



ALASKA CONFERENCE
OF SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTISTS

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

MARCH / APRIL 2008

CONFERENCE NEWS

Evangelism

Gambell-Savoonga Evangelistic Series

Pastor Brian and Denise Bechtold finished an evangelistic series in Gambell and are currently in the last of their series in Savoonga. Several baptisms took place in each village. The Bechtold team has been an invaluable asset to Alaska. With their country gospel music style and their winning ways with the Native population, it has been a real blessing to us.

Wasilla Evangelistic Series

March 21-April 5, 2008, starts the "Power of the Cross Revealed" series with Pastor Donavon Kack and Jordan Peck. Contact Jim Kack, Wasilla Pastor, at 357-1797 for more information.

Community Youth Evangelistic Series

Pastor Dana Edmond, Secretary of South Central Conference, conducted a week-long series at Community Church March 8 - 15, 2008. His theme was "Lift up Jesus" Last Sabbath four people were baptized and studies continue with others. Another five people are scheduled for baptism March 29th.

Samoan Youth Evangelistic Series

Pastor Fred Toailoa, Pastor of the Sacramento Samoan Church, presented a series of meetings March 5 - 16, 2008, entitled "Anchored in Christ." As a result, several youth were baptized March 15th and another 25 candidates continue to study with Pastor Poua in preparation for baptism.

Arctic Mini-Camps

Dillingham Mini-Camp, February 29—March 3, 2008

Pastor Ed and Cheryl Dunn, Colleen and I had a wonderful weekend with Pastor Wendell and Linda Downs in the Dillingham district. They have exciting things happening there. Work with the villages of Togiak, Manokotak and Ekwok are progressing well. The ShareHIM series are finished and now some of the team are in the Philippines doing ShareHIM. I had many positive affirmations for the work of the pastor and church members in that area.

Suicide Prevention Pilot Project

We had chosen Savoonga as our target for our Suicide Prevention Pilot Project, however the couple we brought in to look at the project declined our offer. We are now negotiating with a family for Togiak. This village also has a high suicide rate and we hope to start there to help in the lives of young people. We solicit your prayers for this endeavor.

Administration

Executive Committee/Financial Committee

On Sunday, March 9, the Executive Committee and Finance Committee met in the new Samoan church. Both meetings main focus were budgetary. The Lord has blessed us with faithful stewardship of the members in 2007 and we had a 2% tithe gain. However, with some unusually high health bills, we ended the year with a \$45,000 deficit. (Much better than the \$150,000 deficit we anticipated!) The budget process for 2008 is now in place and we are anticipating a balanced budget next year. Praise the Lord!

The Executive Committee also voted a revised and updated employee policy book. It should be in the hands of all employees as soon as it is printed.



Pastor Ken Crawford
Conference President

CONFERENCE NEWS CONT.

Constituency at Camp Meeting 2008

The organizing committee will meet on April 20, at 9:00 am at the Adventist Junior Academy to elect the nominating committee. It is important that delegate names are submitted before the deadline of March 31 so they can be contacted.

Elders Leadership Training

We are planning an all-day training event for elected elders in the conference. The event will start at 9:00 am, Sabbath morning April 19th, at the conference office. All elders are invited to attend. We are asking area pastors, as well as pastors on the organizing committee, to join us for the afternoon beginning at 1:00 pm.

There will be a social function for elders and pastors and their spouses in the evening beginning at 7:00 pm.

Camp Meeting 2008

We are delighted to have an excellent lineup of guest presenters for Camp Meeting 2008. Elder José Rojas will be our guest presenter in the main auditorium. Because Pastor Rojas has such a dynamic presentation and his emphasis is on the young adult population, we will be closing the evening collegiate meetings and inviting all collegiate and young adults to the main auditorium.

Transitions: NONE!!

AROUND THE NPUC

Philippines Series

Three of our Alaska Conference members are currently conducting series just outside of Manila. Nita Larson, conference office assistant treasurer, Francine Lee and Betty Crawford from Tok are all involved in series presentations.

Sixteen year old Betty Crawford never planned on doing a series, but when she arrived and saw that some villages had no presenter, she accepted the challenge to preach a series. Please keep them in your prayers.

Alumni Weekend

The dates for the 2008 Mt. Ellis Academy Alumni Weekend are April 18-19. Honor classes are 1938, 1948, 1958, 1968, 1978, 1983, 1988 and 1998. For more information contact Heidi Wagner at 406-587-5178.

Native American Camp Meeting

A Native American Camp Meeting will be held in Ronan, MT, April 25-26. Contact the Montana Conference at 406-587-3101 for more info.

2008 Ministry Professional Growth Seminar

Don't miss this seminar aired live from Walla Walla University (WWU) on April 22, 2008. It will be broadcast on the HOPE Channel or watch it live on your computer at <http://www.ministerialassociation.com/preach/>.

AROUND THE NAD

- **Free Mission DVDS!** Adventist Mission is taking up the slack left when Mission Spotlight discontinued its mission video/DVD service at the end of 2007. The DVDs are sent quarterly, free of charge, to every Adventist church in North America. Contact www.adventistmission.org to learn more about this quarter's DVD, to view several videos, or to request your copy.
- The White Estate has just posted their latest issue of Ve.Z –Ellen White Visionary for Kids E.Zine. Click on the following link to download in PDF. http://www.whiteestate.org/vez/jan08/VeZ_Relationships.pdf Games, stories, Q & A—a great ways for kids 8-14 to learn about Adventist heritage.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

30-31 WWU College Days

APRIL

11-13 Nome Mini-Camp

18-19 WWU Alumni Weekend

25-27 Alaska Women's Retreat

MAY

1-4 Northwest ASI Convention

8-17 Southeast Alaska Administrator's Tour

24-26 Pathfinder Camporee

JUNE

13-15 Southcentral Men's Retreat

20-22 Interior Camp Meeting @ Harding Lake

29-7/6 AK Camps: Camp Tuk (Jrs)

For a complete listing of events in visit www.alaskaconference.org

OFFERING SCHEDULE

APRIL

05 Church Budget

12 Christian Record Services

19 Church Budget

26 YES

MAY

03 Church Budget

10 Disaster & Famine Relief

17 Church Budget

24 YES

31 Church Budget

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