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[Save It. Spend It. Give It Away.](#)

Lisa Smith Fiegel, Director for Evangelical Mission

For many Alaskans, October is the most wonderful time of the year. Sure, it's getting dark and termination dust shows up on the Chugach. But sometime during the first week, October 2 this year, Alaskans who've been here a year or more receive their Permanent Fund Dividend.

And the crowd goes wild! Merchants have been screaming "spend your PFD now" for months, and people will pour into Costco and Best Buy, snap up cheap airfares to somewhere warm, put money down on something with four wheels or spend big money on things that are big-time harmful to body, mind and soul. What does this all mean for us as people of faith?

The PFD is a great teaching moment on the concept of grace... [Read More Here](#)



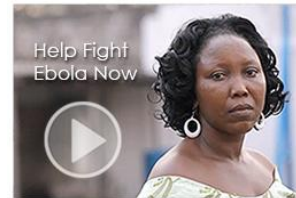
"Faith in a Scientific Age: The Emergence of Bodies, Minds and Spirituality"

Free Public Lecture Offered by Dr. Philip Clayton at APU's Grant Hall Theater
Friday, October 3, 2014, 7:00-8:30.

Dr. Philip Clayton serves on the faculty of the Claremont School of Theology. He has collaborated for years with the Pontifical Astronomical Observatory and is a leading advocate for science-religion dialogue that encompasses all the world's traditions. The talk and slide presentation asks: Is science consistent with the various world religions? Can we consider cosmic evolution as an open-ended process of emergence, fully compatible with the human spiritual quest?

Help Fight Ebola Now

In the past several months, the Ebola outbreak has claimed thousands of lives. The virus has spread rapidly, and with no approved vaccine and a high fatality rate, the World Health Organization is now calling it "one of the world's most lethal diseases." Ebola has spread to multiple countries, the hardest hit being Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea.



In addition to health care, one of the most urgent needs is food. As people in affected areas are quarantined to their homes, towns are being shut down to limit the spread of the disease and people are not able to work, harvest crops or purchase food. The shipment of food has also stopped because people from other countries fear contracting the virus.

"We need food," says the Rev. D. Jensen Seyenkulo, bishop of the Lutheran Church in Liberia. "There is a saying now: **'If we don't die of Ebola, we will die of starvation.'**" [Watch video](#)

You can help. [Your gifts](#) to the Ebola Outbreak Response will be used, 100 percent, to assist those impacted by this crisis. Our partners and companion churches have requested our help in responding to the outbreak with food distributions, shipment of personal protective equipment, training health workers, outreach through education about prevention, and construction of an isolation unit at Phebe Hospital and School of Nursing in Liberia.

Say No to Bullying in the New School Year

Fresh from the Alaska Children's Trust "new school year" email series, find solid guidance for bullying prevention.

"Teaching children how to interact with others in healthy ways will benefit them not only at school, but also throughout their lives. It will also help them recognize inappropriate behaviors, such as bullying. You can help promote healthy social development and prevent bullying by:" [click here to read more.](#)



The Autumn of Life: A Seminar on Aging, Death and Dying

Trinity Lutheran Church
10355 Palmer- Wasilla Hwy. Palmer, AK Mile 2.2

October 6, 2014 - Planning Ahead

Session A: Social Security and Investments.

Session B: Long Term Care.

[Details and future sessions listed here.](#)



How to Start Projects to Help Others

People in need are all around us, and most of us have an interest in helping others. Fort Hays State University offers a **totally free, five week, online course** on how to start projects to help others in need. This is a course on building grassroots, local projects to strengthen communities and improve the individual lives of residents. The homeless, frail elderly, abandoned children, teens considering suicide - These are examples of categories of people who can be helped through this course. People taking our course can apply what they have learned to work in other continents or in their home communities. One of the points emphasized in the course is that we don't need to go "someplace else" to find a place to help others, for need can be found everywhere. **The course starts on October 29, 2014.**

To learn more about this free course, and to have access to a link to register, please go to: <http://helpotherstoday.net>

Discovering Hope

The ELCA Churchwide Renewal Team is expanding focus on rural and small town ministry to small membership congregations.

[CLICK HERE](#) for details on the next small congregations event, held on

Saturday, November 15, in Kennewick, Washington.

[On-line registration for Discovering Hope:](#) open until November 7, 2014.



Education Opportunity

Alaska Synod Lay School of Theology is pleased to offer a free class by Luther Seminary Assistant Professor of Old Testament, Michael Chan.

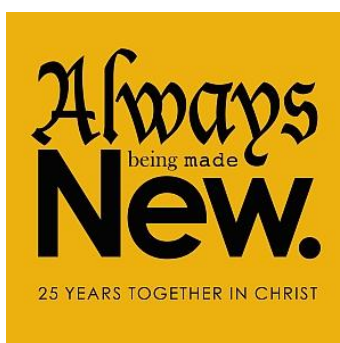
Jeremiah: Judgment, Trauma and Hope

- St. Mark Lutheran Church 3230 Lake Otis Parkway, Anchorage
- 7-9pm; webcast
- Five consecutive Monday evenings, beginning Oct. 13, 2014.
- Please call St. Mark Lutheran at 276-6231 to register.

Everyone is welcome. This course qualifies for credit in the Synodically Authorized Minister (SAM) Program of the Alaska Synod.



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Domestic Violence Help

[Click here](#) for contact information on crisis teams across Alaska and to find programs in your area that can help.

[Click here](#) for resources from the ELCA website for helping nurture families dealing with

Domestic Violence.

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Alaska Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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