



# 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@khnLuc.org  
Christina's office hours  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Minus lunch hour

Rev. Dr. Charles Ensminger, Pastor  
pastor@khnLuc.org  
[khnLuc.org](http://khnLuc.org)  
(907)586-3131

## The Surprise of the Passion

Way back in 1989, Peter Gabriel released the album (and I do mean album – and it was also released on cassette tape and CD) Passion. I bought it immediately.

I bought it because it was Peter Gabriel. I knew nothing about what I was going to hear, but, to give you some idea, Peter Gabriel had just scorched the pop charts with “Sledgehammer” and “Big Time.” So, as this was the next album Gabriel released, I did have some expectations.

However, when I got to the car and put the tape in the player, I was genuinely shocked to hear the opening track, “The Feeling Begins.” It sounded nothing like “Sledgehammer.” In fact, it sounded like nothing I had heard before.

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### Special points of interest

- In Person and Online Study
- Funds Needed for Heat Pumps Installation
- NAMI Juneau and KHNLUc Suicide Prevention Classes
- Summer Lunch Coordinator needed
- Hurray! Building updates

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## Sermon Series

The season of Easter!  
With its central theme of the Resurrection of Christ, I will be asking us to consider how the resurrection continues to be a part of our faith and life.

4/5 Easter Sunday

4/12 Luke 24:1-35

The Resurrected Faith

4/19 Pastor Charles out of town

4/26 Ephesians 4:1-7

The Resurrected Life

5/3 Romans 5:1-4

The Resurrected Hope

## Holy Week Services

We will be celebrating Holy Week with Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services on April 2nd and 3rd. Both services will be at 5:30. Join us for these special services.

## The Surprise of the Passion continued

As it would turn out, it was the soundtrack for the movie *The Last Temptation of Christ*. Now, I am not going to go into the movie and all of its intricacies and controversies here. Instead, I want to simply share how stunned I was to hear an album by Peter Gabriel that had no lyrics. It was an instrumental album with vocalizations, drums, haunting sounds and rhythms that were beautiful, haunting, and sometimes quite jarring.

One reviewer from the *Chicago Tribune*, Chris Heim, wrote the following: “surprisingly accessible and successful instrumental album where ‘traditional percussion, string and wind instruments blend seamlessly with modern synthesizer to create a compelling work that suggests the mystery, agony and sublime release at the core of Christ's passion.’”

Not what I was expecting when I hit play.

Fast forward a bit.

Eventually, that cassette tape would wear out. I would purchase the CD and burn the CD to my computer. Of all the Peter Gabriel albums, I have listened to *Passion* the most.

Not because it is the soundtrack to a controversial movie, but because, as Heim wrote, it does suggest a connection to the idea of Christ and spirit and the love of Christ in a way that caught me off guard. It is still an album that evokes some kind of mystical connection; much the same way that a choir, an orchestra, or even a simple piano piece can do during worship.

I find that the music of that album continues to reach me in profound ways. I deliberately listen to it each Lent, especially during Holy Week, and have found that it still resonates with me.

More to the point, it keeps speaking in its sometimes odd, sometimes strange melodic voice. It evokes a stirring within me.

And that is precisely how we should think about the resurrection.

The resurrection is the pinnacle of the Christian faith. But it isn't something that should be set aside as a one-off or a particularly grand story for an upbeat worship service. It is a compelling narrative that provides a lens through which we gain insight into the story, life,

## The Surprise of the Passion continued

and teaching of Jesus. It is through the resurrection that we encounter a sharp contrast to the brutality of the crucifixion.

The Easter narrative is to be set apart, not what we expect, and the narrative through which we build and grow our faith. God has raised Jesus from the dead. That is the narrative that we keep telling because it keeps surprising us, keeps offering new meanings, new insight – even 2,000 years later.

It is not what was expected, but it is the work that overturns expectations and speaks to us of hope and love. And so, it becomes the “album” we play over and over. It still resonates, it still evokes.

The album ends with two tremendous, yet very different pieces: “It Is Accomplished” and “Bread and Wine.” The first is a triumphant and joyful piece. The last is a quiet, pastoral, gentle piece that is a beautiful reminder that, in the end, there is peace and hope offered to us, and that we have the honor and charge to “remember” Jesus Christ in communion and remember that in Christ, it is indeed accomplished. There is forgiveness, there is grace, and there is hope.

That is Good News we have to share. Thus, may the hope of Easter be the hope for the world. May we as a community of faith be ones to offer it again and again.

Christ, the hope for the world.

Peace.

Pastor Charles

### Wish to Join KHNLUC?

If you are interested in joining with our congregation, you are welcome to do so at any time by speaking with Pastor Charles.

We would also point out that the season of Lent has historically been the time when people would study the beliefs of the church and then join with the congregation to become part of the community of faith officially on Easter Sunday.

Therefore, if you would like to be a part of KHNLUC, we would like you to consider being baptized, transferring your membership, or joining the church by profession of faith on Easter Sunday (April 5th)!



### *Easter Sunday Fellowship*

*On Easter Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, please bring bread or eggs to share during a time of fellowship after the service. Fruit and cake will be provided to celebrate April birthdays.*

## Tissue boxes organized!

Have you noticed our tissue boxes getting all squished up? When we have a lot of people in our pews, especially during Mudrooms and concerts, our boxes get all out of shape!



Some folks serving on Committee on Property Management came up with a possible solution:



# Youth Service Learning Camp

**REGISTRATION**  
**APRIL 14-JUNE 14**

**What:** Youth across Alaska will serve & learn together about the area community.  
**Who:** Current 6th-12th Graders  
**When:** July 12-17  
**Where:** Homer UMC + Homer, AK  
**Cost:** \$150 + travel to Anchorage or Homer (Scholarships available)

## In Person and Online Study

We will conclude our study of Dietrich Bonhoeffer this month. We will be reading from his book “Discipleship,” so if you would like a copy of that (physical or via email), let Christina or Pastor Charles know. We will be meeting on Sunday, April 12th and 26th in person at 4:00 and on Wednesday, April 1st, 8th, and 15th at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

## Funds Needed for Heat Pumps Installation

The first phase of the heat pumps installation is complete and they are working well. We will be moving into Phase 2 for the sanctuary soon. The total project is estimated at \$217,040 for all 4 phases of installation which may extend beyond one year. Council set a goal to raise at least \$75,000 of the cost of the heat pumps, with the remainder paid from our General Fund Investment account. The total actual cost for Phase 1 was \$25,120. The Akiyama family has generously pledged \$37,500 as matching funds for this campaign. Please consider donating or pledging a dona-

tion to the fund for heat pumps this spring, if possible.

Sincerely,  
Margaret MacKinnon, Treasurer



The Social Justice & Service Committee met Thursday, March 19th. Along with the continuing activities to aid in feeding those in need of assistance and find solutions to Juneau's large population of individuals needing housing, the committee has concerns about the number of immigrants being held in detention camps around the country. The committee wants to make certain the congregation has read the letter concerning immigration written by the United Methodist Council of Bishops last December. The letter follows.



**Council of Bishops**  
The United Methodist Church



### **Pastoral Letter Addressing the Plight of Migrants, Immigrants and Refugees in the US Epiphany 2025**

Jesus said, "When you welcome the stranger, you welcome me...." Matthew 25:35

At no time has the church in the US had a greater opportunity to welcome Jesus among us as he journeys with migrants, immigrants, and refugees than today. We your bishops are clear that the situation these beloved of God face as the Trump Administration comes to power threatens their humanity, livelihood, and basic human rights.

For decades, a broken immigration system in the U.S. has kept migrants, immigrants and refugees in this country living in the shadows of society in a state of perpetual fear. They have come to the U.S. under forced circumstances fleeing extreme poverty, hunger, political and religious persecution, war, cartel and gang violence, and the severe impact of climate change. Some are actively recruited by large U.S. companies who need their labor. Yet migrants, immigrants and refugees help to sustain the U.S. economy, serve our families caring for our children and our elderly, cleaning our homes, landscaping our properties, building our roads and the houses we live in, and cultivating and picking the crops that feed our families. They are our neighbors, our friends, and members and pastors of our churches.

Deplorably, racist, xenophobic, nationalistic, and anti-migrant hate speech has become standard rhetoric for many US politicians, including President-elect Donald Trump. He has stated that under his administration he will order the mass deportation of the 11 million undocumented migrants who live and work in the U.S. He has threatened to use military and law enforcement at all levels for this mass deportation. If allowed, this mass deportation of migrants will cause further racial profiling, the separation of families, the undermining of communities and congregations, the weakening of the economy of this country and its democratic systems of law and justice. President-elect Trump has also threatened to end birth-right citizenship, dismantle Refugee resettlement in this country and further strip away the possibility of the U.S. welcoming Asylum Seekers onto this land.

We are living in a dark time that more than ever calls us to be the light of Christ, people of faith who take our baptismal vow to "resist evil in all its forms," with utmost seriousness.

As United Methodists we have firmly declared through our *Social Principles* that we are called to actively welcome the migrant, immigrant, and refugee among us.

- Affirming the dignity, worth and rights of migrants, immigrants and refugees.
- Recognizing that displaced people are particularly vulnerable as their in-between status often provides them with few protections and benefits, leaving them open to exploitation, violence and abuse.
- Urging one another to welcome migrants, refugees, and immigrants into our congregations, providing concrete support, to them including help with navigating

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restrictive and often lengthy immigration policies, and assistance with securing food, housing, education, employment and other kinds of support.

- Opposing all laws and policies that attempt to criminalize, dehumanize or punish displaced individuals and families based on their status as migrants, immigrants or refugees.
- Decrying attempts to detain displaced people and hold them in inhumane and unsanitary conditions.
- Challenging policies that call for the separation of families, especially parents and minor children.
- Opposing the existence of for-profit detention centers that are used for the purpose of detaining migrants, immigrants, and refugees including minor children.

*(Social Principles of The United Methodist Church, The Political Community Basic Rights and Freedoms, Section G. Migrants, Immigrants and Refugees)*

We your bishops call upon the people of The United Methodist Church to pray for migrants, immigrants, and refugees among us and to welcome them with the fullness of Christian love, remembering that as we welcome these, our brothers, and sisters, we welcome Jesus our Lord.

*Tracy S. Malone*

Bishop Tracy S. Malone  
President - Council of Bishops  
The United Methodist Church

Natalie Norberg, Karen Dillon, Carol Barril, Laura Doogan busy at work. Not pictured: Pastor Charles, Jane Ginter, the entire Galambush family: Tenor, Rachel, Jack, Walter, Charlotte and Andy. The four kids took all the pencils and envelopes out of the pews and replaced them with sharpened pencils and fresh envelopes. Be sure to thank them!

Thanks to a good group of workers who helped make the church shine in preparation for Easter!

We polished brass, cleaned pews, dusted the stairs in the entrance way, and washed windows.

We didn't get to power washing the sidewalks! We'll have another cleanup time when (and if!) the snow goes away. Come join us for some more clean up activities then!





**JUNEAU**

## PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT

*Are you Homeless? At risk of losing your housing?  
Couch Surfing? Living in your vehicle?*

Juneau Coalition on Housing and Homelessness and Tlingit & Haida's Community Advocacy Program have partnered to host an event to connect people to their community.

**April 7 | 9 AM - 2 PM**  
Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall  
320 W. Willoughby Ave | Juneau, AK

**SERVICES INCLUDE:**  
Housing Assistance } Haircuts } Clothing Drive  
Application Assistance } Education Information } Job Resources  
Medical & Wellness - Including Vaccinations & STI Testing

*Free Light Breakfast } Free Lunch & Refreshments*

**TLINGIT & HAIDA**  
 Juneau Coalition on Housing & Homelessness

**For more information, contact:**  
**Natasha Jackson, Community Advocacy Program**  
CAP@tlingitandhaida.gov  
907.463.7305

## NAMI Juneau and KHNLUC Suicide Prevention Classes

We are very excited to be able to host NAMI Juneau for three classes on Suicide Awareness and Prevention. The first will be on Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 and will focus on Suicide Prevention. The second will be on Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 and will focus on Suicide Postvention or how to deal with the aftermath of suicide. The third will be on

Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 and will focus on the place of faith in dealing with suicide. Dinner will be provided at each. All are welcome to attend!  
If you have any questions, please contact Margaret Katzeek, Suicide Prevention Program Manager NAMI Juneau at 907-463-4251 or [margaret@namijuneau.org](mailto:margaret@namijuneau.org).

## Summer Lunch Coordinator needed

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

KHNLUC will be providing a Summer Lunch program for children at Geneva Woods Housing Complex in Douglas, Monday through Friday, from June 1 through August 7, 2026 (tentative dates). 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 \$25 per hour, depending on experience, plus mileage reimbursement. Minimum requirements: 18 years of age, 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 food 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](mailto:office@khnLuc.org) or contact Deb Reifenstein [debreifenstein@gmail.com](mailto:debreifenstein@gmail.com) or Freda Westman [fmwestman@gmail.com](mailto:fmwestman@gmail.com) for additional information.

Help is needed at Resurrection Lutheran Church on Tuesdays. If you can assist with the food pantry, contact Jenifer at [Jenifer.shapland@gmail.com](mailto:Jenifer.shapland@gmail.com). We also provide a hot lunch on the first and third Tuesday of the month, contact Deb at [debreifenstein@gmail.com](mailto:debreifenstein@gmail.com) if you would like to assist with food prep or serving. We are helping RLC to provide a very needed service for hungry folks who live in town.

Come support two of our Youth Group members, Rachel and Katie Rosson, who play strings with this group. The Ruth and Louis Anderson Music Endowment from Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church has supported the Juneau String Ensemble.



Juneau String Ensembles Presents:

# Spring Strings

Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3pm at Chapel by the Lake

Performing JSE Ensembles:  
**Aurora Strings and Ursa Major**  
Music Director GuoHua Xia

and special guests:  
**Juneau Symphony's Prelude Orchestra**  
Music Director Franz Felkl

entry by donation at the door





## Hurray! Building updates

Our elevator is now working for those who require or would like to use it. The elevator shaft needed fortification and seems to be working well. We will need to install new light bulbs but the temporary LED lights make it safe and well-lit. The new light bulbs are on the way.

We want to thank Duff Mitchell for all the work and planning he did on the elevator project during his time on CPM and for volunteering to complete the project after his term ended. We also want to thank Mike Story, Greg Germain, Bruce Morley, Pastor Charles and anyone else that helped with transporting sandbags and weights to and from to complete the inspection process.

We will be looking at phase 2 of transformation to heat pumps in April when we will begin the Sanctuary and upstairs offices for air-source heat pumps. Thanks again to Duff for continuing to work on this project to completion.

Karen Dillon  
Natalie Norberg  
CPM Co-Chairs

## Housing Request

Rev. Lisa Talbott, the Greater Northwest Assistant to the Bishop, has sent out the following request:

Dear Juneau friends, Ashley Hanson, a member of Homer UMC, was accepted into the UAS school administration program in Juneau in July. She is hoping that with our United Methodist Connection, she'll be able to find housing for July 7-30. It's just her and her bicycle. She is an absolutely wonderful person - a well loved elementary school teacher, great mom, and cheerful volunteer. If you have any leads on someone with a guest room who might be willing to host her, please let me know!

Peace,

Lisa

If you or someone you know might be able to assist, please call Lisa at (907) 290-7345.

## Don't fall victim to FRAUD!

Have you received an email or text message similar to this?

Reaching Out With a Quick Question

From: **Charles Ensminger** <[pastoroffice.churchmail@gmail.com](mailto:pastoroffice.churchmail@gmail.com)>

Date: Sat, Mar 14, 2026 at 10:48 AM

Subject: Reaching Out With a Quick Question

Hello,

I hope you're doing well! I wanted to ask a question on a small matter if it's something you'd feel comfortable helping me with.

Warm regards!

Rev. Dr. Charles Ensminger

IS THIS SPAM?

YES!

ALL emails like this are SPAM. The easiest way to check is to look at the email address it is from.

<[pastoroffice.churchmail@gmail.com](mailto:pastoroffice.churchmail@gmail.com)>

If it's from Pastor Charles it will have his email:

[Pastor@khnLuc.org](mailto:Pastor@khnLuc.org)

Always ignore these emails and be sure to never buy a gift card!

PS I got 2 of these messages in the last 2 days



We welcomed back to church Nola Lamken who can join us again because of the repaired elevator! She served as liturgist after returning to church after attending on Zoom for the past year. Great to see you, Nola! And thanks to all who worked so long on getting the elevator repaired!

## 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: Sharon Denton, Patsy Wright, Nola Lamken, David Brabaw

\*those who served as Greeters/ushers: Laura Doogan, Nico & Susan Bus, Jane Ginter, Janet Kussart, Patsy Wright

\*Those who provided flowers: Sandra Baker (two weeks!), Elizabeth Wheeler, Jane Ginter, Nancy Jones

\*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 KHNLUC.

*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).*

## Sign Up!

You can be apart of what makes our worship together a good experience.

Our web site, <https://khnLuc.org/>, has a section to 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 even 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.



- 1 Joy Lyon
- Waylon Hills
- 2 Andi Story
- 4 Rachel Searls Jeans
- Madeline Germain
- 6 Sally Engstrom
- 7 Paul Beran
- Kimberly Homme
- TeLani See
- 8 Lucy Wall
- 9 Betsy Brenneman
- 10 Freda Westman
- John Cryderman
- 14 Linda Miller
- Duff Mitchell
- Cindy Ensminger
- 17 John Pivar
- 18 Barbara Searls
- Mana Gurung
- 19 Sharon Denton
- 20 Martha DeFreest
- 21 Katelyn Thomson
- 26 Dick Deems
- Ruth Scott

# APRIL 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 <b>10:00 Finance Committee via Zoom</b> <b>5:30 Chancel Choir</b> <b>7:00 Online Bible Study</b>	2 Maundy Thursday 5:00 Committee on Property Management	3 <b>Good Friday</b> 7:30 Men's Breakfast 2:30 Violin Lessons	4 8:00 Vets for Peace
5 <b>Easter Sunday</b> <b>10:00 Worship</b>	6	7 12:00 Al-Anon 2:30 Violin Lessons	8 <b>5:30 Chancel Choir</b> <b>7:00 Online Bible Study</b>	9 <b>5:30 Council</b>	10 7:30 Men's Breakfast 2:30 Violin Lessons	11
12 <b>10:00 Worship</b> <b>4:00 Bible Study</b> <b>5:15 Youth Group</b>	13	14 12:00 Al-Anon 2:30 Violin Lessons 5:30 Becoming an Outdoor Woman <b>Glory Hall Chili</b>	15 <b>5:30 Chancel Choir</b> <b>7:00 Online Bible Study</b>	16	17 7:30 Men's Breakfast 2:30 Violin Lessons	18
19 <b>10:00 Worship</b> <b>5:15 Youth Group</b>	20	21 12:00 Al-Anon 2:30 Violin Lessons 5:30 Suicide Prevention Session	22 <b>5:30 Chancel Choir</b>	23	24 7:30 Men's Breakfast <b>10:00 Healing Task Force</b> 2:30 Violin Lessons	25
26 <b>10:00 Worship</b> 2:00 Juneau Jazz & Classics Concert <b>4:00 Bible Study</b> <b>5:15 Youth Group</b>	27	28 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 2:30 Violin Lessons <b>Glory Hall Spaghetti</b> 6:00 Juneau Jazz & Classics Concert	29 <b>5:30 Chancel Choir</b>	30 5:30 Juneau Community Bands Rehearsal		