contact Melody Millard at (907) 321-5067 or Janet Kussart at (907) 419-9274

Young Adults

The Young Adults (college age and above) are going to be getting together on Tuesday, May 13th at Mar Y Sol at 6:30. It is going to be a time for fellowship around the tables. Come and be a part of the conversation!

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!).

We will not be meeting online on Wednesday, May 7th, but will resume online on May 14th at 6:30.

Bread for the World Offering of Letters

Many thanks to all those who participated in writing postcards and sending letters to our US Senators and Representative! On Sunday, April 6th over 50 postcards were collected and posted! In addition others took postcards with them to complete or indicated they would write email messages.

Advocacy works! In these videos posted on the Bread for the World website, members of Congress share their commitment to reading and considering letters from Bread for the World members who advocate for the end of hunger. You can find these videos at: <https://www.bread.org/offering-letters/#three-reasons>

Thank you all for your time and effort to make this such a successful Offering of Letters!

John Pugh and Melody Millard

Dear Neighbors,

Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church has installed 2 EV chargers on the parking lot side of the church.

Please feel free to charge your electric vehicle at any time with the exception of Sunday mornings (9:00 -12:00).

The chargers are free, and perhaps, one day we will ask for donations using a QR code similar to Eaglecrest.

We appreciate everyone who moves their parked vehicles out of the lot Sunday mornings.

If you have any problems or questions, feel free to contact Christina at the church office. For those new to the neighborhood, the church is located at 400 W. 11th Street.



Community of Christian Women Meet & Greet Potluck Brunch

*Community of Christian Women
(CCW) is inviting all women to a
potluck brunch on Saturday, May
17th at 10:00am*

*Come and enjoy a time of food and
fellowship!*

*For more information contact
Melody Millard at (907) 321-5067
or Janet Kussart at (907) 419-9274*



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, May 10th at 10:00.

Moderator's Report

Thank you to those who worked at getting up the new Church signs. The one at the fire hall is in front of the fire hall to the right. The new one at the Church is in the same place as the old one but has updated information. They both look great!



Thank you to Sasha Soboleff who will be attending the Presbytery Conference May 15 as our representative. Pastor Charles will also be attending and later will attend the United Methodist Conference.

Thank you to Pastor Charles, Bob Coghill and Kristy Germain who led the Confirmation classes and to the sponsors who supported the attendees.

Neighborhood Picnic on 11th Street right in front of the church. Thank you ahead of time to those who will be cooking and helping at our Neighborhood Picnic on June 1. The Church will provide the hamburgers, hot dogs and fixings. Please bring salads, side dishes, or desserts to add to this feast. And invite friends and family to share in the fellowship at this outdoor picnic.

Thank you for a Council whose 12 members and Pastor meet faithfully every second Thursday of the month at 5:30 pm in the Skuse Room. The meetings are held in person and on-line. You are welcome to join us anytime. Our next meeting is May 8.

Mary Becker
Moderator

Easter at KHNLUC



Visioning Meeting

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!

Summer Lunch Program Coordinator Needed

If you enjoy spending time with kids and want to help provide a hot lunch this summer, this is for you!

KHNLUC will provide a Summer Lunch program for children at Geneva Woods Housing Complex in Douglas, Monday through Friday, from June 2 through August 15, 2025. We will be hiring a Summer Lunch Coordinator to oversee the program. This is a temporary, part-time position of approximately 25 hours per week and will include occasional hours for orientation, preparation and follow up paperwork. Pay is \$24 to \$26 per hour, depending on experience, plus mileage reimbursement. Minimum requirements: valid driver's license and personal vehicle, background check, food handler card, and completion of safe sanctuary and civil rights training (online, provided by KHNLUC).

Responsibilities include coordinating the Summer Lunch program with the help of volunteers. Additional duties include planning and shopping for food, assuring food safety requirements are being followed, and maintaining required paperwork. The Summer Lunch Coordinator will organize and help with food prep and cooking following recipes and a meal plan, transport meals to Geneva Woods and be onsite during food service, clean up after lunch and interact with the children with occasional games or activities.

To apply, email a resume to Christina Maddox, Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church, office@khnLuc.org or contact Freda Westman fmwestman@gmail.com or Deb Reifenstein debreifenstein@gmail.com for additional information.



Spring has arrived. The crocuses and skunk cabbage are in bloom. Summer can't be far off. And that means the time is fast approaching when K̄unéix Hidi Northern Light United Church may be hosting one or more Family Promise Juneau families.

In December 2024 the KHNLC Council again approved the use of our building for most of the summer in 2025 when the Juneau Coop Preschool is not using the basement classrooms.

The national Family Promise is changing its model from using churches for overnights to what is called static site shelter. FPJ is in the process of finding a single location to host families overnight, provide a day center and office space.

In either case, KHNLC possibly could host 1-3 families for 2 two-week periods in this summer, June 2-15 and July 27- August 10 either at KHNLC or the new static site. If we do host, there are 28 dinners to be prepared and served, 6 overnight hosts required. (FPJ covers the other 12 nights), 4 opportunities to launder sheets and blankets and 8 times to prepare a special breakfast on the weekends.

Financial contributions to the K̄unéix Hidi Northern Light Food Security Fund 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.

Financial support for FPJ is always welcome. Try the easy on-line option through Family Promise Juneau website. <https://www.familypromisejuneau.org/donate>

FPJ has enrolled with the PayPal Giving Fund. We will now receive 100% of your donations with no fees taken out.

Call Family Promise Juneau: (907) 500-3032. Or mail check to: PO Box 32775, Juneau, AK 99803

Or you can contact: Linda McCargar,
K̄unéix Hidi Family Promise Coordinator
@ 971-241-0534 or
ducky6670@gmail.com

Thanks to those for helping with the Spring Clean-up!



CAMP

Get Ready

Saturday, May 10, 2025
9 a.m. or any time!
Eagle River United Methodist Camp,
Mile 28

We invite you to come out to volunteer at ERUMC to spruce up the property. We have jobs for everyone, ranging from garden clean-up to building maintenance. Volunteers will be offered a coupon for 50% off cabin rental during non-peak months. Volunteers interested in camping out Friday or Saturday night for free, are encouraged to email and reserve your cabin.

Seeking volunteers to:

- clean and organize cabins
- garden spring cleaning and planting
- brush cutting and burning
- various other building maintenance and construction projects
- tree felling. Looking for anyone with a chainsaw and the skills to fell or chop up large trees

Saturday
May
10
9 am



Come meet our new Camp Managers, Kevin & Nicola Voss!

Make it a family event! We will gather in the lodge at 9 am, work for a few hours and lunch will be served around noon. You can keep working in the afternoon and even spend the night! This is a fantastic opportunity to help your community camp. Earn a coupon for a discount on a cabin. Donations designated "camp improvements" would be greatly appreciated and may be mailed to: Eagle River United Methodist Camp, PO Box 20272, Juneau, AK 99802. Please RSVP and direct all questions to manager@methodistcamp.org, <https://www.methodistcamp.org>

Celebration of Life for Bunti Reed



We'll be gathering on **Saturday, May 3rd from 4:30–6:30 PM** at the **Eagle River United Methodist Camp Lodge**—a place Bunti deeply loved. In her honor, we'll be serving a traditional camp dinner of pork roast, potatoes, salad, biscuits, and camp-style beverages—just the kind of meal she loved to cook and share.

There will be a short remembrance at 4:30 with stories, a song or two, and a prayer. Dinner and fellowship will begin around 5:00 PM. Guests are welcome to arrive as early as 4:00. Parking is available in the lot or along the road, with spaces near the lodge reserved for family and those with limited mobility.

If you plan to attend, please take a moment to **RSVP here:**
<https://forms.gle/VE2KenjFYFnjwYce8>

Please Feel free to share this message with anyone who knew and cared for Bunti.

We'd love to see you there.

Warmly,

Jake Carpenter & Crystal Merritt Family.

carpentermerrittfamily@gmail.com

If you'd like to make a donation to the camp in Bunti's memory, please mail a donation to: Eagle River United Methodist Camp, PO Box 20272, Juneau, AK 99802

Manager's Cabin Cleanup and Furniture!

We are excited to welcome Kevin & Nicola Voss as our new Camp Managers to Eagle River United Methodist Camp. They will be arriving on the ferry with their motorhome on Tuesday, May 6. The Camp Board is working hard to finish remodeling the Manager's Cabin.

We need volunteers to help with finishing some of the remodeling tasks. We also need folks who can tidy up the inside of the cabin.

And we need to find furniture to fill the cabin! Do you have furniture you can donate? Or know of someone who could donate some furniture?

We can use volunteers any days in May before they arrive. You can also come help at Camp Get Ready on May 10.

Can you help? Contact Jane Ginter at 907 209-8185 or ginteralaska@gmail.com.



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: Sasha Soboleff, Samuel Erwin
- *those who served as Greeters/ushers: Laura Doogan, Natalie Norberg, Jane Ginter, George Partlow
- *Those who provided flowers: Elizabeth Wheeler, Denise Carroll, Linda McCargar
- *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 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 Carol Barril
- 4 Marc Wheeler
- 5 Acey Wall
- 6 Jeremiah Blankenship
Ray Vidic
- 7 Jeffrey Hartman
Harley Scott
- 8 Elsie Westman
Ellie Wall
- 10 Judy Wygant
Nancy DeCherney
Canon Cryderman
- 12 Faith McClellan
- 15 Alan Akiyama
- 17 Anne Standerwick
- 23 Reggie Marvin
- 25 George Partlow
Kristi Peel
Talia Eames
- 28 Elouise Scott
- 29 Neilgháa Kogée Taija
Revels

MAY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 10:00 Weekend Food Bags 10:00 Finance Committee 11:00 Book Study 6:30 Chosen Watching	2 7:30 Men's Breakfast 2:30 Violin Lessons	3 8:00 Vets for Peace 10:00 Mendenhall Melodies Rehearsal
4 10:00 Worship 2:00 Juneau Jazz & Classics Concert 4:00 Bible Study 5:15 Youth Group	5	6 12:00 Al-Anon 2:30 Healing Task Force Reparations 2:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Violin Rehearsal	7 5:30 Chancel Choir	8 10:00 Weekend Food Bags 11:00 Book Study 5:30 Council 6:00 ERUMC Board Meeting 6:30 Chosen Watching	9 7:30 Men's Breakfast 2:30 Violin Lessons	10 10:00 Coming to the Table 5:00 Mendenhall Melodies Recital
11 10:00 Worship 4:00 Bible Study 5:15 Youth Group	12	13 12:00 Al-Anon 2:30 Violin Lessons Glory Hall Chili	14 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Bible Study	15 10:00 Weekend Food Bags 11:00 Book Study 5:00 Committee on Property Management 6:30 Chosen Watching	16 7:30 Men's Breakfast 2:30 Violin Lessons	17 10:00 Community of Christian Women brunch
18 10:00 Worship 1:00 Thrush Hill Music Recital & Reception 4:00 Bible Study 5:15 Youth Group	19	20 12:00 Al-Anon 2:30 Violin Lessons	21 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Worship Committee	22 10:00 Weekend Food Bags 11:00 Book Study 6:30 Chosen Watching	23 7:30 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Healing Task Force 2:30 Violin Lessons	24 10:00 Coming to the Table
25 10:00 Worship 4:00 Bible Study 5:15 Youth Group	26 Church office closed for Memorial Day	27 Newsletter Deadline 12:00 Al-Anon 2:30 Violin Lessons Glory Hall Spaghetti	28 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Bible Study	29 11:00 Book Study 6:30 Chosen Watching	30 7:30 Men's Breakfast 2:30 Violin Lessons	31