

*"We invite all to faith in Jesus Christ  
and growth in discipleship through Word, Prayer, and Service."*

## January 2016

## Pastor's Note

### Special Points of Interest

- Pastor's Note
- January Birthdays
- January Anniversaries
- January Calendar
- Announcements & Events
- Session Highlights
- Church Contact Info



Kyle Stockwell – Jan 2  
Sue O'Bryan – Jan 3  
Roger Smith – Jan 6  
Jamie Jeffers – Jan 13  
Larry Knapman – Jan 22  
Peter Van Flein – Jan 22  
Dana Morton – Jan 23  
Kelsey Morton – Jan 23  
Kira Dickerson – Jan 24



John & Carolyn Miller – Jan 24

The New Year is upon us once again; a new year of opportunity, a new year of challenge, a new year to serve God in amazing and exciting ways. This year, expect to be challenged personally and as a congregation. This year, expect to laugh in your labors and sing praise during times of challenge. We have a vibrant fellowship that is built on a firm foundation with Jesus Christ laid as its cornerstone.

The foundation of our church continues to grow with new members among us, new Elders and Deacons answering the call, and innovative and inspiring programs that teach us about our past and directs us towards our future in Christian service. These are signs of a vibrant and healthy church, signs of a Christ centered community of welcome and growth and it is a place I am thankful to be part of in my own personal journey.

New Years offers us fresh opportunities to renew our spiritual lives, to evaluate our mission and to faithfully follow Christ in all the good ways, the hard ways and sometimes the uncomfortable places that Christian work takes us. We have strong leaders, we have faithful workers and we have a reliance on the Holy Spirit to guide us in path and journey.

In this New Year, open yourself up to new revelation in Word, in prayer, and in the collective journey of worship and mission. God is calling, and it is my hope that we respond with one united, positive voice for Jesus Christ saying "Here I am Lord, send me."  
Love in Christ and happy New Year!

*Rev. Neill D. McKay*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Abbr key :  
 CE= Old Basement  
 FH = Fellowship Hall  
 C = Conference Room  
 S = Sanctuary  
 HS= High School  
 Classroom  
 L = Lounge  
 M= Music Room  
 N=Narthex



1. *New Year's Day*  
 2. **10:00am**  
 Donna Henry (M)  
**7:00PM**  
 Russian Church (M)  
**8:30PM**  
 NA (L)

3. <b>9:00AM</b> Adult Study (L) <b>9:30AM</b> Sunday School (HS & FH Classrooms) <b>10:30AM</b> Worship Service(S) <b>2:00PM</b> Russian Church(S)	4. <b>5:15PM</b> Sound Team Meeting (S) <b>5:30PM</b> 12 Step (M)	5. <b>6:30AM</b> Men's Coffee (N) <b>7:30AM</b> Women's Breakfast (Denny's) <b>4:00PM</b> FCAC (N) <b>8:00PM</b> AA (HS)	6. <b>12:00PM</b> Bulletin Deadline <b>7:15PM</b> Choir Rehearsal (M)	7. <b>12:00PM</b> Prayer Group (L) <b>6:00PM</b> AI Anon (HS) <b>6:30PM</b> Sweet Adelines (CE) <b>7:00PM</b> Deacons (M)	8. <b>7:00PM</b> Russian Church (M) <b>8:30PM</b> NA (L)	9. <b>10:00AM</b> Sweet Adelines (FH) <b>10:00am</b> Donna Henry (M)
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10. <b>9:00AM</b> Adult Study (L) <b>9:30AM</b> Sunday School (HS & FH Classrooms) <b>10:30AM</b> Worship Service(S) <b>2:00PM</b> Russian Church(S)	11. <b>5:30PM</b> 12 Step (M)	12. <b>6:30AM</b> Men's Coffee (N) <b>4:30PM</b> Bingle Camp Board Meeting (IL) <b>6:30PM</b> Fellowship Meeting (N) <b>7:15PM</b> Mission & Outreach Meeting (C) <b>8:00PM</b> AA (HS)	13. <b>12:00PM</b> Bulletin Deadline <b>7:15PM</b> Choir Rehearsal (M)	14. <b>12:00PM</b> Prayer Group (L) <b>6:00PM</b> AI Anon (HS) <b>6:30PM</b> Sweet Adelines (CE)	15. <b>7:00PM</b> Russian Church (M) <b>8:30PM</b> NA (L)	16. <b>9:00AM</b> Session Quarterly Planning Meeting (FH) <b>10:00am</b> Donna Henry (M) <b>12:00PM</b> Girl Scout Troop 175 (CE) <b>6:00PM</b> Garage Guys
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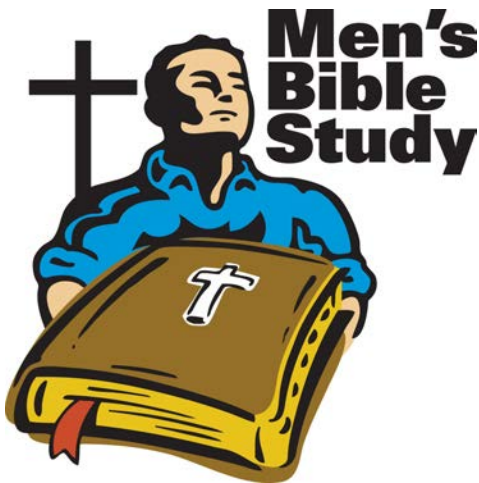
17. <b>9:00AM</b> Adult Study (L) <b>9:30AM</b> Sunday School (HS & FH Classrooms) <b>10:30AM</b> Worship Service (S) <b>2:00PM</b> Russian Church (S)	18. <b>5:30PM</b> 12 Step (M)	19. <b>6:30AM</b> Men's Coffee (N) <b>7:30AM</b> Women's Breakfast (Denny's) <b>8:00PM</b> AA (HS)	20. <b>12:00PM</b> Bulletin Deadline <b>7:15PM</b> Choir Rehearsal (M)	21. <b>12:00PM</b> Prayer Group (L) <b>5:30PM</b> Worship Committee(C) <b>6:00PM</b> AI Anon (HS) <b>6:30PM</b> Sweet Adelines (CE) <b>6:30PM</b> Session (L)	22. <b>7:00PM</b> Russian Church (M) <b>8:30PM</b> NA (L)	23. <b>10:00am</b> Donna Henry (M)
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24. <b>9:00AM</b> Adult Study (L) <b>9:30AM</b> Sunday School (HS & FH Classrooms) <b>10:30AM</b> Worship Service (S) <b>2:00PM</b> Russian Church (S)	25. <i>February Newsletter Deadline</i> <b>5:30PM</b> 12 Step (M) <b>7:00PM</b> La Leche League (L)	26. <b>6:30AM</b> Men's Coffee (N) <b>12:30PM</b> Regional VOAD Meeting (C) <b>8:00PM</b> AA (HS)	27. <b>12:00PM</b> Bulletin Deadline <b>7:15PM</b> Choir Rehearsal (M)	28. <b>12:00PM</b> Prayer Group (L) <b>6:00PM</b> AI Anon (HS) <b>6:30PM</b> Sweet Adelines (CE)	29. <b>7:00PM</b> Russian Church (M) <b>8:30PM</b> NA (L)	30. <b>12:00PM</b> Girl Scout Troop 175 (CE) <b>10:00am</b> Donna Henry (M)
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31. <b>9:00AM</b> Adult Study (L) <b>9:30AM</b> Sunday School (HS & FH Classrooms) <b>10:30AM</b> Worship Service (S) <b>2:00PM</b> Russian Church (S)						
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## Announcements and Events



### Men's Bible Study

Meets at 6:30am in the Narthex every Tuesday Morning.



Women's Bible Study meets every other Tuesday 7:30am @ Denny's on Airport Way We will meet January 5th and 19th

### Garage Guys

#### January Gathering

Join us for grilling and a special presentation.

**When:** Saturday, Jan. 16, 2016 6pm

**Where:** 1606 Ivans Alley

**What to bring:** Something to sear on the grill, a drink and something to sit on like your favorite lawn chair. Or, just come; we usually have enough.

#### February Gathering

February is the annual Superbowl gathering. This is not just for the guys. The gals will have the house to watch the game or visit and the guys will be in the shop. Kickoff is at 2:30pm. Should be a great game!

**When:** Sunday, February 7, 2016 2pm

**Where:** 1606 Ivans Alley

**What to bring:** Your favorite snack, drink and something to sear on the grill.

**Contact:** [darohwer@solarmoose.com](mailto:darohwer@solarmoose.com) or call David at 378-2554

You can view the **Upcoming Sunday bulletin** on our web page each week [www.ucpcfairbanks.org](http://www.ucpcfairbanks.org) click on the link on our home page it will be available each Friday after 1pm

## Sunday School SCHEDULE

**Adult Study** will meet in the Student Lounge  
9:00am-9:30am Coffee and Fellowship  
9:30am-10:15am Teaching and Discussion

**Children and Youth Sunday School** @ 9:30am.

**PreK-5th grade** will meet in the Fellowship Hall Elementary classroom.  
**6th-8th grade** will meet in the Fellowship Hall Middle School classroom.  
**9th-12th grade** will meet upstairs in the High School classroom.

## Announcements and Events



Thank you to all who gave to the Christmas Joy Offering supporting the Board of Pensions and racial/ethnic schools in the Presbyterian Church. The amount received was \$1,362.

From the Director of Love, INC.:

*W*ISHING YOU THE PEACE  
OF CHRISTMAS AND MAY YOUR  
NEW YEAR SHINE WITH POSSIBILITY!

Thank you for Adopting  
a family through Love inc  
this Christmas  
Jason

Love INC  
Agape Dinner  
& Auction

The 2016 fundraiser will be held on February 5. Seat reservations are \$65 per person with money going to support this wonderful charity, or if UCPC has at least 8 people interested in attending, the church could be a Table Sponsor at \$500 or Silver Level Sponsor at \$1000.

# UCPC Session News

## News from Session – December 17, 2015

**1. Worship:** Planning for the Christmas Eve service was completed and looking ahead to 2016. The committee meets on the third Thursday of each month at 5:30pm.

**2. Finance:** The Operating account balance on December 11, 2015 was \$70,042, the Designated account balance was \$78, 876 and all bills are current. Our financial situation is better than expected at this stage in the year, but this is early times in the upcoming winter. However, it is good to note the trend in the Operating balance over the past six months. The average balances for the months June to November 2015 are: \$65,219. \$70,912, \$69,620, \$72,311, \$69,715, \$69,228. Considering monthly expenses are about \$20,000, the account has remained relatively stable over this period. It would not have been surprising to see a steady decline based on the increased expenditures for pastor salary and for heating oil. We should also note that we have not spent any of the designated Pastor salary fund as yet.

Income from pledges and loose offerings is shown in the following list for months from June to November 2015: \$17,691; \$15,659; \$20,730; \$19,702; \$18,262; \$18,657. Income is more variable than the bank balance, but it continues the general level of giving for the year.

Wells Fargo declined to increase the spending limit on our credit card (to \$10,000 as approved by Session) above the present value of \$2500, the Finance committee proposes to get a debit card for paying the fuel bill. We think it best to create a separate account for this so that any fraud is limited to the amount resident in the new fuel account. The account should begin with a transfer for the amount needed to cover fuel charges as they were last December and should be monitored and adjusted with transfers from the Operating account so as to remain be above \$1000 in credit.

New workers' compensation insurance has been purchased from Rural Alaska Insurance Company on Peger Road, Fairbanks. The annual rate is \$1127, which is 10% less than charged by State Farm. There is an outstanding workers' compensation audit from 2013 which needs to be completed before our new insurance is confirmed for the long-term. This is being done as a matter of priority.

It has come to my notice that Boy Scout Troop 1 in Fairbanks has lost its meeting location due to a change of ownership of the building. I am wondering whether Session would consider it appropriate for UCPC to offer Group 1 the use of one of our basements for Tuesday evenings. I do not know what the Scouts may be willing to pay as rent, but I have heard that they are nearly always looking for accommodation rent-free. This would be an important consideration from our point of view, but we might think that having the Troop here would be a good mission opportunity. Approved by Session.

**3. Personnel:** There is a need for more volunteer nursery helpers.

**4. Hospitality:** The committee provided cider and cookies for after the Christmas Eve service.

(Continued on next page)



## UCPC Session News (cont.)

**5. Mission and Service:** On November 26, the committee discussed plans for Thanksgiving, the Adopt-A-Family program, and the Christmas Joy PC(USA) Offering. There was also some discussion of “Mission Benevolence” being a part of the UCPC annual budget, as it had been some years ago. We learned that First Presbyterian, Anchorage, is exploring the idea of a work team from Pennsylvania coming up in May, 2016 and needing to stay at UCPC.

At our December 15 meeting, the Adopt-A-Family gifts were assembled and wrapped. They will be delivered on Dec. 17. The Christmas Joy Offering will be taken Dec. 20, with donations accepted in the Narthex on Christmas Eve. Coffee Cupboard supplies are being depleted again, with healthy sales of cocoa, coffee, and tea especially! We will discuss the re-ordering and accounting process for the cupboard next month.

We have no further information on when or how many Pennsylvania volunteers may need housing at UCPC next May. There were a few minor disappointments this fall: (1) poor attendance at both JaDene Reeder’s presentation on Africa in early November and the Thanksgiving breakfast, and (2) lack of helpful response from the university for UCPC congregational members’ offer to host students stranded in Fairbanks for the holidays.

Pastor Neill presented information on the newly formed Fairbanks Climate Action Coalition, in which he is representing the faith community. Our committee expressed support for this activity as a “mission outreach” appropriate to UCPC. Finally, we decided to move our monthly meetings to the second Tuesday (rather than the second Monday) of each month, still at 7:15 pm.

**6. Faith Development:** Milt Wiltse provided his final report as his term on Session is complete. Session thanked him for his service.

**7. Building Stewardship:** Winter has been quite snowy so far, so thanks to the many volunteers for shoveling snow, plowing snow, sanding ice, salting ice, etc. The electric motor for the Fellowship Hall air handler needs replacement, with an estimate of \$600 for parts. Work parties have replaced many burned out lamps and ballasts, and conversion of lighting to LEDs continues with the elevator and outside building lights.

Submitted by: David Rohwer, Clerk of Session

### **Session Meeting Schedule:**

Saturday January 16, 2016 9am to noon – Quarterly Planning Meeting

Thursday Jan 21, 2016 6:30pm

Thursday Feb 18, 2016 6:30pm



# UCPC Community Care Line

3510 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709  
Phone : 907-479-6728 Fax : 907-479-8879  
Email : ucpc@acsalaska.net

## Deacons

Pat Babcock 479-6651  
Susan Carothers 479-8156  
Georgianne Frank 479-4394  
Sue O'Bryan 479-4095  
Theresa Reed 456-7573  
Celia Rohwer 378-7804

## Elders

David Rohwer 378-2554 ~ Clerk of Session  
Jim Durst 479-8191 ~ Class of 2016  
Carol Nielson 479-2955 ~ Class of 2016  
Lucile Hackett 474-0212 ~ Class of 2017  
Sarah Lanstra 456-4202 ~ Class of 2017  
Paula Long 479-3043 ~ Class of 2017  
Brian Dixon 452-2651 ~ Class of 2018  
Doreen McNeill 488-8262 ~ Class of 2018  
Roger Smith 479-8341 ~ Class of 2018

### **Pastor**

Rev. Neill McKay  
Email: ucpcpastor@alaska.net  
Office: 479-6728  
Cell: 799-5534

**Office Hours: Mon – Fri : 9am–1pm**

### **Admin Assistant**

Whitney Robinson  
Office: 479-6728

**Choir Director ~** Lucile Hackett  
987-9947

### **Musicians**

**Organ ~** Kathy Dohner

**Pianist ~** Jon Hays

**Flute ~** Celia Rohwer  
Doreen McNeill

**Trumpet ~** Donna Davidson

**Sound Manager ~** David Rohwer  
378-2554

