

Covenant Youth of Alaska

*A relational outreach, discipleship and leadership ministry
for Alaska youth and young adults*

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Alaska Internships

CYAK summer internships provide hands-on ministry experience for Alaska young adults.

CYAK was blessed to have two summer interns - Kaitlin and Tatiana. After serving at camp, Kaitlin served youth in Mountain Village, and Tatiana in Scammon Bay. They are a blessing! Kaitlin shares below about her decision to serve:

I served at Covenant Bible Camp in Unalakleet, AK for the first time last year and when I was asked to come again I responded, "How about an internship?" My heart is for Bible Camp and the kids. This is a growing and enlightening opportunity to explore the spiritual gifts the Lord has for me.

"Matthew 14:31, 'Elpet ukverkilngurmi, ciin nalirrugcit? Ciin nalirrugcit?' Translated from Yup'ik 'Why are you undecided?'"

I had the opportunity to go to Mountain Village for the first time in March to attend the Lower Yukon Covenant Conference. Initially when asked, my first reaction was "YES!" Then doubt and fear started creeping in. "What if I get stuck there, I have classes and homework. What if?" (because winter in Alaska is unpredictable with snow storms

and blizzards). Later on, I attended our Aarigaa Serving Team meeting in Fairbanks and we read through the passage of Jesus walking on water and Peter wanting to follow him. When Peter started to doubt with the wind and the waves coming, I felt like him at that moment. I read the passage in Yup'ik and the word that I was not familiar with was the word Jesus said in Matthew 14:31, "Elpet ukverkilngurmi, ciin nalirrugcit? Ciin nalirrugcit?" Translated from Yup'ik "Why are you undecided?" My brothers and sisters reaffirmed to me that God is in control and if you get stuck - maybe God has you there for a reason. I contacted Adam London at that moment to confirm that I wanted to go to Mountain Village.

As I was en route in the Ravn caravan from Bethel to Mountain Village, the thou-

ght came to mind, "It is through faith and obedience that I am going to Mountain." This walk with Jesus is filled with adventure. He has led me to places that I wouldn't think I would ever go to. It was remarkable. Everyone in the village was so excited that

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Ministry Highlights



CYAK Staff Retreat

Staff enjoyed a retreat focused on healthy relationships!



Chickaloon

We've had amazing teams serve this summer at Chickaloon Retreat Center!



Unalakleet at Fusion

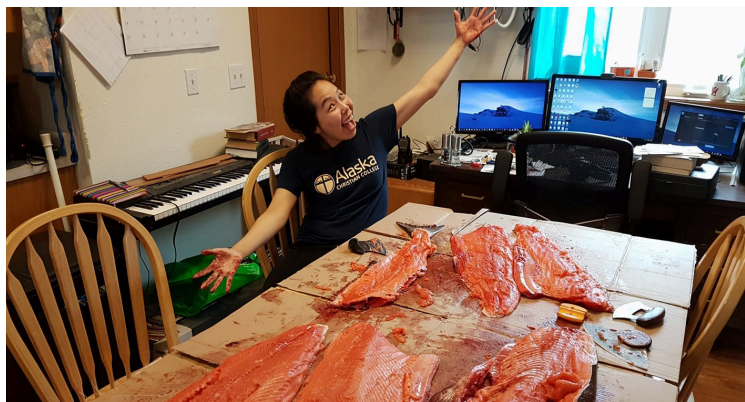
Several students from UNK went to Fusion- a youth conference in Anchorage!

...from front page

they did not hear Pastor Marc say I was considering interning. They were all so welcoming. One member of the community told me that they were specifically mentioned at their town meeting that they wanted a youth worker. An answer to a prayer. Throughout the next Conference services, one person said jokingly, "When are you moving here to Mountain Village?"

Elise Murchison, the pastor's wife, said, "It is a vision casting. It gives the community a taste of what it would be like for a full time youth minister – a concrete vision of what it could be like." Not only for the community but for the intern as well.

Every Sunday, more and more people were attending church. More kids were coming. It's the little things we do along the way - the cumulative effect of making a difference in their lives. Internships like these are valuable because it gives a person practical experience in ministry. It gave the community real experience of what it would look like to have a youth worker. We live in a broken world but we have a living hope in Jesus. The harvest is plentiful, the workers are few. I am thankful for CYAK and the work they are doing in developing Native leaders and the many opportunities they provide such as internships like these. Mountain Village will be a part of my heart always.



PICTURES (clockwise from top left): Tatiana filleting salmon in Scammon Bay! Kaitlin helped oversee a mission's to Mountain Village. VBS in Mountain Village!



Bible Camp Special Edition

Want to read more about the 2017 Bible Camp season? Visit www.covenantbiblecamp.org to read a special edition newsletter. We were encouraged to see 329 campers from 29 villages and communities in Alaska experience Bible Camp. Quayana Agayun - Thank You God!



PRAYER PRAISES & REQUESTS

Sign up to receive monthly prayer updates, visit www.cyak.org.

Praise: For subsistence! Berries and salmon are abundant - we are grateful.

Praise: For a wonderful staff retreat in Soldotna last month.

Praise: For the beginning of a new school year - trusting God will be at work!

Prayer Request: For each of CYAK's ministry areas as things pick up.

Prayer Request: For God to provide the right people to serve across Alaska.

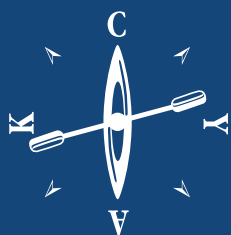
Prayer Request: For CYAK staff - that they enter the fall season rested.

Thank you for your faithful support of CYAK's ministry through prayer.

CURRENT MINISTRY NEEDS

Scholarships - Young Adult Retreat:

Each fall and spring you, our partners, participate in sending young adults to our young adult retreat in Big Lake. Scholarship dollars make it possible for many students without the financial means to make it there! Consider giving a special scholarship gift today.



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