## THE POLAR News Flash

Fall Update 2015

As we continue to seek to serve God faithfully, God continues to bless us. It is amazing for us to see God using us in ways that we never could imagine:

## Mexico Mission Trip

Adam and the Unalakleet Covenant Church partnered with Foundation For His Ministry, sending a Mission team to Tlacolula, Oaxaca in Mexico to put on a VBS at a children's home for orphans and other homeless children. Besides VBS, the team did various work projects, such as repairing old generators, yard work, kitchen prep, and cleaning. The team was multi-generational with 7 adults and 7 youth. The team also included 2 members from Kenai, AK and 3 from Baja, California.

### **Youth Conferences**

This summer the Youth Group attended 2 large youth conferences. In July, Adam traveled to Knoxville, Tennessee with 27 High School youth and 3 other adults for the CHIC youth conference. This triennial conference had about 6,000 youth from all over the nation attending. In August, 14 youth and 4 adults attended Fusion Alaska in Anchorage with about 600 youth from the state. In both conferences the youth were challenged to live for more than just themselves: to live for Jesus Christ.

#### **Community Garden**

Shirleen and the London kids enjoyed helping the Youth Group tend the community garden once again this year. With the 12x25 greenhouse functioning all this summer for the first time, we had our best producing year yet! We harvested well over 100 pounds of potatoes, scores of zucchinis, green beans, peas, spinach, radishes, and turnips. We even were able to grow some tomatoes! In previous years we gave away about 1/3 and sold the other 2/3 to help fund the Youth Group. This year, we decided to give away more - so we gave away over 2/3 this year. It is a blessing to share.

#### Writing Sabbatical

After serving with CYAK for 8 years, we have felt led to take a Sabbatical, starting in January. For the following 3 months, we will be taking a break from regular CYAK work. In addition to doing fundraising, Adam has been commissioned by the statewide denomination to write the History of the Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska.

## Transitions: A New Chapter With CYAK

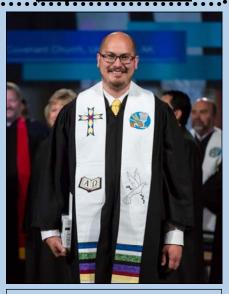
The last five years working with CYAK at Unalakleet Covenant Church have been a blast. I wouldn't trade them for the world. However, the dream of every missionary is that they would work themselves out of a job. In October, Katiya, a youth that was in one of Adam's very first ministries, and her husband, will be taking over locally. Adam has been asked to take a statewide role with CYAK as the Operations Director. In this new role, Adam will be developing new youth ministries and will be a resource to Youth Workers throughout Alaska. Details are still being worked out, but Adam will begin transitioning in October. We will include more information next update!

## **Prayer Requests**

- Praise God for the youth who have made the faith step to be baptized and for those who have had a taste of the Mission Field and want to serve more!
- Please pray that older Christians would develop a passion to mentor younger ones.
- Pray for the Unalakleet Covenant Church Youth Group as Adam transitions into a more statewide role. Pray that the leaders among the youth would carry the torch.
- Pray for Adam's upcoming writing Sabbatical, that it would be both restful and productive with writing and as the London's seek ministry counseling.
- Pray for our church in Unalakleet as Pastor Joel retired in July. Pray that we would find the permanent Pastor that God is calling and that we will seek with God's will.
- Pray for Katiya and her husband, Thomas, as they take over the local Youth Group.
- Pray for Shirleen as she continues to lead Women's Bible Study and does outreach.

Thank you for your prayers! They DO make a difference!

## Getting to Know the Londons



This summer Adam got ordained in Kansas City! In 2005, Adam began Seminary courses with the goal of one day being ordained. 10 years later, that dream has been realized.

In our church, the "Ordination to Word and Sacrament" process is long and grueling. After completing the four year (or more) Seminary Master of Divinity degree, a candidate must be engaged in full time ministry for two years, participate in a long-term mentoring relationship, write a significant theological paper, and be recommended through a series of at least 3 intensive interviews.

Ordination gives permanent credentials for Pastoral ministry. Technically, with ordination, Adam is now a "Reverend," but he just wants to be called Adam, or Pastor Adam when doing official Pastoral duties. Pastor Adam often has the opportunity to preach, teach, serve communion, and has done several weddings and funerals.

For now, Adam is called to continue in youth ministry, as he just recommitted to serve with CYAK for 2 more years. However, Adam has said for years that God has called him to be a village Pastor some day. Don't worry - there is no hurry - Adam is still only 31, so he is waiting for God's clear timing.

Happy Graduation to Millie. We traveled to Sitka, AK to support some youth who attended boarding school

# rapShots



We were extremely blessed with silver salmon this year. We

Toby loves to help pick blueberries. After a weak berry year last year, this year was great! God provides!



Thank you to those who prayed for and supported our Mission Trip to a children's home in Oaxaca, Mexico!



ECCAK's Annual meeting was located in Elim. Adults attended meetings and our CEF teens taught VBS.



The group picture of the 27 youth and 4 adults we brought to Tennessee for the CHIC Youth Conference.



Our Youth Group once again tended the community garden in our most successful growing year so far!

## Financial Donations

Adam's new role with CYAK is 100% support raised, so we need to raise an additional \$20,000 for 2016. Is God leading you to support this ministry? Giving by Credit Card, Debit, or Check is easy online:

www.PolarNewsFlash.com/donate.html.

**NEW DONATION ADDRESS:** To donate by mail, please send checks made out to CYAK to:

> The Londons - c/o CYAK PO Box 203356 Anchorage, AK 99520

Thank you for being a part of our support team!



Adam had the privilege of Baptizing 3 youth this summer! Praise God for Ang, Olivia, and EJ!