

Covenant Youth of Alaska

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

Volume 14, Issue 1
February 2018

Deep Spiritual Roots

Aarigaa Fairbanks Director Tricia shares encouragement about CYAK's young adult ministry.

In a biology class of mine, I learned about the difference between large surface and deep root systems. Large surface root systems contain shallow roots that don't grow as deep into the earth, are easily able to absorb minerals and water due to their closeness to the surface, and are generally easy to transplant. These are the magnificent trees that we often see.

Deep root systems are commonly found in the desert and as their name suggests, they grow deep into the earth's surface. They need to grow deep in order to access the ground water deep within. These plants are unable to grow as large and magnificent as trees; however, once they are hit with a drought or harsh winds, they are able to remain grounded due to the depth and strength of their roots and their access to water.

As I studied these different root systems, I realized that I wanted deep roots in my spiritual life. I desired to be so rooted and established in Christ's love that when droughts or harsh winds hit, I would be able to remain grounded in Jesus due to the deep roots that have been cultivated in my life. Ever since that

lesson in biology, that has been a prayer of mine, and now as I have been with Aarigaa UAF, that has been my prayer for each student that joins our community. Our hope as leaders of Aarigaa is that we would be a ministry that would allow for deep roots in Christ to be cultivated.

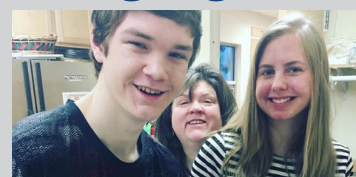
One of the joys this last semester was when the Aarigaa serving team met throughout the fall to discuss what we as a community value and seek to be and to reflect whenever we gather together on campus, at our Friday night worship gatherings, or while off-campus.

'Our hope as leaders of Aarigaa is that we would be a ministry that would allow for deep roots in Christ to be cultivated.'

Before we had decided on these three values, I had asked all the students that frequently attended Aarigaa what drew them to come to Aarigaa in the first place and why they wanted to be a part of this community. They came up with a list of 30+ reasons why they decided to come and why they chose to stay!

It was so encouraging to see the excitement and the response of the students and leaders that day and also to see the serving team at work to narrow down the
Continued on back page...

Ministry Highlights



CHIC Fundraisers

Youth groups around AK are working hard to fundraise for the Covenant's CHIC conference this July in TN!



CYAKers at Midwinter

Several of our CYAK staff had the opportunity to attend the Covenant's Midwinter Conference in Chicago in January.



Welcome Tia & Tristin!

This month, CYAK welcomed Tia Eben and Tristin Jackson on staff. Tristin is working with Aarigaa Fairbanks, and Tia is working in the office.

...from front page

list to three values that encompassed all that was shared from the larger group. Here it is: "We, as a community, seek to be Christ-centered, loving, and Kingdom-minded." How awesome is that!

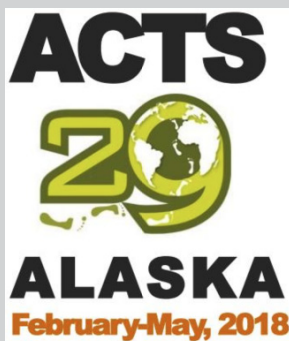
In January, we welcomed the newest addition to our Aarigaa UAF family, Tristin Jackson! As a recent graduate of North Park Theological seminary with her Masters of Divinity, we are looking forward to the ways that she will add even more depth to the ministry and enrich the lives of the students she walks alongside! All together, we are so excited for the ways and opportunities for students to grow deeper in their relationship with Christ. In late Feb, we will be taking students to our bi-annual CYAK young adult retreat in Big Lake, AK. This is a chance for young adults from across the state to gather together for a time of encouragement, hanging out, and the opportunity to hear from different speakers. This year, the theme is "love mercy, act justly, walk humbly" from Micah 6:8. We hope to continue to unpack this theme the rest of the semester and really ask what does it mean to love mercy, act justly, and walk humbly with our God in our communities and on our campus.

Acts 29 in Alaska

Young adults from across the globe will gather together for a three month intentional discipleship school in Alaska.

Acts 29 is a three-month, cross cultural, multi-ethnic discipleship school for young adults that is a missional collaboration between the Evangelical Covenant Church and the Unit- ing Church in Sweden. This month begins the Acts29-Alaska experience. Participants will:

- **Live in a cross-cultural setting** for three months with others from across the globe!
- **Grow in knowledge** about the Bible, the Church, faith, how to be a leader, and more!
- **Worship God** in new ways and settings.
- **Reach out in the community** by sharing faith and serving in various Alaska locations.



PRAYER PRAISES & REQUESTS

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

Praise: For our new staff members Tia and Tristin. They are a gift!

Praise: For the ways God is moving in the lives of young adults across AK.

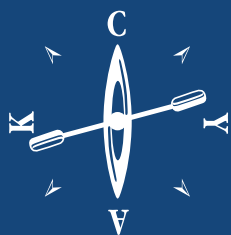
Praise: For a compelling vision that motivates our staff and team.

Prayer Request: For Acts29 - safety and a wonderful experience for all.

Prayer Request: For the Young Adult Retreat coming up Feb. 23-25.

Prayer Request: For those who feel unworthy - that they know God's love!

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



Covenant Youth of Alaska

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

A ministry of the Alaska Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church

CONNECT AND PARTNER!

Website/Contact:

Visit cyak.org to learn more about CYAK. Contact us at info@cyak.org to learn how to get more involved!



Instagram:

See photos and updates on Instagram! [@covenantyouthofalaska](https://www.instagram.com/covenantyouthofalaska)



Facebook:

See photos and updates on Facebook. **Search: Covenant Youth of Alaska**



YouTube:

Watch videos about CYAK's ministry. **Search: Covenant Youth of Alaska**

Young Adult Retreat soon!

Young adults to gather from across AK

Two times a year, CYAK hosts a Young Adult Retreat at Camp Maranatha in Big Lake. This retreat is a time when young adults from Aarigaa Fairbanks, Aarigaa Anchorage, Alaska Christian College, Amundsen Educational Center and others join together to have fun and worship God! Please be in prayer for this time together!



CURRENT MINISTRY NEEDS

Scholarships for Retreats: The young adult retreat is coming up at the end of the month! Consider helping a young adult get there! Scholarships are a tangible way to get involved. We are so grateful that because of scholarships, we are able to welcome all students who desire to be present at events through the year.

Website: www.cyak.org

Email: info@cyak.org

Phone: 907-625-1525

Address: PO Box 203356
Anchorage, AK 99520