

It Takes A Village

Rosie McDaniel, Golden Heart Christian School

They say that it takes a village to raise a child. The village of Golden Heart Christian School in Fairbanks consists of dedicated church members who willingly give of their time and talents to help provide an interesting and well-rounded education.

Pastor Steve Evenson spends a great deal of time with the students. He leads out in worship each Friday and sometimes he's around to play with the students during recess! Every Wednesday he teaches a small engines class, specializing in snow machines. The students love riding around on the fruits of their labors!

Pastor Steve's wife, Judy, is also very involved with our school. She teaches a weekly music class on the chimes, and sometimes they branch out and learn songs for a vocal choir. Judy also takes a turn (along with other volunteers and parents) at providing our weekly hot lunches.

Another specialty class that our students enjoy takes place during Pastor Steve's small engine class with Miss Pearl teaching the girls how to make jam and syrup from local berries and other yummy food like fudge. Crocheting and a variety of sewing projects are lined up for the remainder this year.

Fridays, students enjoy glass design with Miss Sue. They started the year by doing two group projects to learn the skills and now are working on individual glass projects.

Our newest addition this semester is a Hamm radio class for the older students, lead by Mr. Eric. This knowledge will provide a foundation for transitioning the students into helping out in a radio station that we hope will be up and running in the near future!

During the Hamm radio class, Miss Sue teaches a baking class for the other students. Most recently they created yummy chocolate-dipped strawberries!

The students and teachers at Golden Heart Christian School would like to say a great big thank you to all the special volunteer teachers. We love having you here!



Rosie McDaniel



Ms. Sue leads out glass design class



Pastor Steve works on a snow machine with students Caleb Buchholz and Jamin Fowler



Judy Evenson teaching music to the Golden Heart Christian School students

Alyeskan

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Alaska Educators Gather for Inservice

Brenda Campbell Johnson, Communications Director

Adventist educators from our six schools gathered in Anchorage February 2-3, 2017 for the bi-annual teachers meetings. At the beginning of the school year and again mid-year, teachers gather together for spiritual renewal, camaraderie and education updates. It's an opportunity to learn, share challenges and gather ideas. Steve Hamilton, Director of Youth Ministry at the Rocky Mountain Conference, Martha Ban, Director of Technology & Support, Office of Education, for the North American Division (NAD), and Patricia "Patti" Revolinski, Director of Elementary and Curriculum for the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) were the speakers.

Pastor Hamilton started the mornings with worship and closed each day with a spiritual message to help sustain teachers through the months to come. He emphasized that not only must they educate students, but in many cases serve as counselors, parents and spiritual leaders. He challenged them to embrace their unique opportunity to bring kids to Jesus and said, "God has

seen and heard what you are going through and He longs to rescue you too!"

Patti Revolinski and Martha Ban worked together sharing updated curriculum, online classroom resources and continuing education opportunities available through the NPUC and NAD Education websites. Additionally, the conference has adopted a new student information system which has created a steep learning curve for the Alaska Education team; a large portion of Martha's time was dedicated to answering teachers' questions about the new system.

On Friday, staff was provided the opportunity to update their first-aid certifications for both adult and child CPR. First-aid training is provided to staff every two years to ensure they are prepared to act in an emergency situation.

Please keep both our students and teachers in prayer.

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.

Matthew 19:14



Brenda Campbell Johnson



(L-R) Matthew Sandvik and Nic Owens, Amazing Grace Academy Teachers (AGA), lead the group in morning song.



(L) Rod Rau, Education Director for the Alaska Conference, and (R) Steve Hamilton, Director of Youth Ministry, Rocky Mountain Conference



(L-R) Teachers Kim Purvis, Anchorage Junior Academy (AJA); Becki Calwallader, AJA; Kerri Thomason, AGA; Sueal Cunningham, Dillingham; and Nickie Romine, Juneau



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From Volcanic Iceland to Bustling New York City

Ryan McCutcheon, Sitka Adventist School

“Go faster to finish in 20 minutes!” exclaims Mr. McCutcheon exuberantly, as students pedal briskly to reach their goal. Their goal is located across town in Mexico City, a place they might never travel in their lives, and it is simple: bike two miles within 20 minutes.

They are not, however, physically traipsing around the different neighborhoods of the ancient town, but merely looking at a video from someone who has actually ridden the route. Students are riding their own bikes, which are anchored securely to the ground with stationary bike trainers available from your local recreational outdoor store. One of the students’ bikes is plugged into the main iPad, which controls the pace of the video. The faster you ride, the faster the video plays. All the other students have iPads to track their own

progress (and to ensure they successfully finish their two miles).

Head Teacher Ryan McCutcheon says that it was initially hard to get students motivated to complete the required two miles within the stipulated amount of time, but that the stragglers are finally catching on that this benchmark is not going away and that they might as well succeed while doing it!

The money for this project was given to the Sitka Adventist School mostly due to the application of the Don Keele Award Grant that Ryan and Kallie McCutcheon applied for in January of 2016. After the money was awarded, the supplies were purchased and the setup complete. Ryan worked with a local bike store to purchase most of the supplies. Students complete their two miles as soon as they arrive at school and the bike riding gives them a chance to wake up and get moving in a non-rainy environment before starting on their math assignments for the day. It has become a routine that students and teacher enjoy. 3 John 1:2 says, “My dear friend, I pray that everything may go well with you and that you may be in good health – as I know you are well in spirit.”



Ryan McCutcheon

Child Protection: A Conference Priority

Brenda Campbell Johnson, Communications Director

Whether it is a student in one of our schools, children participating in Pathfinders or a visitor joining in Sabbath School, child protection remains a priority for the Alaska Conference. Leadership has recently reviewed and updated its policy for adults who work with children within the Adventist community. Any church, school or ministry that involves children requires adults to complete a background check which is reviewed and approved by conference administration. As a part of the screening process, volunteers (as well as employees) complete online training about protecting children from abusive situations.



As Christians we have a moral obligation to ensure our children are safe and protected from those that may wish them harm. If you are considering working with children, don't let the process intimidate you! Visit www.alaskaconference.org/child-protection to learn more about the screening process and how to submit your information or call the office at 907-346-1004.



Alaska Camps

Tobin Dodge, Alaska Camps Director

This summer you will not want to miss out on Alaska Camps. Choose one of our three great locations to experience the best Christ-centered week of your summer. You will be challenged to try new things, make new friends and if you are a returning camper, do much of the things you have come to know and love at Alaska Camps.

Our theme this summer is “Treasure Hunter” where Jesus is the ultimate Treasure Hunter. During the week, campers will get a chance to go on treasure hunts, seek buried gems, and hunt for items that just might change a life for eternity.

You can **REGISTER** by calling the Alaska Conference office 907-346-1004, or go to the Alaska Camps website, www.alaskacamps.org and download an application. Campers from all three camps (Camp Tukuskoya, Polaris & Lorraine) are encouraged to pre-register through the conference so we can be prepared for you with the right activities and food for the best week possible.

A day at camp is filled with adventure, friends, the great outdoors and fun! Each morning, the cabin group will enjoy a hearty breakfast together, clean the cabin and then participate in our “Morning Worship”. The rest of the day is filled with scheduled activities selected by the camper or predetermined by the camp staff mixed with food and a little down time. After the evening meal, campers will join in an all camp activity and experience top quality programming that teaches about Jesus.

Activities: Camper’s activities at each camp may vary so be prepared to enjoy the options that are available at your chosen location. Available options include but are not limited to:

- Archery • Arts & Crafts • Canoeing
- Nature • Sports & Games • Orienteering
- Photography • Challenge Course
- Swimming • Water Skiing



Tobin Dodge

CAMP TUKUSKOYA

Juniors | June 18-25

Teens | June 25-July 2



CAMP POLARIS

July 9-16



CAMP LORRAINE

July 30-August 6





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Learn or advance your skills in sport and top-rope climbing. Build your confidence and make new friend that will be friends for life!

Hero of Hacksaw Ridge Joins Youth Corp

Savanna Shelden, Wasilla Seventh-day Adventist Church

"This is unreal," I mused as the miles passed between Anchorage and home. But the empty boxes in the back of the car confirmed that it was true: we had really just watched two hundred *Hero of Hacksaw Ridge* books be snatched up in a matter of minutes. It was like throwing food to piranhas—not your typical literature evangelism day.

It all began with a phone call. On second thought, a dedication. And a life cut short. It was 2003, and the Palmer Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church overflowed with grieving people at Tracy Shelden's memorial service. To my mom and her little flock perched on the front pew, he was beloved Daddy and husband. He'd been converted just ten months before, after nine years of us wishing he'd be there for us...to most everyone else, he was the guy with the giant smile. As memories, music, and tears freely flowed, a somber group of uniformed young people stood in the aisle-way, struggling with their emotions. They would miss him, not once a week at church, but every day, three times a day, all week long. He was their cook. And friend. My dad made his living at the Camp Carroll dining facility on JBER (the military base

on the outskirts of Anchorage) feeding the Youth Corp cadets. The Youth Corp is a military program for high-school aged (and often troubled) youth that enables them to pass their General Educational Development(GED) exam in a boot-camp-style environment. The ho-hum military pantry couldn't defeat his creativity and he broke up the monotony with his cookies, cinnamon rolls, and pizzas. But there was more to it than just going the extra mile with their food. He loved them—something many of them had never experienced. No one would be able to take his place. And yet someone would have to.... Today, the Youth

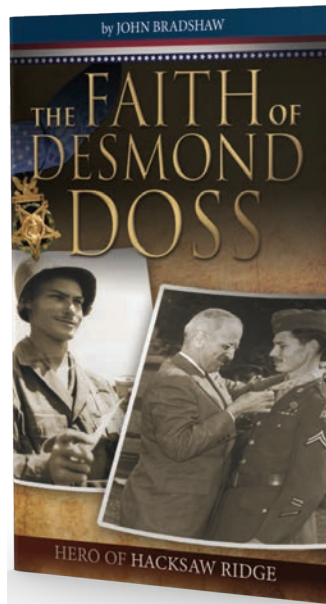
Corp program continues and another cook toils where he once did. My dad's smile no longer greets the cadets in the chow line, but it does from a picture frame as they walk in the door. In 2007, the dining facility was renamed in his honor and those who stop to notice can meet the man they would have loved.

Fast forward to late 2016: Remnant Publication's book *Hero of Hacksaw Ridge* enters and with it a world of possibilities. My family and I ordered over 1,000 books, a crazy amount we thought, and started laying plans to scatter them. We committed to giving one to every person who comes to our house (considerable since we operate a home business and have other ventures

that bring people to us). But still, we needed more ideas. Dusty literature ought not to be and with the movie fresh in the minds of the public, we wanted to strike while the iron was hot. One day at dinner, my sister brought up the Youth Corp and the Tracy Shelden Dining Facility. As his children, we knew we would have an "in" there, and hoped to use this advantage to put a book in the hands of each cadet. It only took a few phone calls and we got the answer we so much wanted: yes, we could come to the dining facility and give out books as everyone finished their dinner. We drove into town and at precisely the time specified, we

marched in with our books, but somehow we were early. It must be the military "hurry up and wait" philosophy. And so we stood there for quite some time, feeling the eyes of all. The cadets didn't know why we were there, and to modify an old Russian saying, the curiosity was so thick in the air you could have hung an axe on it. As the fanfare of dinner military-style took place, we were assured by the friendly staff that our promised moment would soon arrive.

Ever since the Youth Corp leaders had agreed to let us come, there had been the possibility of one of our number needing to



Source: www.itiswritten.com

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It never ceases to amaze me how God uniquely works. Mary Klein's story began in 1959 and my memories of my grandmother are still vivid and clear as if it was yesterday. When I would visit her, the aroma of fresh bread and caribou stew would fill my nose. After she came to hug and kiss me, I'd hear, "Go eat beebe!" with her thick Native Alaskan accent. Love poured from my grandmother to my mother, Cecelia, her two sisters Marilyn and Linda, my cousins, siblings and I. As Christians, we knew that this love developed through a deep communion with God. My grandmother had a unique love for Jesus and her walk with Christ affected everyone she came into contact with.

It wasn't always like this though. She grew up with a rough upbringing, surviving sexual abuse, a broken home, and numerous tragedies. How did the love of Jesus overcome and conquer her brokenness? That became her life story.

There were incredible missionary families that came to Dillingham, Alaska: Kenneth and Evelyn Wren, Clarence and Mae Wren, John and Phyllis Libby as well as many more who made great sacrifices to spread the SDA Gospel. These couples were closest to my family and modeled so wonderfully what it means to be a follower of Jesus. Specifically, John and Phyllis Libby supported my grandmother during a really tough transition. An Adventist, with his own agenda, had come to Dillingham proclaiming his opinions about the health message. My grandfather grasped his twisted teachings and fanatically threw away the majority of their food, which wasn't easy to come by in those days especially in bush Alaska. All that hard work of preparing fish and meat for the winter... out! Unclean! Dirty! These familiar words once beat the native culture out of my grandmother when earlier (non-Adventist) missionaries came telling the natives that they were savages who needed to clean themselves up. There were some who portrayed Jesus in a terrible light, introducing child molestation and alcohol into our culture. When my grandmother spoke her native Yupik language in school, her hand was hit by a ruler; if they were really

bad—behaving in a cultural manner—the children were made to kneel on rock salt. These memories surfaced just as my grandmother was falling in love with the true Adventist



Mary Klein

Gospel that was warming her heart from the brokenness she'd experienced. But fanaticism has a way of destroying that. As she was about to give up on Adventist Christianity, John and Phyllis Libby ministered to her by sharing that Jesus doesn't judge us by what we eat, but "looks at the heart." (1 Sam. 16:7) As they continued to disciple my grandmother, a beautiful relationship developed between her and her Savior. As time went on, the love she showed her family was the fruit of what Jesus did through the Libbys.

My grandmother was one of my main spiritual pillars along with my mother, Cecelia Angasan, and through their discipleship the Lord called me into ministry. After graduating from Walla Walla University with a Bachelors of Theology, I was called to my first church in Togiak, Alaska. I am now a M.Div. student at the Theological Seminary at Andrews University.



(L-R) Cecelia Angasan, Linda Meyer, Mary Klein and Marilyn Klein

In July 2016, I had the privilege of baptizing John and Phyllis Libby's great grandsons, Ellison and Grayson Libby. The two boys were in my Primary Class at the Southcentral Alaska Camp Meeting for two years before they made their decision to follow Jesus. The previous summer (July 2015), I made an altar call to these 7 to 9-year-olds asking, "Who would like to give their heart to Jesus?" Ellison and Grayson were the first ones to stand as the Holy Spirit

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Alaska Conference Executive Committee Minutes

January 29, 2017

Present	Kevin Miller, Quentin Purvis, Jim Jensen, Steve Evenson, Todd Ervin, Edmore Mangena, Don West, Matthew Sandvik, David King, Alice Moncher, Joe Chythlook, Ryan Woehler, Elsa Coronado, Tau Siaki, Steve Lewis, Warren Libby										
Absent	NONE										
NPUC Representative	Mark Remboldt, NPUC Vice President of Finance										
Agenda (01-27)	Voted to accept agenda for January 19, 2017 meeting (adding No. 6 for NPUC report)										
Minutes (01-28)	Voted to accept October 2, 2017 ACEC and email Minutes										
President's Report (01-29)	<p>Discipleship</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Town Halls are going to be a common practice in Alaska. Administration will keep the constituency churches informed of what is happening throughout the conference. 2. The Gospel will be emphasized, as Pastor Miller and his administration travel from church to church. 3. Pastor Miller has made his rounds to all villages where we have a presence as part of Arctic Mission. 4. Successfully held pastors and elders meetings in Anchorage where the North American Division ministerial team were presenters at both meetings. 5. Elders Meeting speakers were Dr. John Grys and Pastor Carlis Clinton. 6. Pastor Miller was invited as a guest speaker to the Nebraska Conference pastor's meetings. 7. Jean Gobah will be out in the local churches emphasizing prayer ministry. <p>Arctic Mission Adventure (AMA)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The first native spiritual leadership workshop in Anchorage was a success. Ten native leaders from Anchorage and villages were present. 2. An AMA Board was established and met for the first time after the spiritual retreat. There was a lot of enthusiasm for the future plans discussed. 3. Dr. Lilya Wagner was invited to come to our conference to help us strategize and fundraise for AMA(March 5-9). <p>Youth/Young Adult</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. April Youth Summit is being planned. 										
Camp Tukuskoya	<p>Administrative report was given from the chairwoman of the newly formed Tukuskoya Board, giving an update on the two-year time line established at the last constituency meeting in July 2016. The first three objectives have been completed.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. December 2016</td> <td>Operating board</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. April, 2017</td> <td>Operation plan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. May 2017</td> <td>Bylaws and policies in place</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. September 2017</td> <td>Transfer physical operations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. July 2018</td> <td>Funding plan, conference subsidy only</td> </tr> </table>	1. December 2016	Operating board	2. April, 2017	Operation plan	3. May 2017	Bylaws and policies in place	4. September 2017	Transfer physical operations	5. July 2018	Funding plan, conference subsidy only
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4. September 2017	Transfer physical operations										
5. July 2018	Funding plan, conference subsidy only										
Alaska Camps	Pastor Tobin Dodge, Interim Camp Director, gave an outstanding report on his preparations for Alaska Camps this summer. He has a few innovative plans for the future of all three camps.										
Camp Polaris (01-30)	<p>Voted to give the conference up to \$30,000 to purchase boats for Camp Polaris. This money will come from the remaining 13th Sabbath offering specifically allocated for Camp Polaris.</p> <p>The Committee would like administration to seek counsel from three people who have a passion for the ministry in Bristol Bay. (Suggested names withheld and are on file.)</p>										
Financial Report (01-31)	Voted to transfer an excess of \$85,000 to AMA. This money can be returned if the need arises and sufficient funds are donated to AMA.										
Operating Fund (01-32)	Voted to accept the Operating Fund Financial Statement for November 2016 subject to audit.										



Quentin Purvis



Renovations (01-33)	Voted to approve renovations in conference office up to \$50,000. The carpet has served the conference for over 30 years and will be one of the items being replaced.
Evangelism	Administration is looking into an evangelism tool called Quest Line, also known as Thunder in the Holy Land. Cost is \$9,500 per person plus transportation per episode if we send five pastors to participate.
Participation in Quest Line (01-34)	Voted to move forward with Quest Line and let administration choose five pastors to participate. Funds will come from evangelism budget.
NPUC Update	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A new Creation Center was set up in the North Pacific Union Headquarters and the director is going into schools and speaking at camp meetings. Grants and offerings have provided the funds to make this possible. 2. A new trust service director was hired at the office. Chuck Simpson has been working at the NAD and is known for his expertise in this field. 3. Alley Carrier is now the treasurer of the NPUC Association. 4. Cristiana Paris has become associate treasurer for the association. 5. Board of Education: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Has increased subsidy to all academies b. Student scholarships of 108,000. c. Appropriation for new conference sending students to Adventist academies in the union. 6. New Hispanic Evangelism Director: Cesar DeLeon

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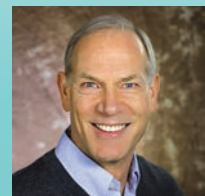
Pastor Randy Maxwell
 Renton, Washington
 Seventh-day Adventist Church



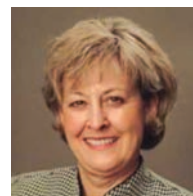
Pastor John Bradshaw
 Speaker/Director
 It Is Written



Dr. Darold Bigger
 Professor, Religion & Social Work
 Walla Walla University



Rick Mautz
 Director, Health Ministries
 Rocky Mountain Conference



Sue Patzer
 Director, Women's Ministries
 North Pacific Union Conference



Laura Williams
 Musician

Treasury News

Jim Jensen, Vice President of Treasury

There were three factors that we needed to adjust for in the tithe figures. One example was that 2016 had 53 Sabbaths, while most years only have 52. I am still thankful for God's Blessings and the faithfulness of the members of this church for providing the resources to make a difference in people's lives. A 4.99% tithe gain is still a very good year.



Jim Jensen

Tithe Report
2016 Year-to-Date
37/38 Churches Reporting

Total Tithe 2015	\$3,930,983
Total Tithe 2016	\$4,485,314
Percent (Gain)	14.10%
Adjusted Tithe (Gain)	4.99%

Amazing Church Treasurers

The following church treasurers were on time every time all 12 months for 2016:

- Anchorage Northside: Nadya Hess
- Dillingham: Lila Tubbs
- Eagle River: Elizabeth Larson
- Fairbanks: Ruth Prato
- Juneau: Pearl Younker
- Midnight Son (Kenai): Rona Hodges
- Ketchikan: Kathy Miller
- North Pole: Sherrie Elsberry
- Palmer: Trisha Biloff
- Sitka: Tammy Eliason
- Tok: David Crawford
- Valdez: Donna Hopper

Please thank your treasurer for their diligence and timeliness. Most of our church treasurers are volunteers who do professional quality work all year long.

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with Randy Hill, Associate Director
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Randy Hill

Hero of Hacksaw Ridge Joins Youth Corp

Cont. from Page 6

give a short introductory speech. One of my brothers had begun to prepare one, but at the last minute he was unable to come with us (my step-dad, mom, one of my sisters, and me). During the ride to the dining facility, my mom and I agreed that either of us would be happy to stand in his place should the opportunity to speak present itself. As we stood waiting, two things became clear: we were for sure going to give a speech, and "we" was me. I began to do some thinking, and most importantly, praying. I told the Lord that I would be His tool and that I would open my mouth as long as He would take charge of what came out. I also asked Him to help me be calm.

As the last bites of military sloppy joes attempted to settle in the cadets' stomachs, butterflies rose in mine. I have told children's stories and done special music at churches, but a spur-of-the-moment speech before 200 shouting, marching strangers? But true to His Word, God didn't fail me and as I stepped forward to speak, He gave me clarity of thought and boldness. My mental outline was minimal and the rest just flowed. I started by talking about my dad and his impact on the cadets of bygone days. I shared the story of his conversion and described the beauty of a life absolutely surrendered to God. I told them that as young people looking for direction in life, they're only going to find what they need in Jesus. Then I brought up the story of Desmond Doss, a man who showed us that a life of obedience to God isn't something

to fear. It's admirable. It makes heroes. I closed by encouraging them that they too can be heroes, even if no one ever knows or sees, by giving their lives to Christ and fulfilling His purpose for them. I held up *Hero of Hacksaw Ridge* for them to see and told them we had a copy for each of them. It was at this point that the Lord opened another door: the leaders had planned to distribute the books to everyone later that evening after we had left. We thought it was too bad, knowing the likelihood of them forgetting and leaving the boxes in some back room. Besides, everyone was so eager at that moment to have their book, that it seemed like a shame to wait until the interest had subsided. However, knowing there was nothing we could do, we left the distribution in the hands of the One who's really in charge. Suddenly, the main leader changed her mind (more like "had her mind changed") and she and the other staff helped us pass out the books right then and there. Angels probably witnessed some voracious reading in the barracks that night! We drove home rejoicing and praying for them all. They each have a family that they can share the book with as well, so this opportunity has the potential to scatter truth like a dandelion gone-to-seed in the wind.

The doors God has opened with *Hero of Hacksaw Ridge* feel unreal, but they're an exciting reality and we can't wait to see what He'll continue to do with it in the near future.

Full Circle

Cont. from Page 7

moved their hearts. In my absence, Pastor David Shin gave them Bible studies and on July 23, 2016, I had the pleasure of baptizing these two wonderful boys.

Who would have thought that a missionary couple would come to Dillingham, have compassion for my grandmother's broken heart, and in turn God would circle the overflow of that ministry back to the missionary couple's great grandchildren? The Lord has a beautiful sense of humor. The moral of this full-circle story? It all started with compassion! "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:32 (ESV)



Chad Angasan baptizes Ellison Libby (L) and Grayson Libby (R) at the 2016 Southcentral Camp Meeting



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Juneau Teacher To Retire

After 14 years serving the students at Juneau Adventist Christian School and the Juneau Church, teacher Nickie Romine will be retiring at the end of the 2016-2017 school year. She is an integral part of the Education team and will be missed! She shares her thoughts on retirement and her teaching career:



Juneau Students (L-R): Matthew Plang, Reggie Younker and Holly Larson



Nickie Romine

Wisps of Memory and Retirement

Wisps of memory breeze through my ageing brain:

Giggles, grins, and graduations.

Delight fills my heart as I hear their voices.

Search for names for the precious faces,

Countless, now, as the years have flown.

A gapped-toothed, six-year-old blonde

Pixie makes me melt.

Racing through the reminiscing moments.

With all these come the prayers and tears

Of nearly thirty years:

The heartaches, the blessings, the loss

And the gift of serving,

Loving and teaching for the Lord.

Nickie Romine
Juneau Adventist Christian School