

104 MCKINLEY ST. KENAI AK 99611

Please check daily for sermons, live discussions, prayers, scripture, bible studies, and all other information!

Website: kenaichristianchurch.org

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Prayer Requests:

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#JesusStrong
Caring-Connecting-Communicating

2024—All Eyes on Jesus

The Year 2024 A.D.

We kicked off the year with a message that sounded depressing, honestly, as we considered what COULD be in store for us in 2024. There seems to be a rising presence of evil in our world today that I haven't experienced in my lifetime. I can remember being in youth group when I was a teen and having discussions about the spiritual realm including angels, demons, and unclean spirits. These discussions were more about a world that seemed "out there" or impossible to see. I did believe that this spiritual world existed, but just didn't think much of it interacting with us in a tangible way. I always think of the Frank Peretti books This Present Darkness and Piercing the Darkness when I think of spiritual warfare and the unseen world. But, by my observation, the once hidden realm now seems to be more present and personified than ever. The lies, deceit, vulgarity, and obscene culture that is growing world-wide has brought what I once thought would be absurd or unthinkable to a place of normal and celebrated. This can begin to weigh heavy on us as believers as we watch the world in a downward spiral of celebrated sin and evil. So, what should we do?

All Eyes on Jesus

The writer of Hebrews said very clearly by the Holy Spirit, "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author and perfecter of our faith. For the joy set before Him, He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2). If you take this Scripture and apply it to our current world events, then we have so much hope, and even more so a mission as believers in Jesus. He reminds Christians to have all eyes on Jesus, no matter what the situation may be. When we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, there are things that we will not forget. First, we are reminded that our faith began and will be perfected by Jesus. This means when we feel weak in our faith or that the pressure of this world is getting to us, keep looking at Jesus as He will provide the faith to endure. Second, when we gaze intently at Jesus we see that He took His mission on with joy. Though His mission included teaching and performing miracles, it also included a terrible death and the wrath of God poured out on Him as He took onto Himself the sins of the world. Knowing that His mission would be excruciating (literally "of the cross"), He still engaged it with joy. We have a mission to fulfill that was commanded by Jesus. We are to be the light and salt of the earth while making other disciples who will follow Him. Of course, this is easier when there's not as much turmoil, but God placed us here on the earth in this location at this point in history for a reason. Knowing that, let's take on our mission with joy no matter how bad it may get. Finally, having completed His mission, He sat down at the right hand of God the Father. When our eyes are on Jesus, we will be reminded of what is in store for us one day as we persevere through this life: the eternal presence of God. There's no reward for us on earth that can begin to rival what Jesus is preparing for us when He returns. Our eternal reward of peace, love, the absence of sin, sickness, and death will be worth it. So, let us keep all our eyes on Jesus!

Looking to Him intently

-Adam

CELEBRATIONS

- ⇒ Winter Retreat was a BLAST this year! We had around 60 people (students and adults) at Winter Retreat. God was praised, and the students had a fun time giving Him that praise. It was a great time for us to connect with one another as we connect with God. We had an amazing crew of adult leaders who invested in our students. They worked hard to ensure that our students had a great time and took steps to be #JesusStrong. Solid Rock did an excellent job hosting us at their camp as well. Roy Meyer from Christian Church of Anchorage did a great job speaking to the students. We focused on Identifying who Jesus is and what our purpose is in Him. Thank you for your prayers and your investment in the Winter Retreat! Be sure to continue praying for this Next-Gen and that they IGNITE their walk with God.
- ⇒ Throughout the month of January, we went through a series called "Kingdom Workers." The purpose of this series was to encourage students to follow the great commission and be workers of God's Kingdom, not their own. To wrap up the series, we gave students the opportunity to grab a Kingdom Card. These cards are different challenges intended to push students to trust in God as they work for His Kingdom. While these cards are optional for students, we had a good amount of students grab a card! God is stirring the hearts of our students! It's exciting to see them be excited to serve God and His Kingdom. Let's pray that these students stick to their challenges and be Kingdom Workers.

UPCOMING STUFF

⇒ In the Month of February, we'll be going through a series called "In the Storm." It's a series that's focused on trusting in God in times of hardship. February is a tough month for a lot of people as the winter blues are heightened. This is going to be a great series for your kiddos to be a part of as we discuss how to trust in Jesus during challenging times.







A letter from ABC Life Choices

A huge thank you to all who participated and/or prayed for the "Offering of Christmas Hope" collection for ABC Life Choices in December 2023. We as a church went above and beyond! ABC was in shock when we had to make a second trip to the church to the rest of the gifts. So thank you again for your giving hearts! ABC recently celebrated 40 years of Service to our community. What a labor of love throughout the years, so many lives that have been changed and lives that have come into existence, that may not of because of the amazing people over there that have Christ centered hearts. The Annual Pie Auction, that has been their largest fund raiser for so many years, was once again a huge success in November. Thank you to all who donated pies, auction items and/or your time. There were so many pies of so many varieties. It was amazing to watch our community bid on these pies as if they were lined with gold. If anyone would like to know more about how to get involved with the Pie Auction for 2024 or ABC Life Choices in general, don't hesitate to reach out to them at their office in Kenai. They are always thrilled to get more volunteers to help with the events throughout the year. Plan to join in on the 5K Run/Walk on Saturday June 22nd at Soldotna Bible Chapel, more info to come. It is always a great time and a great fundraiser.





February

2.07

Helpers Training

Must pre-register (5:15pm-6:15pm)



216

Women's Kickoff Party

"Welcome to the SheShed" (KCC @ 6pm)



2.22

Men's Leadership (5-9pm)

2.23-2.24

Men's Retreat



Services

Sunday
Adult Bible Study: 10:00am

Worship: 11:00am
Classes available for ages infant to 5th grade.

Wednesday

#JesusStrongKids <u>Grades 1st-5th</u>:
6:30pm-7:30pm

#JesusStrongYouth <u>Grades 6th-12th</u>:
6:30pm-8pm

Online

Sunday Live and Online Services: 11:00am Thursday Live Mid-Day Prayer: (Noon)



Condolences to Debbie Adamson Her sister Julie passed away on 1-6-2024

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"Welcome to the SheShed"

Join us for an evening of playing in the dirt and our unique flower bar.

Cost is \$15 and includes dinner, dirt and drinks



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