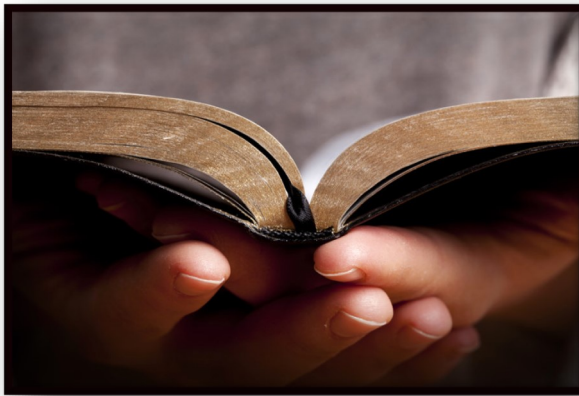


# CLEAR WATER

January 2019 Newsletter



## Read the Entire Bible in 2019



As Christians we believe that the Bible is the very word of God. In the Bible, God has revealed himself to us so that we can know and trust him more. The Bible is very important to our faith, but most of us don't read the Bible as much as we feel like we should. One way to increase our Bible reading is to use a structured reading plan that lays out for us how much to read each day. There are a lot of plans like this available to us. But as we

enter the new year, it is a great time to consider one of the "through the Bible in a year" plans. You will read through the entire Bible in 2019 in about 12-15 minutes per day by using one of these plans.

Reading plans are one of the YouVersion Bible App's best features. You can even choose a plan that has arranged the Bible in chronological order so that you can see how the various stories fit together and how the writings of the prophets fit into the historical books.

Of course, you can also get these same kinds of reading plans in print. You can either get one that simply lists the references to read each day, or you can get a "One Year Bible" that is printed in daily readings. There are also five-day per week plans that ask you to read a little more each day but also allow you to miss days each week. On the Bible App you can also choose a plan to read through just the New Testament. This could be a great option if reading the whole Bible seems like it might be too much.

Whichever option you choose, make 2019 a year in which reading the Bible more becomes part of your life.

*- Pastor James*

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, events, Bible, a daily Bible reading plan and more.

## AROUND THE BEND



**Explore Christianity** - Sunday nights, January 6-27, 6-8pm @ Mike and Sabrina Merriner's home, 2027 Duke Drive.

These casual evenings of hot soup and open discussion will help you think through the meaning and implications of a relationship with Jesus. This is a great place to bring a friend who has questions about Christianity.

RSVP to Sabrina (310-2130)

**YOUTH  
GROUP**

### CLEAR WATER CHURCH

#### YOUTH GROUP SPRING 2019 SCHEDULE

JAN	2	9	16	23	30
FEB	6	13	20	27	
MARCH	6	13	20	27	
APRIL	3	10	17	24	
MAY	1	8	15 Family Picnic		

No group Fun Night

**TIME:** 6:30-8:30

#### CONTACTS

Narda Butler: 907-250-6987

Sandy Vasquez: 415-609-2259

Greg Balcao: 907-310-7026

Tim Allen: 907-306-8965

Tracie Berkland: 907-202-4005

Melody Sarian: 310-625-3181

Kevin Zuck: 907-201-3655

Butler's 10501 Schuss Dr.

Vasquez's 3315 Patterson St.



**Perspectives™**

### **Made for More** - Use What's in You to Bless the World Around You.

Perspectives on the World Christian Movement is a 15-week course designed to be a catalyst for

Christian engagement in God's heart for the nations. Biblical, Historical, Cultural, and Strategic Perspectives are explored by the class instructors whose wealth of experience provide a glimpse into how God works in our world and by a comprehensive reader filled with captivating articles. Students should expect their lives to be ruined for the ordinary!

**WHEN:** Monday Nights from 6pm-9pm  
January 14 - May 6, 2019

**WHERE:** Radiant Church, 3102 Boniface Pkwy, Anchorage 99504

**WHO:** Contact Coordinator Caleb Wright 907-952-9070 or  
[perspectivesanchorage@gmail.com](mailto:perspectivesanchorage@gmail.com)

**COST:** Talk with Mike or Sabrina Merriner

# YOUNG adults

**Young Adult Social** will resume January 24 following Thursday Night Service at the Merriner's home, 2027 Duke Dr.



**Welcome Lunch** - January 27, 12- 1:30pm, 2069 Duke Drive.

Hosted by Greg & Jill Moody. You are invited to come and meet the pastors in a small, informal setting. Learn what Clear Water Church is about and ask questions.

*Upcoming  
Events:*

**February 7 & 10** - Fellowship Meal

**February 8-9** - If Table Women's Conference [REGISTER](#)

**February 15-17** - Men's Retreat @ Victory Bible Camp  
[REGISTER](#)

## RECENT MINISTRY REPORT

The 7.0 earthquake of November 30 did not dampen Clear Water Church activities. Even though Wendler Middle School was closed from December 1-10 while it went through structural inspection, we met at Radiant Church. A BIG thank you to Radiant Church for opening their doors to Clear Water Church on Thursday nights and Sunday afternoons. We appreciated the generosity of Radiant Church greatly.

## **Vintage Holiday Market - Dec 1-2**



*James after setting up.*

Clear Water Church was at the Vintage Market in Palmer to reach out to the thousands who visited in spite of the earthquake. We gave out over 800 cups of hot cider along with 400 Christmas Eve invitations.

Thank you to Ali Gutacker, Mark & Jamie Johnson, Greg, Jill & Jillian Moody, Mike, Aubrey & Morgan Merriner, and Hana Paulston for being greeters. (The Vintage Market is sponsored every year by Alaska Chicks.)





## Men's Bonfire Breakfast - Dec 8



Nine men came out to enjoy a hot breakfast outdoors around a crackling fire provided by one of our in-house chefs, Steve Gordon.

## Fellowship Meal - Dec 9 & Dec 13



In December we held two fellowship meals at Radiant Church. Steve Gordon provided the main dish of chicken dijon and everyone else brought salads, side dishes, and desserts. Great turn out and a wonderful time connecting with one another.



## AWAIC (Abused Women's Aid in Crisis) - Dec 15

One of our journey groups had the honor to minister to the ladies and children of AWAIC. They shared the love of Jesus through a Christmas party, food, Christmas bingo with gift cards, crafts, Bible story, and fellowship. Clear Water provided each woman a gift bag and toys for the kids. The participants and staff were thankful and loved the experience. Please pray for continued impact from this outreach.



*Joanna Manwiller sharing a flannel board story.*



*Siri & Issac Owen, Brian & Kristin Whitson, Joanna Manwiller and LeAnn & Doug Ketterer*



*LeAnn & Doug Ketterer calling out Christmas bingo.*

## Puppet Show “The Nativity through the Eyes of Donkey” - Dec 16

The Children’s Ministry presented a Christmas puppet show for the children with the artistic help of Daniel Crumpacker, Kristie Gavitt, Jon DeHart, Ella Embree, Steve Gordon, Matt and Ali Gutacker, Justin & Leah Meying, Jessica & Daniel Vetch, and Jeff Wood.



## Wendler Christmas Gifts

Clear Water Church, in our 5th year, provided 15 Wendler families with Christmas gifts. Thank you to Ali Gutacker for leading this event and to Aubrey and Andrea for helping organized the gifts. A BIG thank you to all who provided gifts and cards.





*The Tree Before.....*



*Kevin Glyn lifting the star up.*



*The Tree after with carollers.*

## Solstice Tree Tour - Dec 16



Another first - we decorated a tree (a very large tree) at Kincaid Park for the Winter Solstice Tree Tour. There were over 4000 visitors. We stood out with our carollers who were dressed up in Dickens costumes and gave out Christmas Eve invitations and 800 cups of hot cider.

Thank you to the decorators, carollers, hot cider chefs and servers:

Greg Balaco, Tobin Dashin, Ella Embree, Hannah Embree, James Embree, Max Embree, Kevin Glyn, Karen & Steve Gordon, Matt Gutacker,

Aubrey Merriner, Morgan Merriner, Mike & Sabrina Merriner, Luke Merriner, Greg & Jill Moody, Jillian Moody, Kelan Moody, Madison Moody, Katie Nash, Hannah Paulston, Melody Sarian, Jessica Vetch, Brian Whitson, Everett Whitson, and Jeff Wood. (The Solstice Tree Tour is sponsored by Nordic Skiing Association of Anchorage.)



*Max & Hannah Embree*



*Kelan & Greg Moody with Mike Merriner stirring the water for cider.*



*Karen & Steve Gordon*



## Christmas Eve Service - December 24

Over 250 people came out to celebrate Christmas Eve with us. There was a Jazz ensemble playing holiday music, socializing, sherbet punch and cookies, a cute skit "What Kind of Gift Giver is God" put on by Jessica Vetsch, Hannah Embree, and Bronwyn Embree, Mike and Sabrina did a reading, there were 3 photo booths, and holiday singing with our worship band and choir. It was a festive time, even Santa Claus showed up. Thank you to all of the many people who helped to make this celebration special.



Tara Wood & Hannah Embree



Ardy & Chip Robertson



Greg Moody & Becky Butler



## More Christmas Eve Photos



Jessica Vetsch, Bronwyn Embree, and Hannah Embree



Siri & Aurora Owen



Guess who?



Katie Gibson & Christian



The Mike & Amy Martin Family

Thank you Joy Merriner for taking the Christmas Eve photos..



## Pancake Breakfast - Dec 30

Thanks to Brian & Kristin Whitson along with help from Victoria Busig who made a wonderful pancake breakfast to kick off the New Year. Yummy pancakes, fruit, eggs, sausage. Yum, Yum.



## TESTIMONY



Excerpt from DeeDee Aaronson's story-

I once thought that if I worked hard, obeyed, and gave up enough, God would love me. But after years of pain and sorrow, I angrily shook my fist at God and told Him He wasn't safe and He wasn't good or trustworthy. Then a voice from behind me said, "I've been waiting for you tell me the truth." I spun around thinking it was someone, but no one was there. I knew then that it was a manifestation of God. I didn't see Him, but His presence overwhelmed me, and I also knew right then I deserved to die. So, I lay face down waiting for God to take my life!

But instead, it seemed like He scooped me up in his arms like a dad would pick his child and he held me close and told me he loved me and I was worth loving. God knew how deeply hurt and wounded I was. I had lain on the floor about four hours when God's presence left me. I stood up and was in love with who saved me, no longer angry at God but overwhelmed with His presence and love.

I changed from being religious and believing good behavior brought me close to God to resting in being a child of God. ~ December 23, 2018

*I no longer call you a slave but call you friend, because what the Father has made known to me, I have made known to you. (John 15:15)*

## CONGRAULATIONS

To Levi and Beth Anne Wilder for the birth of Macklan on December 31st.



## JOURNEY GROUPS



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

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

Prayer group meeting Wednesday mornings, 8am, 2027 Duke Drive. Contact Katie Nash for details at 310-4117.

Two new Healing Journey groups will kick off in March. Stay tuned for details.

## MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE

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

Max Embree, Everett Whitson, Ella Embree, Raynel Regalado

January's Memory Verse is [2 Corinthians 5:17-18 \(NIV\)](#)



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

The rules are: Enter the monthly Memory Verse Challenge at least 6 different months September through April 2019. You must truly know at least 6 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, a \$500 Alaska airlines voucher. For those 12 and under, an iPad and Amazon gift card. The grand prize drawing will be showcased via Facebook video in early May.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

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

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

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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, events, 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.

**Due date for next edition of Currents is January 27.**

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