

ALYESKAN

NEWS & VIEWS FOR ALASKAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS



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ALASKA CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

6100 O'MALLEY ROAD
ANCHORAGE, AK 99507
907-346-1004

THE GIFT OF FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship provides us with a means of connecting with people, meeting our mutual human need for social interaction and support in spiritual growth. During the past year, in the midst of this pandemic, it has been difficult to remain connected with one another as a church family in the same intimate way that we are accustomed to. Many of our church members have felt isolated, lonely, and forgotten. Some members have remained connected through online church services, Zoom prayer meetings and prayer lines. Others have stopped participating in church life altogether for a variety of reasons. There is a great need to be intentional about rebuilding these connections with one another for our spiritual and mental health.

Fellowship is important to God, and we are created in His image. I Corinthians 1:9 says, "You were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." God invites us into a relationship with Him. As we establish a relationship with God, it is our special privilege and duty to share that relationship with others. In 1 John 1:3, he says, "That which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us [that you may share in what we have seen and heard]; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ."

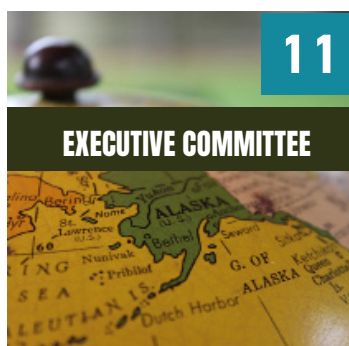
Another familiar passage in Hebrews 10 encourages us not to forsake assembling together for the purpose of encouraging one another especially when times are getting tough. There are many creative ways to encourage and support one another, even when we can't all be together in person.

My family lives in New York City. My father died in the spring of 2020 near the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. I couldn't be there for my mother physically, but her



**PASTOR DANIEL AND
LAURA JEAN-FRANCOIS**





church provided the support that she needed. Even though they weren't meeting in person, they used Zoom, and the telephone, to call her and visit with her. She received letters, and people came to visit one at a time, taking precautions. She missed my Dad of course, but she didn't feel forgotten, or alone at home in quarantine. She felt the warmth of the love of her church family. She in turn spent her time baking cakes to mail and sent literature to others.

I share this personal story to illustrate that there are still safe ways for us to be loving, encouraging, and connected despite our current circumstances.

Take time to think about church family members you haven't seen at church in awhile, and make a point to reach out either by phone, through the mail, or the internet. Pray with each other and see if there is anything that they need. If you are experiencing loneliness and discouragement, call the pastor, elders, or another church friend for support. We need to draw together even more closely as we see the Day approaching. Give the gift of fellowship this holiday season and all through the year.

Pastor Daniel Jean-Francois
Anchorage Community & Eagle River District

YOUNG WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY BEGINNINGS

TESS DUDLEY, Hillside-O'Malley SDA Church Member and ZALIKA BISHOP, Anchorage Community SDA Church Member

Cozy mugs, hot tea, fresh flowers, and fellowship. This is how the first weekly young women's Bible study began one September evening at the Hillside O'Malley Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church. Zalika Bishop and Tess Dudley, friends and members of local churches in Anchorage, had been pondering how to start a young women's Bible study for a while. The busyness of life and challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic had caused them to pause their plans in the past year or so. After talking with the elders of the church, getting ideas from a friend who started her own young women's Bible study in her hometown, and making plans and preparations, Zalika and Tess made an announcement at church and in the bulletin, sent personal text message invitations, and finally their ideas came to fruition!

At the first meeting, a small group of young women came together, old friends and new, to get to know a little bit about each other over a cup of tea and decide what topic or book of the Bible they would like to study as a group each week. First, each of them shared a little about themselves and why they decided to attend the Bible study. Reasons for attending varied: fellowship with other young women, grow closer to God, have stimulating conversations about spiritual things and matters of the heart, and make true friends—the kind you can count on during difficult times. Next, they each shared their ideas regarding a topic or book of the Bible they could collectively study. A common thread seemed to stitch its way through the fabric of their conversation: to acquire wisdom and apply it to their lives. And so, they set out to study their way through the book of Proverbs. A simple format was decided: read a chapter



together each week, share thoughts and insights verse by verse, and take notes in a journal if desired.

Since that first September evening, the small group has read and discussed about a half a chapter in Proverbs each week. It turned out that an entire chapter was simply not feasible in an hour and a half's time. It is important to the group that they not rush, but take their time to read and make sure each attendee has the opportunity to share her thoughts and ask questions.

Some ladies attend weekly while others attend as they are able. Zalika and Tess encourage each person reading this article to consider starting a small group Bible study at their local church. It could be a young women's group like this one, or perhaps it is a young men's group, an elder women's group, a mother's group—you get the idea! The most important part is to remember to study God's Word daily because through it you will gain wisdom that you can apply throughout your life.

Friday Evenings 7-8 pm

CALL TO PRAYER

Teleconference Prayer Meeting

1-800-719-6100

Access Code 4760107

PERSONAL MINISTRIES IN PALMER

BONNIE STEINBRUNNER, Palmer SDA Church Member

“What is Personal Ministries?” I asked after the head elder told me I was going to oversee it. He shook his head, shrugged his shoulders and left me scratching my head. After moving twice and the passing of seven years, I was once again asked to lead Personal Ministries for the Palmer SDA Church.

This time I was determined to figure out what the ministry was all about. I located a couple of YouTube videos, but they still left me a little foggy on what to do. Finally, I found the Personal Ministries Handbook on the official website of the SDA Church. I was blown away with how many programs fall under the umbrella of Personal Ministries. But first let me share previous names of the ministry which show the focus over the years:

The Vigilant Missionary Society
(1869)

The Missionary and Tract Society
(1870)

**The General Conference
Tract and Missionary Society of the
Seventh-day Adventists**
(1874)

The International Tract Society
(1882)

**The Home Missionary
Department of the General Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists**
(1918)

Lay Activities Department
(1966)

Church Ministries Department
(1985)

In 1995, the ministry was retitled *Personal Ministries* with the following vision and mission set forth:

VISION: Carry the gospel to the world.

MISSION: The aim of the department of Personal Ministries is to enlist every



*Rob Apel, Palmer SDA Church
Personal Ministries Team Member*

member in active soul-winning service for God.

Now what about those programs under the Personal Ministries Department here at the Palmer church? We have several different ministries within the church as well as in the community.

Bible Correspondence School

At Palmer, we use *Discover Bible School* for Bible study. Most of the students are from the Prison Ministry outreach, with a few coming through *Voice of Prophecy*.

Prison Ministry

Before COVID, the Palmer church had a one-hour program every Sabbath at the

Point Mackenzie Correctional Farm. Our church also alternated weekends with the Wasilla SDA Church for a program at Goose Creek Correctional Center. In addition, we worked with the Anchorage Hillside-O'Malley SDA Church providing Sabbath afternoon programs at the Highland Mountain Correctional Center. Now we support a group that meets at the Mat-Su Pre-Trial Facility as well as a midweek Zoom meeting at the Wildwood Correctional Complex in the Kenai.

Community Services

In 2018, a small food bank was started at the church. Currently, we help two to five families each month

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*Beverly Neuman, Palmer SDA Church
Personal Ministries Team Member*



TALKEETNA HOUSE FIRE RESTORATION MOVES FORWARD

WENDELL E DOWNS, Wasilla SDA Church Member

The Alaska Conference Camp Meeting attendees were surprised on July 24, 2021, during the Sabbath morning offering appeal, to be called on to help meet the challenge of restoring the home of Andrew and Rhianna VanOrnum, members of the Sunshine Adventist Church near Talkeetna, Alaska. The home had burned to the ground the night before while Andrew was out on another emergency call, but Rhianna and children had miraculously escaped the flames without injury. When finally tallied, the offering total and conference matching funds came to approximately \$20,000, not nearly enough to rebuild, but a wonderful launch of the project.

Back in the Wasilla Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church the next Sabbath, the word went out to the members about the fire, and the offering that had been initiated. The Wasilla Adventist Community Services (ACS) leader, Patrick Teagarden immediately called for volunteers, who met Sabbath

after church to assess what role ACS might take to help the project succeed. Wendell and Linda Downs were assigned to help identify potential volunteer help, and perform cost accounting for the project. Over the course of the next few days, it was determined that several members of the Palmer SDA Church were also interested in becoming involved, including *Craftsmen for Christ*, led by Lee Grimstad and Rob Carleson. It was also discovered that the Talkeetna Fire Chief had launched a Go-Fund-Me fund to help the family rebuild which eventually netted another approximate \$45,000. In addition, Moore's Hardware near Talkeetna agreed to offer building material at cost, as well as donating rental equipment usage from its rental department. God's miracles were becoming evident.

With all the emphasis on fund raising, it became evident that something must be done to organize the project, and the timely forward steps of ACS put it in the

right place to lead out in the project. Under Patrick Teagarden's leadership, the wheels began to turn. On Thursday evening, August 5, an initial planning group came together at the Wasilla SDA Church. During the planning session, windows for the new home were donated, and it was determined that the first priority included building a 300-foot-long driveway to access the burned house site which would become the site of reconstruction.

Almost unbelievably, God had already been moving on the heart of a local Talkeetna contractor, Sam McCullough, who not only agreed to fill the need for the driveway, but to do so immediately by noon the next day, August 6. In addition, God moved on the hearts of Tom Bosnjak and Mark Woodward, Adventist volunteer missionaries, to provide, free of charge, the demolition and cleanup of the burned-out home site, which took place on Sunday, August 8. Several members from the Wasilla and

Talkeetna Adventist churches including Cathy Teagarden, Brenda and Rod Rau, Cathy Reynolds, and others volunteered to provide lunch for the workers each Sunday that work took place. A broad group of Talkeetna locals from both the church and community have continued to show up for work on Sundays and sometimes during the week as well.

Every Sunday since has been dedicated to home rebuilding, with lots of prep work taking place throughout each week. Experienced workers such as Lee Grimstad, Rob Carleson, Robert Carey, and George Alder led teams of workers in specific areas of construction such as foundation prep, cement work, framing, and roofing. It was thrilling to watch the house go up with little fuss or friction. As of early October, the home was sealed with exterior paint, a working wood stove installed, and insulation and sheet rock installed. There is still more work to be done, but God continues to move on the hearts of volunteers to keep this project moving forward. With the continued help and support from the community, the family moved into their new home at the end of October, 2021.

This project has truly brought together a lot of people from the three Adventist churches, as well as Talkeetna local community volunteers. Many have marveled at the comradery which is developing between a broad cross section of volunteers who have been working together. God truly has been blessing the hearts and efforts of every body involved.

Pictures and more information about this project is available at the Wasilla ACS web site: <https://wasillaacs.org/>.



EVANGELISM & EDUCATION GO HAND IN HAND

KAREN CARLTON, Amazing Grace Academy Principal

Evangelism can take on many forms, but our favorite part of evangelism at Amazing Grace Academy is building friendships with our students and their families. One way we do that is by working on shared projects and working together for the good of others. In November, our students (and their families) donated canned goods and other food supplies for 31 food boxes.

On Friday, November 19, the entire student body worked together to pack those boxes, pray over them, and then our upper-grade students and parent volunteers delivered the boxes to families all over the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

Jesus asked His disciples to follow Him and modeled the example of a life of service. As we teach our children about and participate in service to others, we are following Jesus' example as we follow Him and make disciples.



ALASKA CONFERENCE HOSTS NAD MINISTERIAL DIRECTORS

TANDI PERKINS, Alaska Conference Development Director

Thirty-five members of the North American Division (NAD) of Seventh-day Adventist's Ministerial Advisory committees (Evangelism, Church Planting, Volunteer Lay Pastors and Church Revitalization) met in Anchorage, Alaska September 19-23, 2021, for their annual strategic planning meetings. For many, this was their first glimpse into the beauty of the Last Frontier and while much work was accomplished during the meeting times, there was still time after hours for members to enjoy the season's first snow fall, a glacier cruise and the Northern Lights.

The NAD Ministerial leadership has long supported the Alaska Conference's Arctic Mission Adventure ministry. As part of that support, they invited Tandi Perkins, development director of the Alaska Conference, to share the challenges and achievements of supporting the Alaska Native communities through outreach and spiritual connection. At the conclusion of the presentation, Dr. Ivan Williams, Jr., Director of the NAD Ministerial presented Jim Jensen, vice-president of Finance, with a check of \$15,000 in support of the Conference's Native work and pledged to continue to support spreading the Gospel into the bush. In addition to the support from the NAD, the New Jersey Conference of SDA agreed to adopt Kotzebue and committed \$4,000 in support for the next four years.

A return trip to Alaska is planned by the NAD Ministerial team in 2022 with representatives from each Union's Church Planting department. Part of the trip will include visits to several native villages by church planting representatives in the hopes of expanding the support of AMA across the NAD, through the adopt-a-village program. Please keep this endeavor in prayer that our leaders will see the need for supporting the "mission field in their backyard."



Above: Pastor Steve Evenson, Fairbanks District, leads the group in worship

Right: Ivan L. Williams, Sr., NAD Ministerial Director, welcomes participants



Above: Attendees learn about the challenges of ministry in Alaska

Right: Each table profiled an Arctic Mission village sharing the history of the people and Adventist outreach

Left: Ivan L. Williams, Sr., presents Jim Jensen with a check for the AMA ministry



THREE GENERATIONS ATTEND GOLDEN HEART CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

CINDY DASHER, Golden Heart Christian School Head Teacher

There has been an Adventist school in Fairbanks, Alaska since the 1950's although it has been in different locations over the years. The school, Golden Heart Christian School (GHCS) is currently located in a building next door to the Fairbanks SDA Church.

Through the years there has been quite a few second generation students that have attended GHCS, but not any third generation students until this school year. Tammy (Stuller) Burrow attended the school in the 1970's, Tammy's daughter Ashley (Burrow) Irwin attended in the 1990's. Now Ashley's children, Brayden and Brooklyn, are enrolled this year. Having two and three generations of family members attending GHCS is very special.

In the last three years, GHCS has been blessed with tremendous growth. In 2019, there were nine students and in 2020 we had 16 students; this year we have 24 students. It is exciting to see the school growing with most of the students coming from the community!

There is one certified teacher, Cindy Dasher. Jane Bador is the full time assistant who teaches some of the first

and second grade subjects, fourth grade math, and 5-8th grade science. Helen Norton, a retired teacher, volunteers by teaching math to grades 5-8. Sharon Junbenville, another retired teacher, is a volunteer that works with first and second grade students on phonics. Pearl LaFountain comes each Friday as a volunteer and does art projects with the students.

The most important aspect of GHCS outreach is teaching and showing students how to have a personal relationship with Jesus. Pastor Steve Evenson comes each Wednesday afternoon and has worship with the students. After worship he leads a small engine class for 5-8 grade students. The kids really enjoy the hands-on work and spending time with Pastor Evenson.

On October 23, the students led out in the Fairbanks church service. Grades 1-8 led the song service. For the sermon, grades 6-8 had readings about the founders and other important people that helped start the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

GHCS is the best private school in the interior of Alaska!



L-R: Brooklyn Irwin, Tammy Burrow, Ashley Irwin and Brayden Irwin

CONFERENCE SCHOOLS

Amazing Grace Academy
2238 S. Inner Springer Loop
Palmer, Alaska 99645
907.745.2691
alaskaaga@gmail.com

Anchorage Junior Academy
5511 O'Malley Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
907.346.2164
ajaak@gci.net

Dillingham Adventist School
PO Box 182
Dillingham, Alaska 99576
907.842.2496

Golden Heart Christian School
1809 Farmers Loop Road
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709
907.479.2904
ghcs@acsalaska.net

Juneau Adventist Christian School
4890 Glacier Highway
Juneau, Alaska 99801
907.780.4336
cynthia.lewis381@gmail.com

Sitka Adventist School
1613 Halibut Point Road
Sitka, Alaska 99835
907.747.8855
sitkaadventistschool@gmail.com

TOGETHER IN MISSION

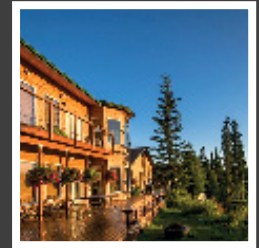
2022 ELDERS MEETINGS
JANUARY 21-22

register at www.alaskaconference.org

October 9 & 10, 2021, was the Midnight Son SDA Church Women's Retreat at The Gallery Lodge located in Kasilof where the first few attendees to arrive were greeted by a beautiful rainbow.

The retreat began with a delightful lunch followed by a time of fellowship. The group sang hymns accompanied by Denise Fouts and Rose Kimbrell who had brought their instruments. Erin Mercill, wife of Pastor Jonathan Mercill of the Kenai-Homer District, presented a thought-provoking devotion on although we all may be in different seasons of life, we can still encourage each other. The group also discussed opportunities for community services outreach for the area. The evening ended with the ladies playing board games or putting a puzzle together.

Sunday morning started with a wonderful breakfast then Dottie Hagen, the lodge owner, provided a tour of the onsite pottery studio. It was a wonderful weekend connecting with friends in the beauty of Alaska.



PERSONAL MINISTRY IN PALMER

Continued from Page 5

Bible Evangelism

This area of ministry involves setting up evangelistic meetings and seminars. We also purchased an evangelism sharing book, "The Day of the Lord." To familiarize members with the content, a follow-up sermon highlighted the main points and encouraged people to pass the book out to family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers.

Literature Distribution

At Palmer, we call ourselves "God's Seed Sowers." The church foyer has been refreshed with new and colorful sharing books both large and small; pamphlets; DVD's; as well as eye-catching magazine-size books some of which are in a cartoon format. There's something for everyone! Our next initiative will be to introduce churches magazines that can be sent to others thru subscriptions.

Member Training

The most exciting program that is coming is the Personal Ministries training program on Bible study which will be featured on a new Palmer Church

YouTube channel. Topics will include how to give Bible studies, personal witnessing, ideas for running church programs, identifying spiritual gifts, how to pray and many other topics. A recording studio has been set-up at the church which will be used to record high quality videos.

Small Group Ministries

Small groups are "entry events" for newcomers to be introduced to the church and its members. At Palmer small groups include: Craftsmen for Christ, Sisters of the North Sewing Circle, an exercise class in the fellowship hall, winter sports, Family Friendly Book Club, Total Forgiveness class, Financial Peace University seminars, Bluegrass jam sessions, food prep cooking class, survival skills, community basketball, Outdoor Explorer Group, Retrouvaille program for married couples, Pathfinders, and Adventurers.

Ingathering

Ingathering is an old term that strikes fear into the heart of some Adventists so we have decided to call it our "Christmas

Gift to the Poor." Each church family has been given a coin box for spare change then at our Christmas service, the boxes will be collected and the money sent to ADRA to purchase goats for needy families.

There is another ministry idea the church would like to implement. This would involve displaying an area map of Palmer in the church and assigning parts of the map to different members. This would be each person's territory for prayer, visiting, literature distribution, and handing out materials for upcoming programs.

Now that we have a framework for working in this missionary outreach area of our church, our Personal Ministry Council has been meeting monthly to develop and grow programs for our church.

At Palmer SDA Church, we are excited about personal ministries! We hope that you are inspired to launch a new program at your church to reach members and friends in your community.

ALASKA CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 22, 2021 | Zoom

PRESENT: Kevin Miller (Chair), Melvin Santos (Secretary), Jim Jensen, Chad Angasan, Celesta Babb, Mally Concepcion, Elford Joseph, David King, Kallie McCutcheon, Danya Nicketa, Tina Steenmeyer, Tiffany Tago, Ryan Woehler, Jessica Yun

NPUC REPRESENTATIVE: Bill McClendon

PASTOR HIRING (21-15): VOTED to hire Pastor Daniel Jean-Francois for the Anchorage Community and Eagle River District.

CLOSING PRAYER

ALASKA CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 16, 2021

PRESENT: Kevin Miller (Chair), Melvin Santos (Secretary), Jim Jensen, Chad Angasan, Celesta Babb, Mally Concepcion, Kallie McCutcheon, Danya Nicketa, Tiffany Tago, Jessica Yun

NPUC REPRESENTATIVE: Mark Remboldt

ABSENT: David King, Elford Joseph, Tina Steenmeyer, Ryan Woehler

DEVOTIONAL: Melvin Santos

AGENDA (21-16): VOTED to approve the agenda.

MINUTES (21-17): VOTED to approve the minutes for January 24, March 29 and April 22.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Kevin Miller shared updates on the Pioneer auditorium, COVID-19 and proceeding with the pastoral search. We cannot add any new openings until all vacant positions for pastors are filled. Priority is the Pioneer auditorium; most funding has been received. Plans to pour cement in late May, waiting for road load restrictions to be lifted.

Pastors & Teachers Zoom meetings in February went well. Meetings will be in-person next year.

Project Safe Church is progressing well. NPUC is taking the lead; expected to be finalized at the Presidents' Council. Launch date is this fall.

Personnel Updates:

- Pastor Jonathan Mercill arrived in March at Kenai District.
- Karen Carlton is the new Amazing Grace Academy principal.
- Kallie McCutcheon is leaving Sitka school to be replaced by Rachel Carle.
- Pastor Daniel Jean-Francois will be arriving in July for the Anchorage Community and Eagle River District.
- Anchorage Hillside-O'Malley search update: Three names for consideration, but comes down to one solid candidate.

Delta Junction parsonage sale is complete.

Anchorage Community Church building project moving forward in late fall. Group has already met with the architect.

Arctic Mission Camp Meeting-In-A-Box went well.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT (21-18) (21-19): Melvin Santos shared that at the end of first quarter 2021, membership stood at 3,882. There were 22 baptisms, three Professions of Faith, nine by letter. Dropped by letter 10, deceased 5, removed 1, missing 1. Growth was 1.7% year-to-date (YTD). The conference has shown a major turnaround in growth.

Membership Transfers:

- **VOTED** Heather Webb from Valdez SDA Church to the Alaska Conference Church.
- **VOTED** Lancet Rathburn from the Alaska Conference Church to Pleasant Valley SDA Church in Happy Valley, Oregon.

TREASURER'S REPORT (21-20): Jim Jensen shared April tithe was \$326,734, an increase of 7.85%. YTD through April, tithe stands at \$1,349,924. In 2020, it was \$1,110,496 which is an increase of 21.56% including the tithe blessing. The adjusted total is 17.95%. March YTD budget is \$993,000 with actual expenses of \$923,472.

Arctic Mission Adventure YTD income as of April 30, 2021 is \$91,561 vs. in 2020 of \$175,099.

VOTED to accept the Treasurer's report, subject to audit.

NPUC REPORT: Mark Remboldt shared:

- All conferences in NPUC had tithe gain; over 10% YTD. Because of the tithe increase, there was a resulting increase in net assets. Goal is to return funds back to conferences.
- NPUC Initiatives: Evangelism focus with release of additional \$450,000 in evangelism funding. Focus will be on small conferences: Idaho, Alaska & Montana. Idaho is making plans for 2022.

ALASKA CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 16, 2021 CONT.

- Praise and prayers for David Prest, Idaho Conference President's recovery.
- NPUC will contribute \$1.4 million for evangelism.
- Walla Walla University's (WWU) enrollment has declined. NPUC can wait until WWU is in financial trouble or be proactive. Issue is many SDA students are going to community colleges. NPUC will be putting \$1 million in scholarship funding for SDA students to attend WWU.
- Youth Ministry: *Growing Young* project is seeing success. Rob Lang is working on the NPUC camporee. DiscipleTrek is a youth camp program training youth to become disciples.
- Regional Convocation was a success.
- NPUC employees are still working remotely; will open in June 2021.

SUMMER CAMPS (20-21):

DATES:

June 24-27	Teen Leader Trek/TLT
June 28-July 1	Teen eXtreme Camp
July 2-5	Family Camp
July 7-11	Teen eXtreme Camp
July 12-16	Junior Camp
July 26-31	Anchorage Ultimate Day Camp
July 27-August 14	Ultimate Day Camps
August 1-8	Camp Lorraine

VOTED to approve Summer Camp dates for 2021

COVID PROTOCOLS (21-22): Alaska Camps 2021 COVID -19 Operational Protocols, updated April 27, 2021.

If you are not comfortable with these policies, please do not sign your child up for camp.

Mask Use: Masks are allowed, but not required.

Physical Distancing:

- I. Camp will be running at half capacity to allow for "physical distancing".
- II. Cabins will be established as pods.
- III. Eating will be in half capacity rotations and food served by kitchen staff (no buffet).
- IV. We will attempt to keep a physical distance of three feet.

V. Showers will be on rotating basis for each cabin group.

Healthy Hygiene Behaviors:

- I. Wash hands frequently.
- II. Hand sanitizer will be available when running water is not convenient.
- III. Regular cleaning of living space.

Screening & Testing:

- I. Temperature will be taken upon arrival. Those with 100.4+ readings will not be admitted; full refund will be provided.
- II. Temperatures will be taken daily at breakfast by staff.
- III. Negative COVID-19 test three days prior to first day of camp encouraged.
- IV. Vaccines are not required, but we would appreciate knowing if camper has received it.

VOTED to approve to support summer camps with the following additional items:

1. Campers get COVID-19 tested three days prior to first day of camp encouraged.
2. Staff get COVID-19 testing before and during all camps.
3. Follow safety protocols if staff member tests positive.

CAMP MEETING: Southcentral Camp Meeting: We are reviewing protocols for a safe camp. Shortened version, Thursday-Sunday. There will be no potluck. Cafeteria will be open on Thursday and Friday for campers and meals will be served by staff. Masking will be inside buildings.

COVID-19 REVIEW: COVID-19 protocols remains the same.

APPRECIATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

- Kallie McCutcheon was acknowledged for her service as a teacher in the conference.
- Elder Melvin Santos was acknowledged for his service as Vice-President of Administration in our conference and Discipleship and Evangelism ministries. He has accepted a call to be Vice-President of Administration for the Kansas-Nebraska Conference.

CLOSING PRAYER



On June 12, 2022, the Southcentral Adventist community is joining together in support of village communities!

The Palmer Seventh-day Adventist Church, in conjunction with the Alaska Conference of SDA and member churches, presents the **2022 Valley2Village fundraiser** in support of Arctic Mission Adventure villages.



For more information visit www.palmerak.adventistchurch.org/ministries/valleytovillage or email Pastor Ryan Rogers: pastor.ryan.rogers@gmail.com.

ALASKA CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

September 26, 2021 | Zoom

PRESENT: Kevin Miller (Chair), Jim Jensen, Chad Angasan, Celesta Babb, Mally Concepcion, David King, Danya Nicketa, Ryan Rogers, Tina Steenmeyer, Tiffany Tago, Ryan Woehler, Jessica Yun

NPUC REPRESENTATIVE: John Freedman

INVITEES: Brenda Campbell-Johnson, Tobin Dodge, Steve Evenson, Rod Rau

ABSENT: Elford Joseph

PRAYER: Kevin Miller

MINUTES (21-27): VOTED with the following corrections:

- Danya Nicketa was not present on July 26, 2021.
- Vice-President/Secretariat vote was not unanimous (12-1).

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Statistical report and baptismal report were presented with 37 baptisms year-to-date.

Camps updated on Pioneer and need for operating committee for Polaris. Camps Tuk and Lorraine have operating committees.

Camp Meeting: Southeast, Interior and Southcentral were all held in-person with COVID protocols in place. There have been no reported COVID cases as a result of camp meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT (21-28): VOTED to accept the financial report as presented by Jim Jensen.

NPUC REPORT: John Freedman shared that at the Mid-America Union constituency, it was voted to ordain women into the ministry.

All NPUC conference tithe is up by 10% or more.

DEVELOPMENT: In lieu of Tandi Perkins being unavailable to present her report, Kevin Miller provided the following information:

- \$251,460 donated to Arctic Missions Adventure (AMA) YTD.
- Mission trips and Adopt-a-Village has participants with the North American Division.
- Evangelism and church planting are being worked.

AMA-ALASKA CAMPS-GROWING YOUNG-YOUTH-YOUNG ADULT:

Tobin Dodge provided updates on AMA and radio stations, as well as the Growing Young program that is being used in eight churches. Also reported:

- Hosted four weeks of resident camps serving 130 campers.
- Two-day camps were held, one in Bethel and one in Togiak.
- Kotzebue, Gulkana and Shungnak camps were cancelled because of various travel or village conditions.
- Partnered with Nome Community Center to help run cultural camps. This is the third year we have participated.

EDUCATION: Rod Rau reported the student count of 204 for the following schools: Amazing Grace Academy: 99; Anchorage Junior Academy: 45; Dillingham Adventist School: 22; Golden Heart

Christian School: 24; Juneau Adventist Christian School: 4; and Sitka Adventist School: 10.

MINISTERIAL: Steve Evenson reported that the NAD Called Convention is scheduled for June 19-22, 2022. Most of Alaska pastors are actively participating in the Adventist Learning Community.

COMMUNICATION: Brenda Campbell-Johnson reported MailChimp e-newsletter audience of 1,255 with 50% open rate; Gleaner two-page spread for Alaska with goal to feature education, urban & arctic ministries; Alyeskan goal is to produce 3-4 issues annually. Challenge is obtaining content for all communication channels.

Goals:

- Align conference brand across all media platforms.
- Develop conference-wide social media policy.
- Increase online presence through church and school website and social media.

Collaboration:

- Alaska served as cohost of the April Northwest Adventists Regional Convocation
- NPUC assisted Alaska with its Southcentral Camp Meeting.
- Alaska provided technical support to the Northwest Adventist Urban Ministry Convention in September.

Upcoming: Issue III of Alyeskan, Society of Adventist Communications Convention, October 17-19, and AMA End of Year campaign.

COVID PROTOCOL (21-29): VOTED to reaffirm the COVID recommendations that were initiated in May for churches, schools and gatherings. Brenda Campbell-Johnson to forward Adventist Health's videos on COVID-19 to David King, Ryan Woehler and Jessica Yun to determine distribution.

CLOSING PRAYER

REMOTE SABBATH SCHOOL

1.800.719.6100 Access Code 4760107

Sabbath Mornings at 9:30 a.m.



ALASKA CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 24, 2021 | In-Person & Zoom

PRESENT: Kevin Miller (Chair), Jim Jensen, Celesta Babb, Mally Concepcion, Ryan Rogers,

Tina Steenmeyer, Jessica Yun

ZOOM: Chad Angasan, Danya Nicketa, Ryan Woehler

NPUC REPRESENTATIVE: Bill McClendon

INVITEES: John Loor, Steve Evenson

ABSENT: Elford Joseph, David King, Tiffany Tago

OPEN ACEC POSITIONS: Southeast pastor, teacher and lay person

AGENDA (21-31): VOTED to accept the agenda.

MEET & GREET: Darryl & Ginger Bentley were introduced to the ACEC as prospective Vice-President of Administration/Secretariat for the Alaska Conference with a question and answer session.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION/SECRETARIAT POSITION (21-32): VOTED to invite Darryl Bentley to fill the position of Vice-President of Administration/Secretariat for the Alaska Conference (unanimous vote).

TITHE EXCHANGE (21-33): VOTED to exchange \$100,000 from tithe to non-tithe with the North Pacific Union Conference (unanimous vote).

CLOSING PRAYER

IN THE NEXT EDITION

In 2022, the focus of the Alyeskan will be outreach and service.

We will be highlighting how members, churches, schools and ministries move as one throughout Alaska as we serve

TOGETHER IN MISSION

Stewardship Moment

Jim Jensen, VP of Finance

Moments of Happiness

A few days ago a plane was taking off from the city of Magadan, Russia. Shortly after take off the plane shook violently and started to plunge. The pilots were able to stabilize the plane but it refused to climb. They were considering attempting an emergency landing but felt they had limited control and a full load of fuel. The ground temperature in Magadan was about -25f. After looking at their options they headed to another airport. The closest one was even colder so they flew farther over the course of a couple hours they were finally able to climb to normal cruising altitude. About five hours later they had burned off enough fuel and were near an airport where the temperature was 30 degrees f above zero. The landing was successful. The cause of the problems is believed to be someone sold and replaced the deicer with a cheaper fraudulent substitute. The passengers are not in the town where they were heading. Despite the change of plans they are enjoying moments of happiness.

Despite all the changes in plans over the last few years we can still move forward. I encourage you, especially in the busyness of this season to take time to see a few little moments of Happiness. Thousands of years ago

God made a plan. The reason for this season is that he would have implemented the plan if there was only one of us. Each one of us are that valuable to him.

FIRST FRUITS

PROV 3:9

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

-James 1:17 NIV

2022

Alaska Conference & Offering Schedule

6100 O'Malley Rd, Anchorage AK 99507 P: 907-346-1004 F: 907-346-3279 W: www.alaskaconference.org HRS: Mon-Thu 8:30 a - 5:30 p

JANUARY

January 17

Closed: MLK Jr Day

January 20

Board of Education

January 21-22

Elders Meetings

January 23

Alaska Executive Committee

FEBRUARY

February 1

Town Hall

February 10-12

Pastors & Teachers Meetings

February 14-15

New In Ministry Meetings

February 16

Arctic Workers Meeting

February 18-19

Nome Camp Meeting

February 21

Closed: President's Day

February 25-26

Young Adult Ski Weekend

MARCH

March 4-5

Alaska Pathfinder Bible Experience

March 21

AMA Board Meeting

March 25-26

Bethel Camp Meeting

APRIL

April 8-9

Barrow Camp Meeting

April 22-23

NAD Pathfinder Bible Experience

April 29-30

St. Lawrence Camp Meeting

MAY

May 9-11

Spring Strategic Planning

May 12

Board of Education

May 15

Alaska Executive Committee

May 24

Town Hall

May 27-29

Alaska Ministries Convention

May 30

Closed: Memorial Day

JUNE

June 5-11

Day Camps - Bethel

June 12-18

Alaska Camps Staff Training

June 17-18

Interior Camp Meeting

June 19

Closed - Juneteenth

June 19-22

NAD Called Convention - Lexington

June 19-25

Alaska Camps - Camp Tuk Juniors

June 26-July 2

Alaska Camps - Camp Tuk Teens

JULY

July 4

Closed: Independence Day

July 5-16

Alaska Camps - Camp Polaris

July 19-23

Southcentral Camp Meeting

July 21

Blood Bank Alaska @ Pioneer Peak Campground

July 25

Closed: Camp Meeting Debrief

July 24-Aug 13

Alaska Camps - Mission Groups, Day Camps, Camp Crave

July 28-31

Men's Retreat

July 29-31

Southeast Camp Meeting

AUGUST

August 8-9

Teachers Meetings

August 25-Sept 5

State Fair Outreach

Dates subject to change

SEPTEMBER

September 2-4

Alaska Pathfinders Camporee - Camp Tuk

September 5

Closed: Labor Day

September 19

AMA Board Meeting

September 19

Board of Education

September 22-24

Native Leadership Workshop

September 25

Alaska Executive Committee

OCTOBER

October 4

Town Hall

October 7-22

Evangelism Field School - Dillingham

NOVEMBER

November 24

Closed - Thanksgiving

December 8

Board of Education

DECEMBER

December 11

Alaska Executive Committee

December 24-31

Closed: Christmas

December 31

AMA Annual Offering

2022 OFFERING SCHEDULE

JANUARY

- 01 Local Church Budget
- 08 Religious Liberty (NAD)
- 15 Local Church Budget
- 22 Alaska Conference YES
- 29 Local Church Budget

FEBRUARY

- 05 Local Church Budget
- 12 Adventist TV Ministries (NAD)
- 19 Local Church Budget
- 26 Alaska Conference YES

MARCH

- 05 Local Church Budget
- 12 World Budget (GC)
- 19 Local Church Budget
- 26 Alaska Conference YES

APRIL

- 02 Local Church Budget
- 09 Hope Channel Int'l (GC)
- 16 Local Church Budget
- 23 Alaska Conference YES
- 30 Local Church Budget

MAY

- 07 Local Church Budget
- 14 Disaster-Famine Relief (GC/NAD)
- 21 Local Church Budget
- 28 Alaska Conference YES

JUNE

- 04 Local Church Budget
- 11 Women's Ministries (NAD)
- 18 Local Church Budget
- 25 Alaska Conference YES

JULY

- 02 Local Church Budget
- 09 World Budget (GC)
- 16 Local Church Budget
- 23 Alaska Conference YES
- 30 Local Church Budget

AUGUST

- 06 Local Church Budget
- 13 Christian Record Svcs (NAD)
- 20 Local Church Budget
- 27 Alaska Conference YES

SEPTEMBER

- 03 Local Church Budget
- 10 World Budget (GC)
- 17 Local Church Budget
- 24 Alaska Conference YES

OCTOBER

- 01 Local Church Budget
- 08 Walla Walla University (NPUC)
- 15 Local Church Budget
- 22 Alaska Conference YES
- 29 Local Church Budget

NOVEMBER

- 05 Local Church Budget
- 12 Annual Sacrifice-Global Mission
- 19 Local Church Budget
- 26 Alaska Conference YES

DECEMBER

- 03 Local Church Budget
- 10 Adventist Community Svcs (NAD)
- 17 Local Church Budget
- 24 Alaska Conference YES
- 31 AMA Annual Offering



Alyeskan

Alaska Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
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“I am learning that
Jesus is my spiritual gift
in these dark times.”



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