



ALYESKAN

NEWS & VIEWS

FOR ALASKA'S SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

2016 | ISSUE 1

A Message from the President

Ken Crawford, President

Dear Fellow Brothers and Sisters of the Alaska Conference,

Let me share with you some of our needs in the conference. I am in my 12th year in leadership here and as I travel from church to church, I am gratified by the ongoing faithfulness and support of our members.

However, I can foresee that we have some great financial challenges on the horizon. As I review the financial history of the conference, there have been years of plenty as well as lean years where the theme was ongoing cutbacks and downsizing. For the last decade, we have been trying to streamline expenses and prioritize the flow of dollars to prepare for lean times.

The year-end income for 2015 fell short of our expenditures by over \$270,000.

This means we will have to make further adjustments for 2016 in order to stay within our budget. Our conference is committed to living within what we receive from the constituency and at times like these we need to be very careful in our expenditures.

I would like to address three items of concern:

1. The organizational system in the Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) church is unique and I believe, heaven ordained. Our organization is divinely designed for equality. As one of the smallest conferences in the division, the Alaska Conference does not have the same resources of larger conferences. We are completely dependent on the North Pacific Union Conference for many resources that we simply can't afford, i.e., trust services, attorney support, etc. In the same way, there are about five churches in the Alaska Conference that financially support the rest of the churches. These smaller churches are completely dependent on these five churches' financial support. In 2015, the majority of these five churches saw losses in tithe.

2. I have observed and frequently heard that more and more of the giving is being channeled to independent ministries such as 3ABN, Amazing Facts, It is Written, Voice of Prophecy, Maranatha, etc. Now let me be very clear, these are wonderful, God-led ministries that are doing front line work. God is blessing them and they are vital to the ongoing evangelism of the church. But many times, the thrill of funding the exciting

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ALYESKAN

Alaska Conference
6100 O'Malley Rd
Anchorage AK 99507
907.346.1004
www.alaskaconference.org

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Northside Round Table Seminar

Kevin Miller, VP Ministerial

On January 22, 2016 an interactive prophecy seminar began at the Northside SDA Church. The seminar ran for four weeks and encompassed the major themes from prophecy all the while engaging guests with church members. The church members helped the guests begin the evening's study by walking them through a Bible study guide as they shared a light supper. At the 15-minute mark, the pastor gave a 30-minute presentation on the topic and then the people went back to their study guides and table discussions. This was all done at round tables that accommodated six to eight people and lasted one hour.

While the adults were doing their seminar, the kids (approximately 12 and under) were in their own interactive seminar. They did the same study topics as their parents and grandparents. They had a genuinely good time while coming away with eternal seeds planted in their hearts.

Interactive evangelism is a positive way that disciples are introduced and won to Christ where a life of deepening faith and commitment commences. Jesus used this interaction with His first disciples. Andrew and John wanted to know where Jesus stayed after they heard His introduction as the Lamb of God. They spent the afternoon with Jesus and we can imagine the conversation that took place. Jesus would use this interactivity to great effect in winning people to God's

kingdom. It placed a premium on the individual and where she/he was at in the moment they met Jesus.



This round table experience is still somewhat new to us at Northside, but we have found it helps in giving that personal touch that is so important with people coming to know Jesus. One gentleman could only come to one night, but in that one night the table leader connected with him to encourage a follow-up friendship. Others continued coming and remained at the tables where they started because they established that connection with the person who served as the table leader. Several of these folk are now attending church and continuing their budding lives as disciples of Christ.

For the church members, this did essentially two things: The first was to look at the prophecies and their themes through the eyes of a teacher. They needed to come to fresh understandings so they could help guide the guests through the study. And as they did, they developed friendships with the guests. As a result, three people made decisions for baptism as well as those who continue to study. Interactive seminars are a useful tool in reaching people for Jesus.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women's Ministry
Retreat/Conference
(Anchorage)
April 29-May 1

K-10 Board of
Education
May 19

Alaska Executive
Committee
May 22

Alaska Pathfinder
Camporee
(Flat Lake)
May 27-30

Southeast Town
Hall Meetings
June 2-12

Interior Camp
Meeting
June 17-19

Alaska Camps
Tuk Jrs: Jun 19-26
Tuk Teens: Jun 26-Jul 3

JOIN A REMOTE SABBATH SCHOOL CLASS!

Sabbath Mornings at 9:30 a.m.

1-800-920-7487 | Access Code: 53383143#

Alaska may be the Last Frontier, but you need not feel isolated or disconnected. Now you can make one toll-free call and join a lively Sabbath School class already in session. Facilitated by Alaskans Richard Dennis of Chistochina and Paul Kildal in Glennallen, the class follows the weekly lesson plan. Why not give it a try next Sabbath morning??

Palmer Prophecy Seminar

James & Stephanie Hall, Palmer Church Members

What is the most important thing for a SDA Church to do? Evangelism, of course! The Palmer SDA Church in Palmer, Alaska learned that evangelism is best done with a lot of prayer.

At 6:20 every evening, Elder Quentin Purvis gathered the workers around in a circle and they prayed. Daily, the individual church members would pray for the attendees. When guests walked in, prayerful greeters joyfully welcomed them. In the prayer room, there were ladies that were intensely interceding for the people attending the meetings before, during, and after the meetings.

There were other things that had to happen to bring the three-night per week round-table evangelism to fruition, but all would be for naught if it weren't for prayer. Teams of people transformed a school gymnasium into a presentation hall. Professional table settings complete with tablecloths, plants, water pitchers and Bibles adorned the tables. Food was beautifully and creatively displayed and prepared every night.

The round-table seating was homey and intimate, helping people each meeting to get to know each other better. Even the children talked about the things they had learned on the drive home. For everyone, the setting facilitated a relaxed and enjoyable seminar lead by Elder Purvis.

People were digging in the Bible asking questions at their table. Everyone learned something deep every evening. Of course, people were always praying.

Any observer could see that there were times that the Holy Spirit was weighing heavily upon people's hearts. One could see the conviction on hearts and minds. Their eyes reflected a pensiveness. They were truly in the valley of decision as the table coordinators answered deep questions and thoughtful queries. People were praying.

The room was filled with both members and non-members. There were times that you could 'hear a pin drop' because of the seriousness of the issue at hand. Certainly, the Enemy was active from time to time, but the prayers of the people were answered. It was exciting! And the prayers of the saints prevailed.



Seminar attendees gather for an evening of study and prayer



A Life-Changing Experience

SUMMER 2016

Camp Tukuskoya Juniors: June 19-26
Camp Tukuskoya Teens: June 26-July 3
Camp Polaris: July 10-17
Camp Lorraine: July 31 - August 7



visit
alaskacamps.org
for more info and
camp applications!

ALASKA CONFERENCE

2016 PATHFINDER CAMPOREE

Outreach

May 27-30, 2016 | Camp Tukuskoya



Quadrennial Constituency Meeting

Quentin Purvis, VP Secretariat

UPCOMING EVENTS

Alaska Camps
Polaris: Jul 10-17

Alaska Men's
Retreat
July 15-17

Southcentral
Camp Meeting
(Palmer, AK)
July 19-23

17th Quadrennial
Constituency
(Palmer, AK)
July 24

Southeast Camp
Meeting
(Vank Island)
July 29-31

Alaska Camps
Camp Lorraine
Jul 29 - Aug 7

Chistochina
Women's Retreat
August 5-7

Many of you have heard that Pastor Crawford will be retiring and have been wondering about the process that is to take place in electing a new president for the Alaska Conference. For those who are not familiar, we have what is called Bylaws of the Alaska Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. I'd like to explain to you just what the process is.

Every four years, this conference holds a regular quadrennial constituency meeting at a place the Executive Committee of the conference designates. The 17th Quadrennial Constituency Meeting will be held July 24, 2016, at the Pioneer Peak Campground in Palmer, Alaska. A notice must be given at least 60 days before the meeting and be printed in an official publication, the Gleaner, to announce the time and place of the constituency. Delegates are chosen from the churches who hold membership in the local conference and who are in good and regular standing. "Each church shall be entitled to one delegate for the organization and one additional delegate for each 25 members or major fraction thereof."

Each church selects one delegate to be on the Organizing Committee that will meet April 17, 2016, at the Alaska Conference office at 10 a.m. Their job will be to select the Nominating Committee and a Constitution and Bylaws Committee. "The nominating

committee shall consist of 12 members, in addition to the president of the North Pacific Union Conference or his designee, who shall serve as chairperson, voting only in case of a tie." The committee members are comprised of delegates to the constituency meeting and balanced, as nearly as possible, between denominational workers and laypersons representing various segments of the work and territories of the conference. This committee must begin meeting at least three days before the regular session. The Nominating Committee submits for approval to the delegates in session a list of individuals to serve in the following offices until their successors are elected:

- a. Conference officers
- b. Departmental directors
- c. Executive committee members

The Nominating Committee will meet June 19, 2016, at 10 a.m. at the conference office in Anchorage with the North Pacific Union Conference President Max Torkelson, or his designee, Executive Secretary John Loor, serving as chairperson.

Packets will then be sent out to all delegates explaining the results of the Nominating Committee and on July 24th the constituency will vote on both the recommendations of the Nominating Committee and Constitution and Bylaws Committee.



Alaska Women's Ministries Conference

with
Mary-Ellen Colón, Asst. Director of General Conference Sabbath School and Personal Ministries | Director of ACS International & Special Liaison-Community Services with ADRA International

&
Victoria Kildal, Licensed Seventh-day Adventist Counselor

April 29 - May 1, 2016 | Alaska Conference Office
Questions: DeAnna Scott (907-360-8363) or Jean Gobah (907-242-9889)

REGISTER AT AKCONFWM.SHAREPOINT.COM




Tithe Ups and Downs

Jim Jensen, VP Treasury

Through October and November of 2015, tithe was basically flat when compared with 2014. In December, we were more than \$250,000 lower in comparison to December 2014 tithe. We have started 2016 off with some nice gains. January tithe in 2016 was \$383,514 compared to \$266,117 in 2015. February tithe in 2016 was \$309,900 compared to \$286,450 in 2015.

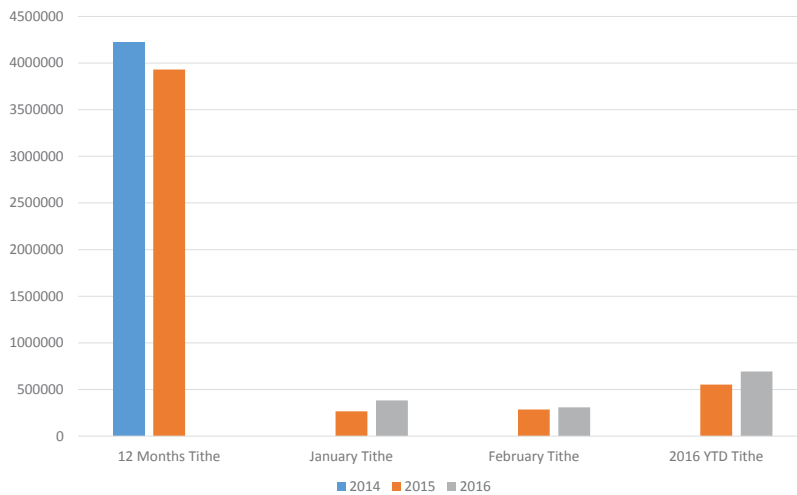
Your conference administration and Executive Committee have continued with a careful spending plan for 2016. The spending plan is based on 96.5% of

actual tithe for 2015. We also continue to maintain money equal to 90 days of expenses.

Over the last eight years we have had three missionary families in Togiak and for most of that time it has seemed like progress was slow. However, over the last year and a half, 11 young people have committed their lives to Christ through baptism; a dozen more are studying at this time. Because of you, the mission moves forward. Thank you for your faithfulness in tithe, offerings, time, talent and friendship.



Alaska Conference Tithe Report



Ambassadors for Adventist Christian Education

(AACE) is a new initiative out of the Center for Research on K-12 Adventist Education, the organization responsible for the CognitiveGenesis study. AACE was designed to recruit, organize and support volunteers for the K-12 Adventist educational system.

Individuals passionate about Adventist education apply to become an Ambassador. AACE reviews each application and pairs the individual up with a school that has identified a need that matches the Ambassador's specific skillset.

The different ways that Ambassadors are volunteering are as varied as the individuals themselves. One Ambassador is helping a school to create its own YouTube channel; another Ambassador is an experienced grant writer and fundraiser and has volunteered to help schools with their various projects to that end.

If you would like to help us champion Adventist education by becoming an Ambassador and supporting our schools, please visit our website –aace.lasierra.edu – or call our office at 951.785.2997.



We believe in Adventist education and feel that with more Ambassadors on the ground, collaborating with our principals and working in the community, we can provide positive support to our schools and strengthen Adventist education.

Camp Meeting 2016

What You Need to Know

SPEAKERS



Richie & Timi Brower



Ken Crawford



Lonnie Melashenko



Tim Roosenberg



Ted & Nancy Wilson

ACCOMMODATIONS

Cabins, RV and tent sites, as well as a fully appointed bathhouse and community kitchen, are available to help meet your needs. Cabins are \$175 for the week; RV and tent sites are \$60. Reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis and can be made by phone at 907-346-1004 or email: alaskainfo@ac.npuc.org. **Please note there is a waitlist for cabins at this time.**

ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER (ABC)

The Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) ABC will be on-site with books and food offerings. If you would like to pre-order food, please see the list provided and contact the UCC ABC prior to June 6th.

There will not be a book exchange; please do not bring donations to camp meeting.

BLOOD BANK

The Blood Bank of Alaska is back on campus this year. We are happy to support the Blood Bank of Alaska by providing the opportunity for campers to give blood. The BloodMobile will be on campus **Thursday, July 21, from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.** Give the gift of life and sign up to be a donor. Make your appointment at the Information Booth. Remember to eat breakfast, bring picture identification and donate!

MEALS

Cafeteria service will be offered during camp meeting starting with Tuesday evening meal. Tickets are available for purchase at the Information Booth. **Prices and meal times have changed.** All meals are \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children ages 4-12 (kids 0-3 eat for free). Breakfast is 7-7:45 a.m., Lunch 12-1 p.m. & Dinner 5:30-6:30 p.m. **There is no cafeteria service on Sabbath, but join us for traditional pancake breakfast on July 24th at 8 a.m. and remember to bring your favorite topping.**

SABBATH LUNCH

Sabbath there will be a campus-wide potluck. Please plan accordingly and bring your dish prepared and ready to serve; remember to bring extra for your neighbors! For your convenience, the campus kitchen, located directly south of the auditorium, will be available for use as there are no meals served nor access to the cafeteria kitchen during Sabbath hours.

SPEAKERS

The speaker schedule is still in development. Visit www.alaskaconference.org for the most up-to-date information!



Pioneer Peak Campground | 16970 E. Maud Road, Palmer, Alaska | 907-745-5841
Email: alaskainfo@ac.npuc.org | Web: www.alaskaconference.org

UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER | 1-800-286-0161

*** * * PRE-ORDER CAMP MEETING 2016 BY JUNE 6, 2016 * * ***

STACK & SAVE

Worthington & Loma Linda Canned Items ONLY

Buy seven cases = Get \$21 instant rebate | Buy 14 cases = Get \$42 off

CEDAR LAKE

Case	Per Case	Price
3 Grain Pecan Patty	6	\$34.99
Beef Patty Mix	12	\$72.99
Beef Strips	12	\$72.99
Breading Meal	12	\$85.99
Breakfast Sausage	12	\$72.99
Chicken Patty Mix	12	\$72.99
Chick'n Strips	12	\$72.99
Chick'n Dinner	12	\$72.99
Chili	12	\$52.99
Chops	6	\$34.99
Deli-Frank	6	\$34.99
Dinner Cutlet	6	\$34.99
Dinner Steaks	12	\$72.99
Hostess Cuts	6	\$34.99
Jumbo Frank	6	\$34.99
Nutabella Nut Loaf	6	\$34.99
NuteeSupreme	6	\$34.99
Nuti-Loaf	12	\$72.99
Proteinut	12	\$72.99
Quik-Burger	12	\$72.99
Sloppy Joe	12	\$72.99
Tasty-Link	12	\$72.99
Terkettes	6	\$34.99
Tofu-Link	6	\$34.99
Vegeburger	6	\$34.99
Vegi-Frank	12	\$72.99
Vegi-Scallops	6	\$34.99

LOMA LINDA CANNED

Beefless Chunks	12	\$48.99
Big Franks (20 oz)	12	\$49.99
Big Franks (96 oz)	6	\$88.99
Chik'n Chunks	12	\$48.99
Chik'n Patty	12	\$48.99
Fishless Tuna	12	\$48.99
Five Bean Chili	12	\$39.99
Fried Chik'n with Gravy	12	\$48.99
Gravy - Brown	12	\$15.99
Gravy - Chicken	12	\$15.99
Gravy - Mushroom	12	\$15.99
Gravy - White	12	\$15.99
Linketts (96 oz)	6	\$88.99
Linketts (20 oz)	12	\$55.99
Little LInks	12	\$55.99
Low Fat Big Franks	12	\$55.99
Redi-Burger	12	\$55.99
Sloppy Joe	12	\$55.99
Spicy Chorizo	12	\$49.99

Swiss Stake with Gravy (13 oz)	12	\$48.99
Swiss Stake with Gravy (47 oz)	12	\$112.99
Taco Filling	12	\$55.99
Tender Bits	12	\$55.99
Tender Rounds with Gravy	12	\$55.99
Vege Burger	12	\$55.99

WORTHINGTON CANNED

Chili (20 oz)	12	\$39.99
Chili (50 oz)	12	\$85.99
Choplets	12	\$53.99
Diced Chik	12	\$48.99
FriChik (12.5 oz)	12	\$45.99
FriChik (42 oz)	12	\$112.99
Low Fat Fri-Chik	12	\$45.99
Low Fat Veja-Links	12	\$55.99
Prime Stakes (13 oz)	12	\$48.99
Prime Stakes (47 oz)	12	\$112.99
Saucettes	12	\$55.99
Super Links	12	\$55.99
Vegetable Skallops (20 oz)	12	\$55.99
Vegetable Skallops (50 oz)	12	\$112.99
Vegetable Steaks	12	\$55.99
Vegetarian Burger (20 oz)	12	\$55.99
Vegetarian Burger (50 oz)	12	\$112.99
Veja-Links	12	\$55.99

COMPANION

Chai Pow Yu	24	\$49.99
Chai Pow Yu - Curry	24	\$49.99
Lo Han Chai	24	\$49.99
Mun Chai Ya	24	\$49.99
Braised Dried Bean Curds	24	\$49.99

COFFEE SUBSTITUTES

Case	Per Case	Price	Single
Roma	6	\$42.99	\$7.49
Postum	12	\$139.99	\$11.99

BETTER THAN MILK

Rice Original	6	\$96.99	\$16.69
Rice Vanilla	6	\$96.99	\$16.69
Soy Original	6	\$96.99	\$16.69
Soy Vanilla	6	\$96.99	\$16.99

BILL'S BEST

Beaf Season	12	\$78.99	\$6.89
Chik-Nish	12	\$65.99	\$5.89
Curry	12	\$58.99	\$4.99

The Upper Columbia Conference ABC will be on-site for the 2016 South Central Camp Meeting.

There will be a full selection of books, but a limited selection of food items that are not pre-ordered.

To guarantee you get the food you want, you must order by June 6. There is no payment required until you pick-up your order.

To order call UCC ABC toll-free at 800-286-0161 | Email: abc@uccsda.org | Online: www.abcorders.com/ak.

STACK & SAVE

Worthington Frozen | Cedar Lake | Heritage Foods

Buy 5 cases = Get \$5 instant rebate | 8 cases = \$8 | 12 cases = \$17

McKAYS SEASONING

Case	Per Case	Price	Single
Chicken Vegan	12	\$89.99	\$7.89
Chicken Original	12	\$89.99	\$7.89
Beef Vegan	12	\$89.99	\$7.89
Beef Original	12	\$89.99	\$7.89

VEGETARIAN EXPRESS

Case	Per Case	Price	Single
Beef-like Seasoning	12	\$79.99	\$6.89
La Chikky Seasoning	12	\$63.99	\$5.49
Parma Zaan Sprinkles	12	\$99.99	\$8.49
Pepper-Like Seasoning	12	\$59.99	\$5.39
Rich Brown Gravy	12	\$75.99	\$6.69
Saucy Ranch	12	\$59.99	\$5.39

OREGON TRAIL FOOD

Case	Per Case	Price	Single
Viva Italiano	12	\$87.99	\$7.99
BB & OHH!	12	\$87.99	\$7.99
Veggie Six Mix	12	\$87.99	\$7.90
Vege Caliente	12	\$87.99	\$7.99

MISCELLANEOUS

Case	Per Case	Price	Single
Bush Beans, Vegetarian	12	\$29.99	
Chiliman Chili	12	\$29.99	
George Washington Broth, Brown	12	\$42.99	\$1.99
George Washington Broth, Golden	12	\$42.99	\$1.99
Lindsay Green Olives	12	\$34.99	
Pickle Relish, Pa's (16 oz)	12	\$53.99	\$4.99
Salsa - Garden Fresh, Pa's	12	\$59.99	\$5.49
Soy Curls (Butler Foods)	24	\$89.99	\$3.99

SANITARIUM

Weet-Bix	12	\$54.99	\$4.89
Bixie Bites	12	\$59.99	\$5.49

Apricot, Berry or Crunch Honey

GEFFEN

Jello	24	\$42.99	\$1.99
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Cherry, Clear, Grape, Hawaii Tropical, Lemon, Lime, Orange, Raspberry, Strawberry

FROZEN FOOD OPTIONS

CEDAR LAKE FROZEN

Item	Pkgs	Case
Croquette Dor'ee	12	\$69.99
Golden Bits	12	\$59.99
Vege-Boloni Slices	12	\$58.99
Vege-Chik'n Slices	12	\$58.99
Vege-Corned Beef Slices	12	\$58.99
Vege-Fish Fillet	12	\$69.99
Vege-Ham Slices	12	\$58.99
Vege-Salami Slices	12	\$58.99
Vege-Tuna	12	\$58.99
Vege-Turkey Slices	12	\$58.99

HERITAGE FOODS FROZEN

Corn Dogs	8	\$39.99
Jumbo Hot Dogs	8	\$33.99
Hot Dogs	8	\$33.99
Vege-Fish Fillets	8	\$47.99

MORNINGSTAR FARMS BULK FROZEN

Breakfast Links	168	\$68.99
Breakfast Patties	112	\$65.99
Breakfast Strips	324	\$55.99
Chik Nuggets	212	\$72.99
Chik Patties	48	\$49.99
Grillers	48	\$39.99

MORNINGSTAR FARMS RETAIL FROZEN

Bacon Strips	12	\$49.99
Breakfast Sandwich, Sausage/Egg	8	\$49.99
Buffalo Wings	6	\$27.99
Chik Patties	8	\$35.99
Chik Patties Buffalo	7	\$31.99
Chik Patties Italian Herb	8	\$33.99
Chik'n Nuggets	6	\$23.99
Chipotle Black Bean Crumbles	8	\$39.99
Corn Dogs	8	\$31.99

Item	Pkgs	Case
Garden Veggie Nugget (Organic)	8	\$38.99
Garden Veggie Patties	8	\$35.99
Griller Crumbles	6	\$25.99
Grillers	6	\$35.99
Grillers California Turk'y Burger	8	\$35.99
Grillers Chik'n	8	\$35.99
Grillers Prime	8	\$35.99
Hickory BBQ Riblets	8	\$35.99
Hot & Spicy Sausage Patties	6	\$27.99
Mediterranean Chikpea Burger	8	\$35.99
Mushroom Lover's Burger	8	\$35.99
Parmesan Garlic Wings	6	\$28.99
Roasted Garlic Quinoa Burger	8	\$42.99
Sausage Lnks	12	\$49.99
Sausage Patties	6	\$27.99
Sausage Patties Maple	6	\$27.99
Southwest Sunrise Breakfast Sandwich	8	\$49.99
Spicy Black Bean Burger	8	\$31.99
Spicy Indian Veggie Burger (Organic)	8	\$38.99
Tomato Basil Pizza Burger	8	\$35.99
Veggie Bowls Spicy Black Bean Enchiladas	8	\$35.99
Veggie Bowls Tuscan Greens & Beans	8	\$35.99
Veggie Dogs	8	\$31.99

WORTHINGTON FROZEN

Item	Pkgs	Case	Single
Chicken Roll	4	\$79.99	\$22.99
Corned Beef Roll	4	\$87.99	\$24.99
Dinner Roast	6	\$67.99	\$12.99
Prosage Roll	12	\$77.99	\$6.69
Slices - Chicken	8	\$34.99	\$4.49
Slices - Corned Beef	8	\$34.99	\$4.49
Slices - Ham	8	\$34.99	\$4.49
Slices - Turkey	8	\$34.99	\$4.49
Smoked Turkey Roll	4	\$79.99	\$22.99
Wham Roll	4	\$87.99	\$24.99

Alaska #Mission2016

Todd Ervin, Pastor-Eagle River & Wasilla Churches



That was the title for Weimar Academy's domestic mission trip to Alaska this past February. Chad Bernard, Principal of Weimar Academy located in Colfax, California, placed a call to Pastor Todd Ervin of the Wasilla and Eagle River SDA churches asking if there would be any interest among the churches for 24 youth and five adults from the academy to come and perform mission service.

Pastor Ervin's first thought...how would 24 youth and five adults (29 total) be housed while here? Thanks to the conference for opening up the main building at the Palmer campground, that issue was quickly resolved!

For two weeks, the Wasilla and Eagle River churches were very busy with hosting an eight-week Depression Recovery (DPR) Seminar, a five-day stop smoking seminar at Wasilla, and a five-day Kid's Cooking School at Eagle River. Six members between the two churches took the 16 hour online training to become directors and facilitators for the DPR seminar, which is continuing after Weimar left to go back to California after their mission trip. Future plans to hold more DPR seminars, now with the trained church staff, is in the works.



One individual has stopped smoking after attending the smoking seminar and 20 kids thoroughly enjoyed learning how to cook healthy recipes and create their own cookbook to use after the five-day class ended.

Weimar also performed several sacred music concerts for four senior centers, three Christian schools (one of the three

was a non-SDA school), served breakfast at Beans Café in downtown Anchorage, assisted a church family in Talkeetna with various ranch chores, helped clean and spruce up the Talkeetna Church, performed the entire Sabbath services for two Sabbaths in a row at both Eagle River and Wasilla SDA churches, and



Weimar Academy Participants visit Alaska

performed an awesome sacred music concert for a vespers program at Wasilla SDA.

Even though the group was extremely busy, they still got to take in some 'Alaskan' life, which included walking the Matanuska Glacier and dog mushing in Willow. They were also able to view several moose and Mt. Denali in all of its splendor. The only disappointment was they did not get to see the Northern Lights, although they often woke early several mornings hoping to catch a glimpse of some of that Northern beauty!

God surely blessed our communities as Weimar left a positive influence with everyone they came in contact with!



MEN'S RETREAT
July 15-17, 2016
with Ted Wilson

Visit www.alaskaconference.org/men-s-ministry for registration information.

A Day in the Life of a Missionary

Judy & Dennis Skandunas, Arctic Mission Adventure Volunteers

As we've come to know our church family a little, some of the Native way of thinking, and the impact of alcohol on the culture in general, we realized traditional Adventist methods wouldn't work in village of Selawik. While at the conference meetings in January, we watched a set of Discover Bible School (DBS) study DVDs. They are of such outstanding quality that we longed for the community to be able to see them. We knew they would not come to the church, but thought during the long, cold, dark winter months that they might watch them in their homes. We contacted Monte Church, Director of Native Ministries Northwest, who granted us permission and his blessing to copy them and distribute them widely. We were SO grateful. (I told him on the phone, "I could cry!") We then ordered a DVD burner. Dennis hauled the precious packages of the burner and DVDs from the airport, across the two frozen rivers to the church, by sled. We burned 450 DVDs of both Native New Day (NND) series and children videos.

The NND DVDs were added into the grocery bag packets. Instead of doing door-to-door work here, it's "hand-to-

hand river evangelism" as we met people walking on the frozen river going to the store or post office! We have also put a box in one of the native grocery stores with the DVDs and literature and people are taking them.

The Lord provided another idea to us, (all the ideas came within a day or two of each other) to apply at the local school as substitute teacher aides/teachers, so we did that and have been there quite a few days. We feel strongly that the messages in the NND series, in the native language, will be the most effective way to reach people here. We see our role as planting seeds, but we also would like to expand the distribution of the DVDs and literature to other remote villages in this area of Alaska as well.

We are excited to see what the Lord is doing! We will be praying for a way of contacting the other villages next fall.

If you have any ideas, please let us know. Most of all we appreciate your continued prayers.

Do You Know
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DVDs ready to give out to the community



Judy making copies of DBS DVDs



The sun rises over the village of Selawik

A Message from the President cont.

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evangelistic needs of such ministries are at the cost of the ongoing needs at home. The people that these ministries are winning need a local church in which to find community. These ministries do not fund leadership or pastoral expenses of the local church. We are responsible for maintaining the shepherding needs at the local conference.

3. Another frequent observation I hear is that the funds in Alaska are all going to higher levels of the church. While it is true that most of our tithe goes on to higher levels of the church, in Alaska we receive back over 90% of the funds we send on to the higher levels in various subsidies and allocations. This system of redistribution, I believe, is designed to fund all areas evenly. The redistribution of the funds that come back to Alaska are vital to maintaining the work of the church here.

We have a growing work among the Alaska Native populations. We try to keep the Arctic Mission Adventure Ministry mostly self-supporting, so we spend a lot of time and energy in fundraising from

sources outside our conference for this ministry. We also have a vision to develop the work in reaching the needs of the young adults and young families in Alaska. I want to see every church with adequate pastoral leadership.

This appeal is asking you to remember your home conference, the Alaska Conference, in your support. If you need help with legacies, wills, trusts and annuities, etc., please contact Jim Jensen, but the bottom line is we need your support.

Lest I sound like I am lacking in faith, let me end with this council. I have been on this journey in Christ for many years. I have seen God's hand move in mysterious ways. After all these years, I can truly say with David:

A man's goings are established of Jehovah; And he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; For Jehovah upholdeth him with his hand. I have been young, and now am old; Yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his seed begging bread.

Ps 37:23



How would you like to have a Team go to an arctic village and put on a Vacation Bible School (VBS)?

Many adult Alaskans trace their conversion experience to their first exposure to Christ in VBS. We are looking for teams willing to travel to villages this summer.

WOULD YOUR CHURCH BE WILLING TO SPONSOR A VBS TEAM?

Email alaskainfo@ac.npuc.org



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Arctic Mission Adventure News

Vecous & Loretta Waite, Arctic Mission Adventure Volunteers

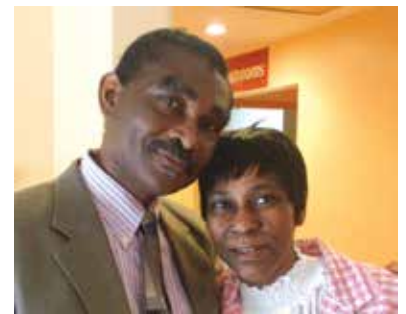
So he answered and said.....

Not by might nor by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord of hosts.

Zechariah 4:6

In February 2016, our journey came to an end with one of our Bible students; for purposes of this article, we will call him "Charlie." Charlie attended most of our devotion and breakfast meetings that we started on November of 2016 and some of our Sabbath services as well. He suffered from extreme alcoholism and other addictions. Charlie was intelligent, offered unique perspectives and admitted many times that he needed to change his lifestyle. He shared his struggles with us and we had the privilege to pray with him—we built a friendly relationship with Charlie. The last time we talked with him was after a Sabbath message at which he answered the call to trust and follow Jesus all the way. He told us that he was going to call during the week, but it never happened, as Charlie passed away. His family heard about our ministering to him and requested that we officiate the funeral service. As we helped plan the service, we heard many stories of times when Charlie would forward text messages that he'd received which included "Jesus is coming soon." Based on the testimonies from his family, Charlie had changed from the person he used to be. We also saw change, but we will never know the depth of the relationship he was developing with his Lord.

Our church was too small to do the service, so a sister church allowed the family to use its facility. Though the service was to be held there, the family asked that the Adventists perform the service. This was a great opportunity to "share a message of hope with the true understanding of what happens to our loved ones when they die," and a call to repentance to approximately 300 people from several villages in the surrounding areas. We truly miss Charlie, but his connection with the Adventist church lives on. His family has requested that we keep in touch. The relationship keeps the gate open to share the gospel with other members of the family!



Vecous & Loretta Waite