

# CLEAR WATER

April 2019 Newsletter

## Praise the Lord - By Sabrina Merriner, Worship Director



"Praise the Lord!" was the standard greeting amongst believers in India. What a contrast to their circumstances of poverty, crowding, dust, and persecution. Most of the seminary and Bible college students are from Hindu backgrounds and some are the only Christians in their families. Their lives are constantly filled with praise and thanksgiving to God despite their circumstances. Thus, I am moved to do more praising throughout my day.

Mike and I had the privilege of serving Reaching Indians Ministries International at Bible school graduations, pastor/leadership conferences, and churches in three locations: Nagpur, Bihar and Jharkhand. The Lord is doing a great work in India. I'm encouraged to pray more fervently for our brothers and sisters in Christ there and inspired to ask and expect big things of God here.

Praise the Lord! - Sabrina  
[cwcmerriner@gmail.com](mailto:cwcmerriner@gmail.com)

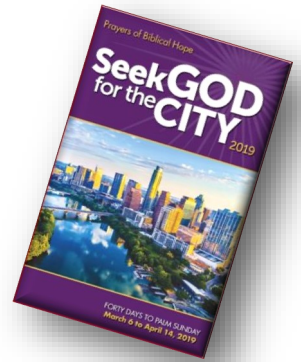


## AROUND THE BEND

### Praying with Purpose During Lent - March 6 - April 13

During this Lenten season we are unifying our daily prayers with the 2019 *Seek God for the City* booklet. If you did not get a copy at church, you can download the App for 99 cents on your Apple, Android or Kindle devices. Visit <https://waymakers.org/pray/seek-god/app/>.

A Children's Companion Guide is also available via the link above.



### Good Friday Service - Friday, April 19, 7:00 pm East High School, 4025 E Northern Lights Blvd 99508

Clear Water Church will be joining several other Anchorage churches to celebrate Good Friday. Mike Merriner will have a part in the celebration. Join us in this special celebration.

### Women's Easter Cookie Decorating Class Saturday, April 20, 6:30-8pm 12100 Coffee & Communitas, Ptarmigan Room, 12100 Old Seward Hwy

Ardy Robertson is hosting this event for women in our church. Ladies will decorate 10 Easter cookies. The class will include all supplies -- cookies, frosting, sprinkles, instructions and some snacks. The cost is \$20 per person. Limited to 16 people ages 12 and up. **Only 4 spaces left.** Please register with Ardy by calling or texting 907.360.2944.



### Easter Service - Sunday, April 21 10am at Wendler Middle School

Death could not hold him! Rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ!

### Women's Get-Away - Friday-Saturday, April 26-27 6:00pm to 2:00pm at Gordon's Cabin on Kenai Lake

Great time for women to meet and fellowship. There will be activities, games, encouragement, a devotion and just some fun time. Register early (space is limited to 15) and let us know where you can help (food preparation, devotion, transportation, activities, etc.) The cost is \$20. Sign up at church or register online at [www.clearwater.church/events](http://www.clearwater.church/events). Bring your sleeping bag and mattress, 1 gallon of water, and snacks to share. For more information contact Ella Embree at [ellaembree@gmail.com](mailto:ellaembree@gmail.com) or 907-795-6604. **Only 5 spaces left!**





**Welcome Lunch, Sunday - April 28, 12:00-1:30 pm  
At Greg & Jill Moody's home**

This is a great opportunity to sit down to a lunch and visit with other new people to Clear Water Church and the pastors. Ask questions about Clear Water Church and get to know us! We want to put a face and a name together. If you're able, please RSVP with either James Embree, 907-315-3803 or Mike Merriner, 907-727-1382 so we can plan for the food. However, RSVP is not necessary. Please just come!



**Calling all High School and College Graduates**

If you are graduating from high school or college this spring, please let us know. We would like to honor you on May 9th or 12th. We will need the following:

- Photo
- School Name
- Degree (if applicable)
- Future Plan (if known)

Send this information to Louise Witt at [cwcoffice13@gmail.com](mailto:cwcoffice13@gmail.com) by **April 28th**.



**Stewards of Children Training - Tuesday, May 7  
5:30 pm to 8:00 pm  
First Congregational Church**

If you are currently serving, or would like to serve on, the Children's Ministry team please attend this valuable training. Sierra Gregg with Starr will be presenting the Darkness to Light Stewards of Children training. This is a prevention training program that teaches adults how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. We'll close the training with a few minutes of Clear Water Church specific reminders by Amy.

The training will be held on Tuesday, May 7th, from 5:30-7:30/8:00 at First Congregational Church, in their Mead hall which located downstairs. Pizza and drinks will be served, and childcare will be available for Children 5 and under. Please try to attend, let's work together to ensure our kid's safety and care.

**RSVP for dinner and childcare purposes by Wednesday May 1<sup>st</sup>**, by contacting Amy Martin at: 907-830-5711 (call or text), or email at [martinbymail@yahoo.com](mailto:martinbymail@yahoo.com).

**Paid Child Care Opportunity:**

Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30-8:00 at First Congregational Church. Must be 16 or older. Contact Amy Martin at 907-830-5711, or email at [martinbymail@yahoo.com](mailto:martinbymail@yahoo.com).



**May 9 or 12 - Honoring Our Graduates**  
**May 19 - Membership Class @ Wendler Middle School**  
**May 24-27 - Church Camp Out @ Eklutna Lake State Park**

### Fellowship Meals are Going Green

We are asking our congregation to bring in for old silverware - forks, knives, spoons. They will be used for our church meals. We need about 120 sets. There will be a grey tub in the back on the stage during service to place your contribution. If it fits for you, Tuesdays at Value Village is Senior discount day. Contact is Steve Gordon at 907-441-4572.



### Softball Season

Coed teams are forming up for this year's softball season. For a team to play, we must have women. Contact Nelson Vasquez at 907-202-6846 or Greg Balcao at 907-310-7026. Be sure when you leave a message that you include your name, phone number and email address. Go Clear Water!!!



### Job Opening: Children's Admin. Assistant

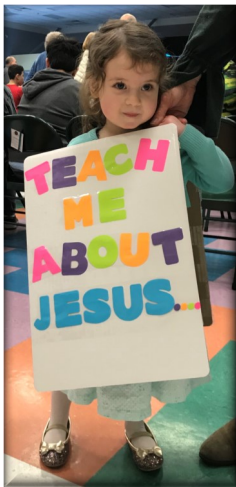
- \$15 per hour for 10 hours per week
- Support Amy Martin, our Children's Director, with lesson preparation, and also be the boots on the ground leader one service per week (either Thursday night or Sunday morning).
- Position starts sometime in May.

Contact Amy Martin at 907-830-5711 or [martinbymail@yahoo.com](mailto:martinbymail@yahoo.com)

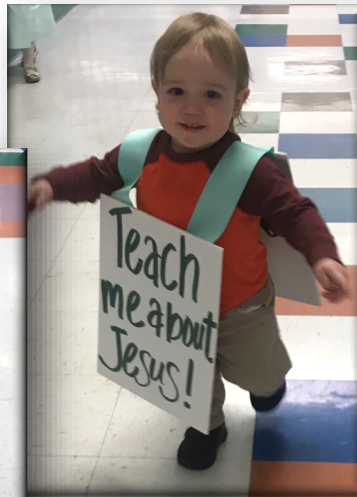
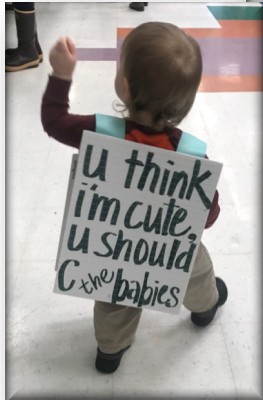
## RECENT MINISTRY REPORT

### Our Children are Looking for Help - "a picture can say a lot."

Try "First Serve" to see if working with children is for you. No obligation, Just try it. Contact Amy Martin at 907-830-5711 or [martinbymail@yahoo.com](mailto:martinbymail@yahoo.com).



Natalie Skinner



Levi Skinner



Ellen & Elizabeth Whitson

### Men's Get-Away, March 29 - 30 at Hatcher's Pass

We had 7 brave men who spent the night in the wilderness. What great adventure and fellowship. Thank you, Steve Gordon for organizing this trip. Brrr... it looks COLD!



Greg Balcao, Jeff Wood, Nick Hruby



Matt Gutacker





# YOUTH GROUP

## Clear Water Youth Group - Robert Regalado, reporter

At the Clear Water Church youth group, we do many activities with other teens. The leaders of this group are: Sandy Vasquez, Narda Butler, Tracie Berkland, Tim Allen, and Greg Balcao, Melody Sarian, and Kevin Zuck also help lead. We meet every Wednesday at either Sandy Vasquez's or Narda Butler's house. If you need a ride you can contact any of the leaders. They will do as much as possible to make it happen.

When we first arrive to youth group, the first thing we do is talk with each other and make jokes while eating delicious food. Then, we do fun activities that the leaders come up with. For example, last week, we played Telephone Pictionary, which is a game where you get pieces of paper and number them 1 to as many people there are in the game and put them in order. Then, write a random word or sentence that you come up with, and then pass it to the person to your left. That person to your left draws what they think you are saying as well as they can. The next person to the left says in a sentence what he/she thinks the person before him/her drew. That person hands it to the left and the process repeats over, and over again, until it gets back to you. Then, you compare your original word or sentence to what the papers show. That is only one of the many fun games we play.

After the main activities are over at about 7:45 or sometimes 8:00. One of the leaders asks a question about things that are happening these days that is common between all of us and the world. That might be good or bad. Next, we try answering the questions and discuss the answers. After we are done discussing, the leader reads a passage in the Bible. We then discuss

what we think it means. The fun thing is there is often no right or wrong answer. However, every answer is partially, or sometimes entirely, correct. To conclude the discussion, the leader says what the Bible is saying in more common words, so we can understand better. To reinforce our learning, we do an exercise about the topic. After this, we have a little bit of time to talk with each other before everyone goes home.

Youth group is a fun place to learn and make friendships. We have a say in what topics we discuss and games we play. I hope more youth come check it out.

Our next meeting is April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Vasquez's, 3315 Patterson St.



## MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE

Congratulations to our **March Memory Verse Challenge winners!**

Leah Meyring, Jade Sheffrey, Ella Embree, Coltan Merriner

*April's Memory Verse is [Roman 8:11](#)*



### **The BIGGER Memory Verse Challenge**

The rules are: Enter the monthly Memory Verse Challenge at least six different months from September through April 2019. You must truly know at least six of the monthly verses and enter your name each of those months. Whether or not your name gets drawn for the monthly prize, you will be entered in the grand prize drawing.

What are the grand prizes? For those 13 and over, the prize is a \$500 Alaska Airlines voucher. For those 12 and under, the prize is an iPad and Amazon gift card. The grand prize drawing will be showcased via Facebook video in early May.



Journey Groups are the best way to connect with others and grow together spiritually. Most Journey Groups meet weekly in homes and are focused on a Bible study or a discussion of the current sermon series.

Many groups have started up this month. Click [here](#) for a list of Journey Groups and leaders.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

[www.clearwater.church](http://www.clearwater.church)

[Facebook.com/clearwaterchurchak](https://Facebook.com/clearwaterchurchak)

Follow us on [Instagram](#)

Get the Clear Water Church App for Apple and Android devices. Search for “**clear water church ak**” in the Apple and Google store. It’s free. Have easy access to sermons, the memory verse, online giving, church events, the Bible, a daily Bible reading plan and more.

**Give Us Your Feedback** - What do you think about Currents, Clear Water Church’s newsletter? What would you like added? Click [here](#) and let us know. We welcome your input.

**The due date for submissions to the next edition of Currents is April 28th.**

Send articles and photos to [cwcoffice13@gmail.com](mailto:cwcoffice13@gmail.com)