

May 2018

Currents

A PUBLICATION OF EAGLE RIVER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Pulling Out All the Stops”

Free Organ Concert

*Sacred music from past and present Christian composers
Performed by our accomplished Organist, Michael S. Wright.*

When: May 17, 2018 at 7:00pm

Please come and enjoy the beautiful music with cookies and punch to follow.

****We are looking for some delicious home-baked cookies to provide at the event. Please let the office or Evie Gibson Know if you can help.**



Music Appreciation Sunday!

*The Choir will be performing 5 of
their favorite Anthems and Introits,
including some special solos.*

Mother's Day Brunch!

Sunday, May 13 at 12pm

Calling all “Men of ERPC”

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for dishes to bring. If your specialty lies elsewhere please see Dean Davidson to coordinate.

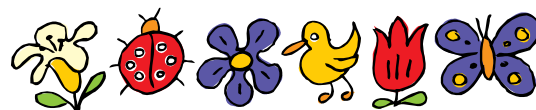


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VISIT US ONLINE **ERPRESBYTERIAN.ORG**

MAY 2018





Dear Friends,

Yay for spring! The snow is gone, the trees will soon be showing green, and the trustees are making plans for expanding our garden beds and working out schedules for taking care of the church lawns. May is always a busy month! On Mother's Day we will give the third graders their Bibles and the high school seniors their gifts and celebrate moms with our annual Mother's Day Brunch. May 17th is a special day: we will have an organ concert for the community. Mike is going to pull out all the stops so we can all hear and see what our organ can do. On May 20th the choir will share their favorite anthems of the year, singing at both services so we can all share their gift of music. Memorial Day weekend sees the beginning of our summer worship schedule of one service at 10 am, and both the choir and Sunday school will take the summer off. We will also say good-bye to our organist and choir director since they are leaving the state. Patti's last Sunday is May 20th and Mike's is June 3rd. I am so sad that they are leaving; at the same time, I trust God's will for them and for us that God will provide for their future and for ours.

As the church schedule slows down, many of us take time to do the same thing. We camp and fish and hike and plant flowers and vegetables and sit in the sun as we enjoy God's creation in the beauty of Alaska. As you are all spending time in the splendor of God's world, I encourage you to also spend time in prayer and the splendor of God's Word. Frederick Buechner, in his little book *Wishful Thinking – A Seeker's ABC*, says that according to Jesus the most important thing about prayer is to keep at it and trust that God is listening. Keep praying and keep listening!

To help with your prayer and study we have put together a Bible reading and prayer plan that can help you organize your daily and monthly reading and prayer. We'll have copies available on the table at the back of the sanctuary and we will also email it to anyone who wishes. Please let us know if this little guide is helpful!

I will be in prayer for all of us that this summer will prove to bear fruit in our lives as we slow down a little and as God's Spirit draws us closer to him and each other through these disciplines of prayer and Scripture reading.

Happy spring, everyone!

In Christ's love,

Piper



<i>Joseph Musick</i>	<i>May 6</i>
<i>Megan Gobeille</i>	<i>May 6</i>
<i>Tim Cook</i>	<i>May 8</i>
<i>Wayne Armstrong</i>	<i>May 8</i>
<i>Jerry Brossia</i>	<i>May 9</i>
<i>Judy Anderson</i>	<i>May 10</i>
<i>Don Tybus</i>	<i>May 12</i>
<i>Connor Cartland</i>	<i>May 14</i>
<i>Jessica Walters</i>	<i>May 18</i>
<i>Jon Duft</i>	<i>May 18</i>
<i>Emily Berry</i>	<i>May 19</i>
<i>Rhiannon Cottle</i>	<i>May 21</i>
<i>Kelsey Gerke</i>	<i>May 29</i>
<i>Diane Walters</i>	<i>May 29</i>



<i>Chris and Jean Woodard</i>	<i>May 3</i>
<i>Dave and Sandra Charlton</i>	<i>May 8</i>
<i>Chad and Sarah Preiss</i>	<i>May 10</i>
<i>Scott Bailey and Kristine Hutchin</i>	<i>May 21</i>
<i>Brian and Taya Peterson</i>	<i>May 31</i>

Church Staffing Needs - Interim Office Secretary

Allison Denton will be on maternity leave between mid-June and early August. We are looking for an individual who can work during this time frame. Office hours are between Monday-Friday, 9am-1pm 16-20/week. Please see the complete job description on the bulletin board if you or someone you know may be interested.

Please e-mail your resume to Debbie Ossiander at ossiander@hotmail.com

Summer Schedule

Beginning May 27, we start our Summer Schedule with one Service at 10:00am

MAY 2018



Pentecost Sunday is May 20th. Wear RED to celebrate the fire of the Holy Spirit!

From the Organist



Somebody said to me the other day, "I can't believe it is May already!" I had to agree. Where did the time go? Time flies when you are having fun.

This May is a very unique month to be a church organist. This month, the church celebrates ascension, Mother's Day, Pentecost, Memorial Day, Music Appreciation Day as well as hosting an organ concert open to the city. There is such a broad spectrum of music being played this month from the bombastic and triumphant ascension tunes of *Crown Him with Many Crowns* to patriotic march style hymns like *Battle Hymn* for Memorial Day.

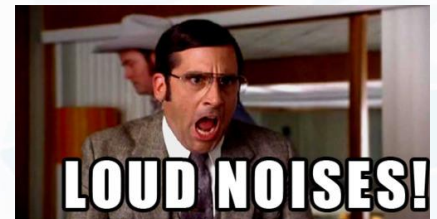
I wanted to speak briefly about the organ concert on the 17th of May. I am really excited about the opportunity to perform for not just the church but the city of Anchorage as well. A huge thank you to everyone who has had a hand in making this concert happen and a special thanks to Allison and Debbie who have helped promote the concert through both the social and local media. I will apologize in advance to those who assist in preparing the sanctuary for the concert. Both the organ and the piano are very heavy pieces of equipment and require multiple hands to move but your help is also much appreciated.

For the concert, I have chosen a list of sacred songs and medleys that are both entertaining and appropriate for the setting as well as some Broadway show tunes that express the organ in a way different from how it is heard on Sundays. In preparing for this concert I literally beat my head against the wall coming up with a set list that I felt best expressed the console here because as an organist, you are expressing the instrument rather than

the instrumentalist. What works tone wise for one organ may not work for another. All organs are voiced and expressed differently. An 8-foot Gedackt stop on the Casavant pipe organ at First Presbyterian Downtown has a completely different shape, body and tone than the organ here and vice versa. That is what makes being an organist so much fun. Understanding and manipulating a console's strengths and weaknesses is a great challenge.

Again, I just wanted to say thank you to everyone at the church who have given me the opportunity to play the organ and for the purchasing of the new organ. A big thank you also goes to Dale Berry for pushing me to do the organ concert.

God Bless,
Mike Wright



The Garden Plans

We are getting ready to start gardening. The vegetables that are produced from our garden are all donated to the Chugiak/Eagle River Food Pantry. This year we are hoping to add 2 additional beds, giving us 12 beds total. This will cost around \$400 for the soil and seeds needed. We are also looking to remove the woodchip berm along the north side of the church. We currently have raspberry plants growing in the old playground area, and will move them to the woodchip area. With enough contribution of help and funds we would also like to build a partitioned compost bin.

We will strive to produce 500 pounds of high quality produce. We will need your help to reach this goal. First, many items need to be purchased, such as soil and seeds. Any contribution you can make towards the Garden Fund would help. Second, we need volunteers to help with the building of new beds and cleaning of the grounds. And last, but NOT least the weekly care of the grounds and garden beds.

Let us see who has the green thumbs and let's turn those black thumbs a new beautiful shade of green and help with one of our greatest missions of the church.



Eagle River Presbyterian Church

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MICHAEL S. WRIGHT.

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694-5753