

River of Life Lutheran Church

Chugiak, Alaska

"Ripples" Monthly Newsletter June 2022

Our Purpose Statement:

*We are a community of faith called to - glorify God -
grow in faith and love, and - go into the world with the life-
changing message of Jesus Christ.*

[Visit our Website](#)

From the Pastor's Desk...

As we begin our summer, we do so with heavy hearts. As a nation we have been rocked by more mass shootings. At a supermarket in Buffalo, New York, 10 people were killed. At an elementary school in Uvaldi, Texas, 22 people lost their lives, including the gunman. In a church in Laguna Hills, California, a man shot and killed one person and wounded 5 others.

People gathered for worship, others grocery shopping and children and teachers going about their school day were all gunned down. So many hurting. So much grief. A phrase I keep hearing is "we are better than this." We are.

We are created in the image of God. We are loved unconditionally by God. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called and equipped to build a world that reflects the Kingdom of God. And yet, in this nation of abundance, there is inequality, racism, hunger, and incredible brokenness. What will it take for us to be the light we are called to be?

This summer let's focus on the living activity of God all around us: in our relationships, the creation, and the Bible. We will then be encouraged to find our own place in the ongoing story. Let us also remember that God continues to bring life into the world working in and through us.

Blessed to share the journey,
Pastor Bill Ottum

Sunday Worship Service

We worship at 11:00am
in the downstairs fellowship hall of
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
18444 Old Glenn Hwy., Chugiak, AK

*Drive around to the right side of the church and park in the lower parking lot.
Enter through the kitchen door! You're welcome to bring your own seat
cushion!*

Pastor Joe Alutius' Memorial Service Friday, June 10 – 7:00 pm

Pastor Bill Ottum to Officiate
Joy Lutheran Church, Eagle River

There will be a memorial service for Pastor Joe on Friday, June 10 at 7:00pm. All are welcome to attend. Please join Pastor Joe's family to share memories, fellowship and gratitude for such a wonderful man.

A reception will follow.
Please bring a plate of cookies to share.

[Click HERE to view Pastor Joe's obituary](#)

Construction Update

Building Construction Update

Timelines have been changing due to supply and shipping issues, so it's hard to predict when the building will be ready for occupancy. However, the Building Committee is actively pursuing the ordering of contents (chairs, tables, worship items, Bibles, etc.). Committee members are checking prices and availability for a long list of items, based on what was inventoried after the fire. The committee is

also trying to determine what items might be sought as donations from individuals, our community, and our Lutheran church community.

The building exterior is nearly completed. The interior has been sheet-rocked, and painted. The next phase will be installation of the furnace, electrical fixtures and lighting, cabinets and kitchen appliances, water heater and bathroom fixtures... as well as flooring.

What an exciting time to be a part of the River of Life – thanks be to God!

Summer Yard Sale Schedule

June 5 Set up tents

June 6-23 Drop off your donations

June 24-25 Sale Days (9:00am – 4:00pm)

(Fri & Sat)

Sunday Morning Adult Studies are on vacation for the summer and will resume in fall.

Thursday Morning Bible Study to Continue Through June

From 10am – noon Pastor Ottum leads a study of the Bible readings for the next Sunday worship.

Coffee and refreshments are served. The class is held upstairs at Our Redeemer in the room across from the Sanctuary. **Everyone is welcome!**

June Calendar

- **Thursday, June 2** - 10:00am - **Bible Study**
- **Sunday, June 5** - 11:00am - **Worship**
 - 12:00pm - **Set up tent for yard sale**
- **Thursday, June 9** - 10:00am - **Bible Study**
- **Friday, June 10** - 7:00pm - **Pastor Joe Alutius Memorial Service**
(Joy Lutheran Church, 10111 E. Eagle River Rd.)
- **Sunday, June 12** - 11:00am - **Worship**
- **Tuesday, June 14** - 6:30pm - **Church Council Meeting**
- **Thursday, June 16** - 10:00am - **Bible Study**
- **Sunday, June 19** - 11:00am - **Worship - Father's Day**
- **Thursday, June 23** - 10:00am - **Bible Study**
- **Friday, June 24** - 9:00am - 4:00pm - **Yard Sale Day**

- **Saturday, June 25** - 9:00am - 4:00pm - **Yard Sale Day**
- **Sunday, June 26** - 11:00am - **Worship**
- **Thursday, June 30** - 10:00am - **Bible Study**

Noisy Offering

This quarter's "Noisy Offering" goes to **Heart to Heart Pregnancy Resource Center** in Eagle River.

The *Noisy Offering* is the fourth Sunday of each month. Each quarter we collect for a different local community need.

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations

Our Congregation

We pray for the health and vitality of ROL's Ministry & Mission.

Family and Friends

We pray for continued healing, encouragement, and strength for: Elaine's friend **Eve** (cancer/chemo); Elaine's friend **Larry** (healing); Elaine's friend **Bob** (surgery and healing); Carol's husband **Scott** (thanks and healing from successful heart surgery); Padi's friend **Lorraine** (cancer treatment); **Liam** (Cindy's nephew); **Bob Reupke**; **Stewart Mee**; Joel & Padi's friend **Jack** (cancer); and, **Wayne Fredeen** (healing).

Prayer Partners

We pray for the health and vitality of the ministry of our other Knik Cluster congregations and their pastors: **Joy, Eagle River; Trinity, Palmer; Good Shepherd, Wasilla; Table of Grace, Bethel; and our June Prayer Partner church, Shishmaref Lutheran Church, Shishmaref, AK.**

Compassion for Others in Our Community

Dear Father in heaven, Creator of what is good, beautiful, and full of joy, so that all may work in harmony with you - we thank you for all the good that comes to us. May we be your children, joined together to serve you. May our life bring joy to others, and may we do good without ceasing through your great, strong love, which moves us, strengthens us, and helps us every day, however hard life may be. May your name be praised throughout the world. May your kingdom come and your will be done on earth as in heaven. Amen.

Thank you, God, for the body of believers who are called to serve you, who are proclaiming the Good News to all who will hear. From those who minister across the country to the men, women, and youth here at home, send us out to be a light in the dark. Send us out to speak life, to extend grace and mercy, to feed the hungry, to befriend the lonely, and to find the lost. Open the doors of this church and fill it with the broken, the angry, the hurting. Let them find forgiveness and comfort here in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Chugiak Eagle River Food Pantry

We accept food donations for the Chugiak Eagle River Food Pantry every Sunday. Please consider a donation of non-perishable food to benefit our local community. We will deliver our food offerings each month to the Food Pantry.

Thank you!

List of Needs for June:

- Household Cleaners: especially dish soap, laundry soap
- Personal Toiletries: hand/body soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes (especially multi-packages)
- Evaporated Milk

- Peanut Butter (16-18 oz.)
- Crackers: Saltines, ritz, etc.
- Plain Pasta: spaghetti, macaroni elbows, other shapes
- Tomato Paste, Tomato Sauce, Pasta Sauce (**NO diced tomatoes)
- Pasta/Rice Mixes: Hamburger Helper, Pasta Roni, Rice-a-Roni, Pasta Sides
- Refried Beans, Pork-n-Beans
- Soups: Cream of Mushroom, Cream of Chicken, Vegetable, Beef Stew, (**NO Chicken Noodle or Tomato Soup, please)
- Broth: Chicken, Beef, Vegetable
- Condiments: Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo, Relish, BBQ, etc.
- Beverages: Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate

June Birthdays

3 - Calvin Twohy
3 - Joel Wallace
5 - Landon Ottum
15 - Danny Fields

18 - Johnny Copenhaver
19 - Leona Durst
21 - Padi Wallace
22 - Hannah Budin
24 - Annie Field

June Anniversaries

13 - Steve & Leah Twohy
22 - Bill & Linda Ottum
30 - Matt & Elise Budin

2022 Church Council Members

President: Padi Wallace
Vice President: Dotty Eldred
Secretary: Mary Ann Hertzog
Treasurer: Bob Norton
Committee liaisons:

- Building – Terry
- Worship – Dotty
- Fellowship – Linda H.
- Outreach / Discipleship – Bob K.
- Mission – Church Council