

Covenant Youth of Alaska

Impacting Lives, One Life at a Time

Volume 8, Issue 2

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Values in Action

CYAK has six key values that drive the work we do with youth and young adults in Alaska. Our values are: Native Leadership Development, Cross Cultural Ministry, Local Church Collaboration/Synergy, Healthy Relationships in Community, Discipleship & Evangelism, and Fun! In all of our events, we work to exemplify these values. This past February, the CYAK Mentoring Initiative coordinated a winter mentoring retreat for men and jr. high boys in White Mountain. Approximately 20 boys and 12 men representing White Mountain, Elim, Shaktoolik, and Unalakleet were in attendance. Young men in Alaska, ages 14-29, face the highest rates of suicide and incarceration in the nation, so it is important that we connect with them early and come along side them through such a formational time of life. Through retreats like the CYAK Mentoring Retreat in White Mountain, we are able to exemplify each of our values. We work in collaboration with the local church to reach youth and young adults with the love of Christ, develop Native leaders, partner with the local community, disciple both new and seasoned believers, and have a blast doing it! Thank you for your support in making these essential events a possibility!



Meet Tricia

Tricia Ivanoff is a young woman from Unalakleet who has been involved with CYAK's ministries and Bible Camp from a young age. It has been a blessing to see the way the Lord has worked in her and is leading her to a life following Him.

Tricia is currently a student at North Park University in Chicago and is planning to do a CYAK internship this summer, where she will work alongside other CYAK interns to put on and run youth sports camps in several villages in the Norton Sound Region of Alaska. We are so blessed to know Tricia and so many other youth and young adults in Alaska who are choosing to serve the Lord.

"There are no words to express how much CYAK means to me and the difference it has made in my life. I thank CYAK for its constant devotion to serving the youth of Alaska. CYAK has served me in many ways, and in turn, I have developed a passion to serve others. Most importantly, CYAK, through its many events, has introduced me to our Creator. I have been able to experience a love like no other. A love that is so compelling that I can't help but desire to share that love with others. CYAK has not only shown me love from God, but it has provided me ways to shape and form the foundation of my faith on rock instead of sand. In Matthew 7:24-29, Jesus says that we must not only believe in Him as our Savior, but we must build our foundation on rock (acting out His teaching) so that when a storm comes, our house

will never be destroyed because our foundation is set firmly on him and His teaching. CYAK has provided me a community of believers and vast opportunities to love and serve God and His people.

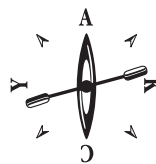
I have been involved with CYAK since the day I was able to attend Covenant Bible Camp. I still remember that first day, sitting outside of the church eagerly waiting the arrival of the massive camp truck to take me 10 miles up to a place with no plumbing or electricity. I anticipated that moment ever since I heard about my brother and sister attending camp. I guess I kind of knew then that camp would always hold a special place in my heart. I attended camp as a camper from 3rd grade up until my senior year, and I have been serving there in various roles since the 8th grade. I continually anticipate the camp season, and I do not think that feeling will go away anytime soon.

My favorite memory of camp took place the first time that I was able to attend. This image pops up at random moments in my life, but it is one that is unforgettable. I was running the trails by myself to the 'temple' for chapel. I remember having the feeling of being absolutely free. This same feeling has stuck with me all the years that I have attended camp, and it often comes up as I am walking the trails by myself, just me and God. Of course I have developed many other feelings from camp over the years such as love, hope, forgiveness, mercy, and friendship, but I will always remember that feeling of being absolutely free, free to be who God created me to be. Thank you CYAK for providing me with many opportunities to encounter God. ~ Tricia

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Prayer Requests

Bible Camp Prep : Bible Camp preparations are in full swing! Please pray that the word will get out to all of the villages and that youth will get excited about signing up and heading to camp in just a couple of months!

Young Adult Advisory Council : We are in the process of developing a CYAK Young Adult Advisory Council where the voices of young adults regarding issues of concern for the wider church will be heard. Their responses and feedback will be helpful to inform and advise the CYAK Board, the ECCAK board, and the wider Alaska church. Please pray for this ministry as it develops!

Would you like to receive monthly prayer updates via email? If so, email Lauren Ernst at: lauren@cyak.org. We are thankful for your partnership with CYAK's ministry through prayer!



CYAK Rootbeer float party at the Bruckner's during the ECCAK Annual Meeting. The Unalakleet gathering was a wonderful time of encouragement and community!

Connect with us online!

Like us on Facebook! See what is going on in the daily life of CYAK - read devotionals, see pictures from events, and join the conversation!



Visit our website: Visit www.cyak.org to learn more about CYAK's ministry, see pictures, and better understand our work with youth across the state.



Current Ministry Needs

- **Summer Intern Program:** Funding for CYAK interns' living expenses and travel to villages for discipleship-based basketball/volleyball camps.
- **Video Curriculum Resources:** Funding to support our new video curriculum project.

Ways to Give: Visit our new giving page!

- **Online Giving:** Visit www.cyak.org to set up monthly, yearly, or one-time gifts using your **credit/debit card** or **checking account**.
- **Checks:** Made payable to: **Covenant Youth of Alaska**
PO Box 372
Unalakleet, AK 99684

Questions? Please contact our Unalakleet office:

Phone: 907.625.1525 Cell: 907.625.1120 Email: info@cyak.org

YES! I/we would like to partner with CYAK ministries to reach Alaskan Youth with the Good News of Jesus Christ!

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