

## Sanctuary

**We use the word Sanctuary to describe the room where we gather every week. It is a place where we are quiet – where we shout in celebration – where we pray and worship in awe. It is a place where we meet God.**

**In its original meaning, a sanctuary was a place of refuge. It was a place where someone could flee from harm, where they would be protected and safe. In the book of Numbers, six cities are identified as sanctuary cities – or refuge cities. In a time when ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth,’ was a fair response to a crime, there was a lot of mis-directed justice. The sanctuary cities would be a place of safety. If the accused could get there before those who seek revenge caught them, they would be safe until trial.**



**As we go through the season of Lent, we will be following this idea of sanctuary. How do we find refuge with God? In a world that seems increasingly uncertain, chaotic, or frightening, how do we find peace with Christ? But beyond that, how are we invited to offer that peace – that sanctuary and refuge to a hurting world?**

**There will be several opportunities to engage. Each Sunday morning, our scripture, sermon and service will be based on a theme related to sanctuary.**

**Every Sunday evening there will be a contemplative service starting at 6:00pm. These will be quiet service – with minimal singing and prayers. There will be a lot of silence. Our goal will be to listen and be present.**

**One Wednesday evenings, the yearly Bible Study and dinner will be a joint meal and Bible Study with ANHOPE. Together we will enjoy our fellowship time and then explore the book of Luke.**

**You are invited into this time of reflection, prayer, and listening to God. We hope that you will find it to be a time when we are all able to experience a renewed sense of peace – or at least a few moments of refuge together.**

**Blessings,**

**Pastor Dan**



## March Birthday Wishes

|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| Jade Hayden     | 07 |
| Deloyce Soliai  | 11 |
| Danielle Soliai | 16 |
| Judi McPheters  | 20 |
| Kim Pitts       | 22 |
| Debbie Hardwick | 24 |
| Makeleta Berry  | 31 |

Looking for someone to take on the Birthday Blessings Ministry. Contact Sandra Woods.



### A Quiet Space or a Contemplative Journey

The prayer room is open any time the church office is open (8am-3pm Monday and Wednesday; 8am-2pm Friday) If you would like another to pray with you, please call the church office to set up meeting with a prayer partner.

To request prayers through the Prayer Chain, please contact the office. There is also a group that meets Tuesdays at 5:00pm. To join that group or request prayers from them, please contact the office.

*“Be merciful to me, O Lord, for I am calling on you constantly.”* Psalm 86:3



John and Winnie Nabors March 25 (39 yrs)

Kevin and Carolyn Downie March 29 (22 yrs)

## March 7 World Day of Prayer



# Family Emergency Cold Weather Shelter Updates

## By Jenn Miller, Candidate for Deaconess

I have been asked to let everyone know what kinds of things are needed at the shelter, but many times when there is a need it is too late to ask for help. For instance a few weeks ago a parent asked for a specific size of diapers, I went to the store and picked them up. Now that parents in no longer there. Or when a young girl had her 2nd birthday. All of these things are last minute and hard to plan in advance. But I did do some thinking about what is needed on a little more regular basis.

One simple thing that has been asked for is items for the shower; body wash, shampoo, conditioner, face wash, etc. Another need is canned food that can be microwaved; canned pasta, chili, soup, etc.

I have also been asked about how the shelter works and about how the families are picked, how long they stay, etc, Families call 211 to find housing and are then routed to where there is space. Most of the time they are routed to a hotel. But if there is space and the family is suitable for the shelter, then the family will be moved into a room at the duplex.

Each family has one bedroom. There are 8 family-occupied bedrooms, with up to four family members in the room. The length of the stay depends on the family. When a family lives at the duplex, that room is their home until they find housing, as long as they are working with the onsite case manager. The children go to school, parents go to work, there are doctors' appointments, etc. The case manager is there to work with the family to help them find the right program that can give them the help they need to be successful in the future. There are times when I will take my personal time to help a family with paperwork for Childcare Assistance or Denali KidCare, to help with the load of the case manager because I am familiar with that paperwork. I also help in other ways, I took a parent to labor and delivery she needed to go and needed help getting there. And then I spent hours at Providence with the 4 year old soon to be sibling so the parents could be together. We are still waiting for sibling to be born. Another parent started a job on President's Day and he a single father. His children spent the day at my house.

In closing, the needs of the shelter vary from day to day. We need love and understanding that we are all on this journey of life, and We need prayers and love, shower supplies and food, laughter and care, time and patience and understanding and grace.





## Fiber Fellowship

March 3 and 17

If you are a knitter or crocheter, or would like to be, or you create warm items with fleece or ?, the start of the New Year is a great time to join our Fiber Fellowship group which typically meets twice a month, on the first and third Monday evening of each month (January 6 and 20), from 6:30 pm until 8 pm. There are individuals within our group who can help you learn to knit or crochet.

The group gathers at the church in the Lawhorn Room while also offering a Zoom link for anyone interested in joining us that way.

During our time together, we try to share a devotional, experience fellowship among the group as we work on our items of warmth, and close our time together in prayer. We typically share our items of warmth with others as one way of sharing God's love as they experience the gifts and challenges of life.

It is our hope that anyone interested might join us, but should you want more information, feel free to contact Jo Anne via text or phone at 907-903-5025 or email at [jhaydennanchorage@gmail.com](mailto:jhaydennanchorage@gmail.com).

For those connecting via Zoom, use the following link:

<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/225718367#>

if connecting by phone - call 301-715-8592 - meeting ID is 225718367#



## 2025 WOMEN'S GET AWAY WEEKEND

Thursday after 4 pm, March 6 until 3ish Sunday, March 9th

The Ashlock family have offered use of their place located on 120 Kitzuhel Rd

in Girdwood. This "cabin" is a wonderful fun environment for our gathering. The condo has a full kitchen, 5 bedrooms, living room, and 4 bathrooms. Treat yourself to a relaxing weekend get away! There is no planned program. Attendees can do what they want when they want. Spend time with other women from Anchor Park ...Skiing...crafting...reading...playing games...sharing good food...enjoying the outdoors...or just hanging out. We'll try our hand at making pizza again.

Transportation can be coordinated for those needing a ride. Cost for the weekend is \$35/person. Meals provided Thursday dinner, three meals on Friday, Saturday-brunch, dinner, Sunday breakfast, lunch leftovers. Don't let finances keep you away, you can contribute what you can, no questions asked. Can't come for the whole weekend...come for the day or two. Babies under the age of 1 are welcome, please plan to provide all the baby food.

## Resources for Enrichment

We offer many ways for you to enrich your life, live your faith and put love into action. Explore these resources to find one, or several, that interest you.



## United Women in Faith March 16

On Sunday March 16, Sandra Woods will present on the Resources for Enrichment through United Women in Faith. Come for lunch and stay for the program. The menu will be Corn Beef and cabbage dish, Potatoes, rolls, and Million dollar bars for dessert.



United  
Women  
in Faith



SCAN TO REGISTER

# Book STUDY



United  
Women  
in Faith

## Alaska United Women in Faith



Tuesday

Tuesday, April 22nd

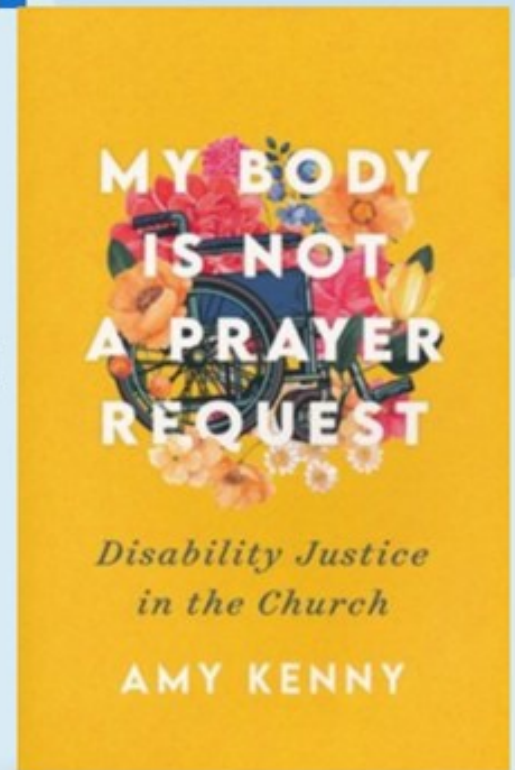


7:00 pm



on Zoom

**SAVE THE DATE**



Leader  
**Jenn Miller**

# For Generations to Come

**Save the Date:  
Sunday, March 23, 2025**

Join us on March 23 at 1 pm E.T. for a special live-streamed event.

## For Generations to Come

[uwfaith.org/dayofgiving](http://uwfaith.org/dayofgiving)

Save the Date: March 23, 2025



By uniting our hearts and hands, we are building a future filled with hope and support for women, children, and youth. Every gift you make, regardless of size, **will make an impact for generations to come.**

Give to The Legacy Endowment Fund on the Day of Giving, March 23!

## Ways to Give

- **Online at:** [uwfaith.org/dayofgiving](http://uwfaith.org/dayofgiving)
- **By phone:** 800-278-7771 (8 a.m.-5 p.m. ET, Mon.-Fri.)
- **Text:** "FUTURE" to 20503
- **By check to:**  
United Women in Faith  
Attention: Legacy  
Church Center for the United Nations  
777 United Nations Plaza, 11th Floor  
New York, NY 10017

Write "Day of Giving" in the memo section.



United  
Women  
in Faith

The Legacy Endowment Fund is a permanent endowment to support the work of future generations of United Women in Faith.

**Together, we are building our legacy for generations to come!**

# UMCOR Sunday on March 30



Individuals and congregations are encouraged to support The United Methodist Church's collective relief work by giving to the UMCOR Sunday offering. Gifts given on UMCOR Sunday, March 30 this year, help strengthen the church's global humanitarian response by underwriting the administrative costs of the United Methodist Committee on Relief.



Relief Supplies



Supply Network



International Disaster Response



U.S. Disaster Response



Migration and Refugees

## CURRENT UMCOR RESPONSES

**UKRAINE RESPONSE**

[LEARN MORE](#)

[DONATE](#)

**U.S. HURRICANE RESPONSE**

[LEARN MORE](#)

[DONATE](#)

**LATEST INTERNATIONAL DISASTER RESPONSE**

[LEARN MORE](#)

[DONATE](#)

**LATEST U.S. DISASTER RESPONSE**

[LEARN MORE](#)

[DONATE](#)



# Say “THANK YOU” to LA First Responders



## Recognizing Responders Project

A Card-Making Program to Thank Emergency Responders --

Firefighters, EMTs, Police and Sheriff Officers -- in the Recent Los Angeles Fires

Information for teachers and students:

Starting on January 7, 2025, a series of ferocious wildfires, including the Pacific Palisades fire, roared across the Los Angeles area, killing at least 29 people, and displacing tens of thousands.

We understand that around 10,000 emergency responders – including Firefighters, Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs), Police Officers and Sheriff’s Deputies and other First Responders – helped to contain the fires, got people safely evacuated from danger zones, saved many lives and prevented much worse damage.

As one small way to recognize and appreciate the heroism of these men and women — through at least two weeks of intense and dangerous effort – we are organizing card-making events. These events can involve one person making a few cards, a classroom or many classrooms making cards, or any groups that want to gather and make cards for an hour or two and forward the cards to our contact person in Los Angeles.

We have a way to get the cards to the Los Angeles City and County offices to be distributed to the selfless, dedicated individuals who are now faithfully showing up for work and handling all the “ordinary” emergencies in their locales, while no doubt recovering from the trauma of the extraordinary fires ravaging huge swaths of Los Angeles. We want them to know they are not forgotten; we deeply appreciate them!

**Here is how to become a card maker for our project:**

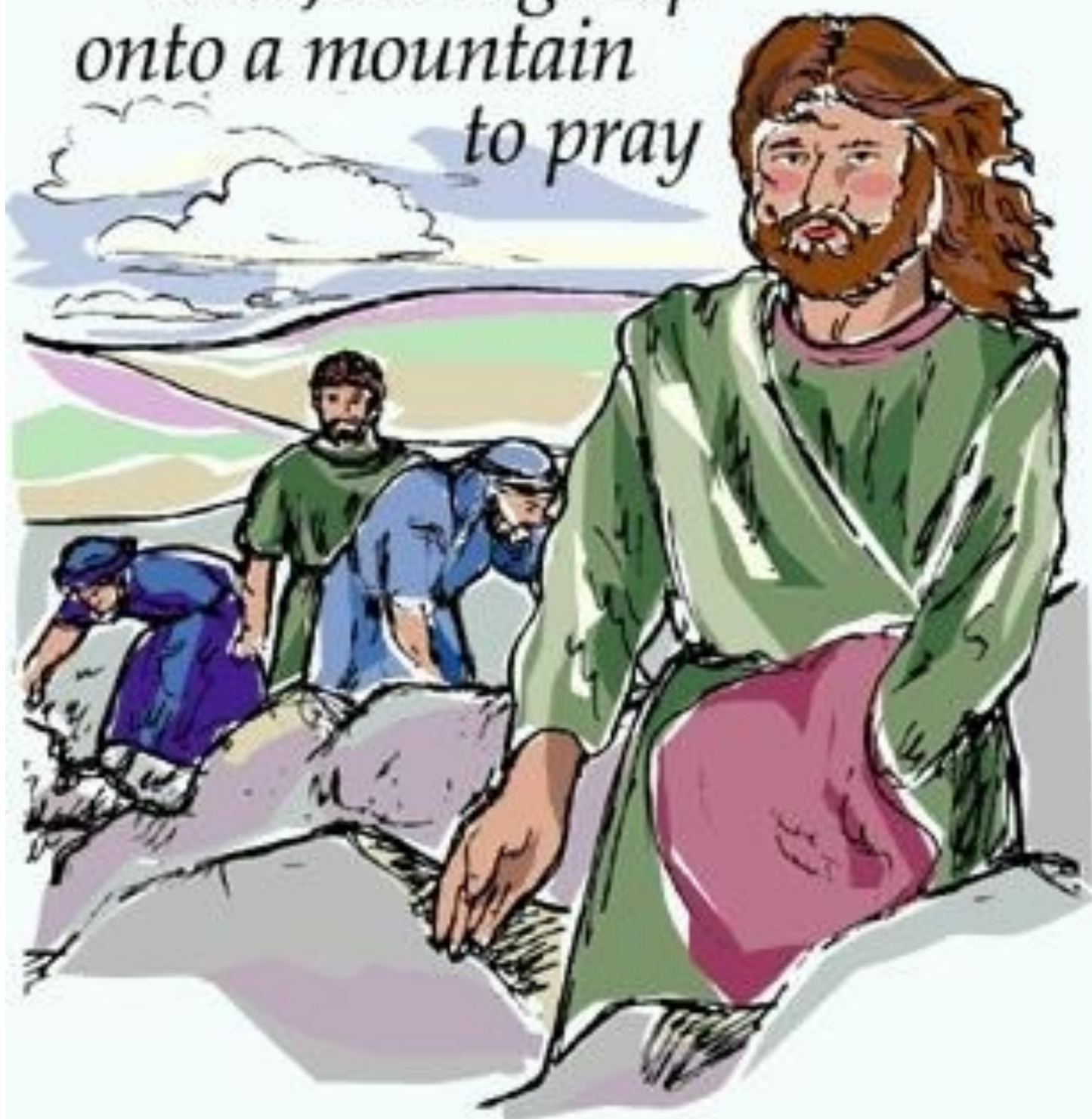
1. Gather blank paper or card stock and marking pens, colored pencils or crayons, and if you wish, other flat decorations or images that might enhance your message.
2. Explain the recent fires to your group. For classrooms of older students, perhaps show a news summary of fires.
3. Suggest that students imagine a man or woman – a Firefighter, an EMT, a Police or Sheriff’s officer or other First Responder – and write to that person. Some may create a short poem, or just a genuine note of appreciation. Cards can be flat, postcard style, or folded over.
4. Place each completed card in an envelope and identify which category of emergency responder it is for. If you have cards that do not fit an envelope, a sticky note can identify a recipient.
5. Place the cards in a larger envelope or box and deliver to your contact person who will get them to Los Angeles prior to March 21 for distribution soon after that date.



**Sponsored by** a Community Service Project Committee of the Transcendent Leadership Class of Peace Theological Seminary and College and Philosophy. Thank you for your assistance in recognizing the brave men and women who kept so many people safe in Los Angeles!

Anchorage Contact – Judy Pendleton, (907) 250-8464. Please call or text; I will pick up packets of cards and mail them to our distribution point in Los Angeles.

*Jesus, Peter, John  
and James go up  
onto a mountain  
to pray*



# March 2025

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday  |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|---|
|                  |  |  |   |   |  | 1<br><br>Quilting Women Meeting                           |
| 2<br><br>Worship 11am<br><br>ANHOPE 2pm   | 3<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 10-11 AM Tongan Room<br><br>Fiber Fellowship 6:30pm Lawhorn Rm  | 4<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 1-2PM Tongan Room<br><br>Trauma Healing 7pm                           | 5<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 10-11 AM Tongan Room<br><br>ANHOPE potluck & Bible Study 6pm<br><br>Handbell choir 6:30pm  | 6<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 1-2PM Tongan Room<br><br>AA- 8pm                                     | 7<br><br>UWiF Girdwood<br><br>First Aid/CPR training 7;m | 8<br><br>UWiF Girdwood<br><br>De- escalation Training 9am |
| 9<br><br>DAYLIGHT SVG<br><br>Worship 11am<br><br>EPIC Youth 12pm<br><br>ANHOPE 2pm                | 10<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 10-11 AM Tongan Room   | 11<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 1-2PM Tongan Room<br><br>6:30 Finance team                           | 12<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 10-11 AM Tongan Room<br><br>ANHOPE potluck & Bible Study 6pm<br><br>Handbell choir 6:30pm | 13<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 1-2PM Tongan Room<br><br>Birchwood Camp Board 6:30pm<br><br>AA- 8pm | 14   | 15  |
| 16<br><br>Worship 11am<br><br>UWiFaith meeting 12pm<br><br>Clare House Meal 1pm<br><br>ANHOPE 2pm | 17<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 10-11 AM Tongan Room<br><br>Fiber Fellowship 6:30pm Lawhorn Rm | 18<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 1-2PM Tongan Room<br><br>Church Council 6:30pm<br><br>Trauma Healing | 19<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 10-11 AM Tongan Room<br><br>ANHOPE potluck & Bible Study 6pm<br><br>Handbell choir 6:30pm | 20<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 1-2PM Tongan Room<br><br>AA- 8pm                                    | 21   | 22  |
| 23<br><br>WINTER MEETING<br><br>Worship 11am<br><br>Girl Scouts 1pm<br><br>ANHOPE 2pm             | 24<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 10-11 AM Tongan Room   | 25<br><br>New Year's Eve<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 1-2PM Tongan Room                              | 26<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 10-11 AM Tongan Room<br><br>ANHOPE potluck & Bible Study 6pm<br><br>Handbell choir 6:30pm | 27<br><br>Strong Women Strong Bones 1-2PM Tongan Room<br><br>AA- 8pm                                    | 28   | 29  |

We worship in person on Sundays at 11:00am  
streamed on Facebook Live

<https://www.facebook.com/anchorparkumc>



YouTube channel:  
Anchor Park UMC AK



## Welcoming

**ALL PEOPLE, as we experience and share God's love.**

## Loving

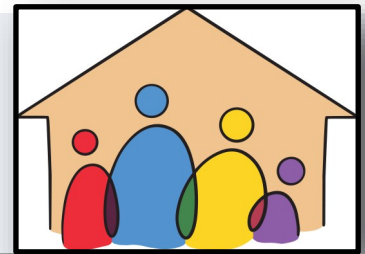
**God and neighbor, knowing that love will encourage diversity and span differences**



## Serving

**our community and beyond in hope and love**

2300 Oak Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508



Anchor Park provides one meal a month for **Clare House**, a mission of Catholic Social services. Please consider signing up to provide part of the meal. Sign up is online at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084dacad2cabfb6-clare>

**Coffee Fellowship**  
Look for the Sign Up sheet at the Entrance

**Lay Reader**  
Speak to the Pastors or add your name on the sign-up sheet at the entrance

**Pot Luck**  
March 2



All youth ages 11 thru 18 are welcome!  
Second Sunday each month

LINK editor: Sandra Woods

send articles to [office.anchorparkumc@gmail.com](mailto:office.anchorparkumc@gmail.com)

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**Worship with Us!!** Visit [www.anchorpark.org](http://www.anchorpark.org) for available in person, on-line, and smart-phone options.

Office Phone: 907-277-0152 Email: [office.anchorparkumc@gmail.com](mailto:office.anchorparkumc@gmail.com) Office Hours: Mon & Wed 8-3; Fri 8-2