### **Schedule of Events**

Jan 26th Youth Get Together starting at 6pm, see Joe

Potluck Jan 28th at the Murdocks



## Think on These Things

#### Philippians 4:8

And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret.

Ephesians 5:11-12 NKJV

# **Our Family News**

**Pray for** / Emily Hatley, Steve and Abby St.Claire, Danesa, Billie Tabor (Danesa's Mom's closest friend), Jean (Danesa's Mom), Debra Betti

# **Today's Scripture**

Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;

I Corinthians 13:4-6 NKJV

# **Wisdom for Today**

Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night.

Psalms 1:1-2 NKJV

AM Sermon / George Jensen
PM Sermon / George Jensen

#### **Evangelist**

George Jensen | (907) 203-5059 | george@churchofchristwasilla.com

### January 14, 2024 Bulletin for the



## **God's Plan of Salvation**

Hear Romans 10:17
Believe Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matt 10:32-33
Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
Remain Faithful Matt 24:13, Rev 2:10, James 1:12

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

## Come join us!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

2061 N. Merciful Circle Wasilla, Ak 99654 (907) 373-5773

Visit our website at: www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Radio Programs on KMBQ 99.7 "Searching the Scriptures"
Our weekly radio program on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM.

## **Meeting Times**

#### Sunday

Bible Classes 10AM
AM Worship 11AM
PM Worship 5PM

### Wednesday

Bible Study **7PM** 

#### Office Hours

Call or check website

Visitors always welcome; Members expected

# "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

# The Dangers of Social Media

#### By Joe Murdock

It is wild to think of all the changes that have happened in the last 30 years. Just think about how the automobile industry, communication capabilities and information access have all exploded. To think that we would have vehicles that drive themselves and access to individuals thousands of miles away seems like a movie rather than reality. With all these innovations comes risk. One of the most dangerous innovations is that of social media. While there are clear benefits to social media outlets, the question we as individuals must ask ourselves is do the risk outweigh the benefits. Each individual, parent and family will have to decide for themselves how to use social media. We can be assured however that the Bible gives us clear principles on how we are to behave in any circumstance. Whether it be physical interacting or through social media.

According to Merriam Webster social media is defined as forms of electronic communication (such as websites for social networking and microblogging) through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content (such as videos). While this sounds like a pleasant thing to do, one can easily find themselves in is a place of isolation. Working from a laptop or a computer doesn't seem to achieve the same level of togetherness that we see in scripture. God knew it was not good for man to be alone. Genesis 2:18 NKJV And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." God has created us to be social people. This is made clear by the great commission. Matthew 28:19-20 NKJV "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.' Amen." While of course social media can be a good means of evangelizing it can easily become the only source of evangelizing. From there we see that one can become isolated from others, relying solely on social media to reach them.

A second danger in the use of social media is exposure. The number of children being exposed to explicit content through social media is alarming. According to a

website, titled guardchild.com, where several different sources are pulled from 70% of kids ages 8-18 have accidentally encountered online explicit material and 90% ages 8-16 have seen online pornography. This takes some serious praying and conversations between parents and teens. As an adult it is hard enough to see the trash that gets post or shared, I can't imagine the pressure put on today's children. As faithful members in the family of God let us be intentional about how we talk about these serious topics with our children. While we might not think it is going to be our children we know they have friends, classmates and associates who may not have the best interest at heart. I Corinthians 15:33 NKJV "Do not be deceived: 'Evil company corrupts good habits.'"

We must always be willing to examine ourselves, our actions, and our behavior at anytime to determine if we are acting the way God would have us act. I John 1:7 NKJV "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin." To say that social media is only sinful or dangerous would be untrue but to say there is nothing to worry about with social media is also a false statement. It is up to us as parents, family and followers of Christ to make sure the things we are partaking in align with what the Bible teaches. I am sure when the TV was invented similar discussion went on and to be honest. TV produces very little benefit today (maybe another article). While this clearly is not an exhaustive study it does, hopefully, provide some food for thought. Certainly with having young children and as one who does have social media, its impact on my family and myself will always be evaluated. Will you do the same and help me along the way?

