

Dear Members of the ALS Family,

God has blessed the Anchorage community with a beautiful summer. I hope you've been able to make the most of it. We've certainly been doing so here at school, preparing for the start of a new school year on **Monday**, **August 21**. Here are some updates on the great things you may expect:

We welcome two new teachers to our K-8 staff this year, 5th Grade teacher **Mr. Cody Collier** and his wife Mrs. Jessica Collier for PS-8th Grade Music. They are graduates of Concordia University Nebraska in Seward, NE. They have been teaching in the St. Louis, MO area for the last few years. They are specifically trained for service in a Lutheran School, acquiring a teaching certification and theological training and we're thrilled to have their talents and energy added to our educational ministry.

Teaching assignments are:

- o Kindergarten Mrs. Rachel Sawyer
- o 1st Grade Mrs. Sandi Goerisch
- o 2nd Grade Mrs. Donna Josephson
- o 3rd Grade Mrs. Christie Platt
- o 4th Grade Ms. Megan McMullen & Mr. Dan Milosch
- 5th Grade Mr. Cody Collier
- 6th Grade Ms. Heather Slayton
- o 7th & 8th Grade Mr. Kerrick Sawyer & Ms. McMullen
- o K-8 Physical Education and Upper Grade Spanish Mrs. Laura Dirksen
- o K-8 Music Mrs. Jessica Collier
- **Friendly Faces:** We are excited and grateful to have Mrs. Diane Ahrenholz at the front desk! She is an amazing addition to the Anchor Family! Stop in and introduce yourself.
- Still Enrolling: We actively give tours and process enrollments all summer long. We won't know final enrollment numbers until school begins, as many families continue to explore school options throughout the summer. Don't hesitate to send people to visit Anchor Lutheran; our office is staffed throughout the summer, 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
- Child Care and Child Watch summer programs are thriving. We have openings for preschool in the fall; please spread the word to anyone you know who is seeking an excellent Christian Preschool and Child Care program. Mrs. Natalie Dean is doing a wonderful job as our Early Childhood Program Director, which includes overseeing K-6 before and after school care needs. She has made some necessary and needed improvements in the last six months and we are excited to see what comes next!

- The **Theme** this year is **Christ's Love in Action**, based upon 1 John 4:7 "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God."
- Please help us welcome **Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church's new pastor, Rev. Jake Dickerhoff and family.** We are excited for a new team member for our ministry here at Anchor Lutheran. Pastor Jake, his wife Nicky, and their six children will be around quite a bit as we partner in ministry.
- "Meet Your Desk Day" will take place Sunday, August 20, from 12:30-2:30 p.m. Stop in with your children during that time to find desks and drop off school supplies, helping the children get settled in. Even better, join us earlier in the day at Beautiful Savior's 10:30 worship service, where the Collier's will be installed and all staff members will be dedicated to this year's service. A celebration lunch will follow, leading right on into Meet Your Desk Day activities.
- School begins on Monday, August 21, 9:00 a.m. This will be just a half-day, 11:45 a.m. K-8 dismissal, with Child Watch available through the afternoon, by reservation.
- Also be sure to mark the following evening on your calendars: **Parent Classroom Information Night** will be Thursday evening, August 24, starting with dinner at 6:00 and then classroom programs at 7:00. This is the parents opportunity to learn details from your child's teacher on procedures and expectations of the year ahead and to ask any questions. Teachers offer the presentations twice to accommodate those with multiple children.

We are so grateful for the opportunity to serve your family this year. If the school staff may be of additional service or support to you please let us know. If you have any questions, stop by or call (School Office: 522-3636). We look forward to another positive and blessed school year with you and your children here at Anchor Lutheran.

Your Servant in Christ,

Allison Chandler, Administrator

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