



**ALASKA CONFERENCE
OF SEVENTH-
DAY ADVENTISTS**

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2010

ALASKA CONFERENCE AIM

"To Be the Lights When The Lights Go Out!"



Pastor Ken Crawford
Conference President

The Kingdom of Heaven Within

We are nearing home! We are nearing home! See the splendor gleaming from the domes afar! See the glory streaming thro' the gates ajar! There we soon will enter, never more to roam, Hear the angels singing! We are nearing home! We are nearing home!

Let me offer some alternate thoughts on the Kingdom of Heaven. Yes, physical heaven is most certainly a place. A place where we will soon live, free from cares and trials of this life; where we will carry out our fondest hopes and dreams and this kingdom is certainly referred to as the Kingdom of Glory

Yet, Jesus states that we have already arrived in the Kingdom of Heaven. When we give our hearts to Jesus, we already possess Him by grace and therefore, in that sense, we have arrived and are dwelling in the Kingdom of Heaven here and now. The Kingdom of Grace starts within the soul and bring the fruits of heaven to earth to dwell in the temple of men and women, boys and girls.

It is the grace of Christ dwelling in us through the Holy Spirit that brings peace, comfort and joy; all the fruits of heaven dwelling within the heart of the Christian.

Tauler of Strasbourg is best remembered as a great 14th century saint and mystic. One day he learned a lesson from an anonymous beggar. "God give you a good day, my friend," Tauler said as he met the beggar. "I thank God I never had a bad day," the beggar quickly answered. Tauler was silent for a moment, then said, "God give you a happy life, my friend." And the beggar answered, "I thank God I am never unhappy." Now Tauler was nonplused. "Never unhappy," he said. "What do you mean?"

"Well," the beggar replied, "when it is fine, I thank God; when it rains, I thank God; when I have plenty, I thank God; when I am hungry, I thank God; and since God's will is my will, and whatever pleases Him pleases me, why should I say that I am unhappy when I am not?" Tauler was now in awe of his new friend. "Who are you?" he asked. "I am a king," said the beggar. "A king!" said Tauler, half ready to believe it. "Where is your kingdom?"

The man in rags spoke calmly, strongly, "In my heart," he whispered. "In my heart."

May the Kingdom of Heaven flourish in your heart.

Pastor Ken



Pastor Willy Ramos
Keynote Speaker

SECOND ANNUAL YOUTH SUMMIT, SEP 24-26, 2010

This exciting weekend will be held for the conference at Palmer Campground. You won't want your youth and young adults to miss this weekend. The theme for the summit is to develop a deeper friendship with God and fellow man through GPS—God, People & Service.

Speakers will include keynote speaker Pastor Willy Ramos, aka, *The Ghetto Preacher*; Cheri Gatton, Women's Ministries Leader for the Idaho Conference and Youth Ministry Leader for the Caldwell SDA Church; Aaron Payne, Pastor of Palmer Church and Bill Kasper, Fairbanks and North Pole Pastor.

AROUND THE CONFERENCE

SCHOOL YEAR STARTS OFF WITH A STRONG TEACHING TEAM & ATTENDANCE

Alaska teachers began the school year with their bi-annual teachers' meeting. These meetings allow educators, some of which head one-teacher schools, to come together, share ideas and prepare for the new school year. This year all our schools are transitioning to *Small School Minder*, an online system that allows sharing of information across the conference, North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) and the North American Division (NAD) in a privacy-protected format.

School	Location	Teachers	Students Attending
Amazing Grace Academy	Palmer	4	41
Anchorage Junior Academy	Anchorage	2	21
Dillingham SDA School	Dillingham	3	25
Golden Heart Christian School	Fairbanks	3	30
Juneau SDA Christian School	Juneau	1	8
Sitka SDA School	Sitka	1	6

The conference welcomed several new teachers into the family. Some of our teachers are conference employees while others are directly employed by the local school. Praise God that additional staff is needed and attendance is growing in these areas:



Suzanne Boyer
Amazing Grace Academy



Holly Dysart
Sitka SDA School



Melissa Harriss
Dillingham Adventist School



Kimberly Purvis
Anchorage Jr Academy

ARCTIC MISSION ADVENTURE

Savoonga

Bill Hawkes has had two major back surgeries and is recuperating in North Carolina. Please pray for his physical healing so he can return to his missionary post. He and Eloise are sorely missed there.

Shungnak

Tony Sherman and his bride are currently in Kotzebue preparing for their transition as missionaries to Shungnak. This is the last village in the Arctic where we have a church to fill with missionary leadership. Please keep them in your prayers.

EVANGELISM AND REVIVAL

Anchorage Samoan

The Anchorage Samoan church is conducting a special two-week Evangelistic-Revival Series with Evangelist Pastor Eliu Lafo from Compton, California. The meetings start September 22 and continue through October 9.

Sitka

The Sitka church will be hosting an evangelistic series this fall with Pastor Richard Halverson, NPUC evangelist, October 22 - November 20.

AROUND THE CONFERENCE

PASTORAL TRANSITIONS & UPDATES

Craig

Leon Anderson is now in place as the new Lay pastor for Craig. The church is delighted to have someone to live, work and carry on Bible Studies in their town.

Delta/Tok/Glennallen

Linda Thompson is back from Houston, Texas where she underwent radiation for breast cancer. We are delighted with the positive news we have. Thank the Lord, for His healing power.

Ketchikan

Todd Ervin is in transit to Ketchikan to be their new Bi-vocational pastor. Todd joins us from Flint Michigan. His wife is a vocational therapist, and already has a job in Ketchikan. They will be settled in by the end of September. We welcome them to our pastoral team.

Northside

Kevin Miller has returned from his summer training program in Army Reserve chaplaincy. He will be resuming his role as senior pastor of Northside and will be assuming his new role as half-time vice president in administration.

Special Prayer Requests

Pastor Butch Palmero and his family are leaving for Manila to reapply for a R-1 Visa extension. He has been a blessing to our conference and an invaluable leader; please pray that his trip will be successful and that God will be with the immigration authorities.

Pastor Gary Waterhouse, recently retired from the Juneau/Sitka district, has been going through further tests for cancer. They have found additional spots on his lungs. He and Arna are looking at moving from Juneau to the Northwest to be closer to medical facilities.

Retirement

Pastor Charles and Kathleen Geary have made a successful transition into retirement at their farm in Montana. Their ministry here in Alaska for the last nine years was a blessing.

Alaska Youth Summit MMX



Deepen your friendship
with God and others
through GPS —God, People
and Service!

SEPTEMBER 24

5 pm Registration 7 pm Program

SEPTEMBER 25

Full Day Presentation

SEPTEMBER 26

Community Services/Recreation



WILLY RAMOS



CHERI GATTION

Location: Palmer Adventist Campgrounds, 16970 East Maud Road, Palmer 99645

Registration: \$20 Cabin: \$20/night (max 4)

Call 907-346-1004 or email alaskainfo@ac.npuc.org for registration and information

ADVENT SOURCE FALL WEBINAR SCHEDULE

AdventSource is pleased to announce an exciting lineup of fall webinars. Visit <http://webinars.adventsource.org> to sign up.

Public Campus Ministry***How Your Church Can Reach Hundreds of Receptive People***

Presented by Ron Pickell, North American Division Adventist Christian Fellowship Coordinator

September 14, 2010 8:00 p.m. EST

Start reaching students at public college and university campuses in your community.

Creating Memorable Greetings***Practical Tips for Training Your Church's Greeters***

Presented by Paul Richardson, director of the Center for Creative Ministry

September 28, 2010 8:00 p.m. EST

Learn how you can make sure everyone who enters your church receives a warm welcome.

10 Ways to Use the Internet to Reach Your Community***Simple Tools Anyone Can Use***

Presented by Lindsay Peterson, Adventist Church Connect trainer and helpdesk technician

October 12, 2010 8:00 p.m. EST

Discover how you can use the Internet to reach church members and the community.

You Know Your Spiritual Gifts, Now What?***Putting the Right People in the Right Places***

Presented by Curtis Rittenour, a pastor and Senior Consultant with the Center for Creative Ministry

October 26, 2010 8:00 p.m. EST

This webinar will explore tips for matching the right people with the right ministries at your church.

Tools for Reaching Your Community***Family Ministries & Women's Ministries Resources You Can Use***

November 9, 2010 8:00 p.m. EST

Learn how ministry tools available from AdventSource can help you host an educational and spiritually enriching event for your church and community.

LEADERSHIP PRAYER & PLANNING RETREAT

The administrative team will be out of the office at the Palmer Campground from September 20-22 in a retreat setting.

UPCOMING EVENTS**September**

20-22 Conference Leadership Retreat at Palmer

24-25 2nd Annual Youth Summit
26 Exec. Com. Teleconference

October

4-19 Fall School Visits

14 K-10 Board

November

25 Office Closed: Thanksgiving

December

5 Executive Committee Teleconference

27 Office Closed: Christmas

PLAN AHEAD—JANUARY 2011

3 Office Closed: New Years

9 Executive Committee

9-12 Pastors' Meeting

14 Alaska Native Evangelism Series begins in Anchorage (continues thru Feb. 12)

17 Office Closed: MLK Jr Day

For the complete 2011 calendar, visit www.alaskaconference.org

OFFERING SCHEDULE**October****Adventist Heritage Month**

2 Local Church Budget

9 Voice of Prophecy

16 Local Church Budget

23 YES

30 Walla Walla University/NPUC

November**Native Heritage/Health Month**

6 Local Church Budget

13 Annual Sacrifice

20 Local Church Budget

27 YES

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6100 O'Malley Road
Anchorage, AK 99507
Phone: 907.346.1004
Fax: 907.346.3279

Email: alaskainfo@ac.npuc.org
Web: www.alaskaconference.org