

Covenant Youth of Alaska

Impacting Lives, One Life at a Time

Volume 9, Issue 2

April 2013

Reaching Youth Through the CYAK Team

The CYAK Team is an essential part of who we are as a ministry. Our team is made up of any and everyone who has a heart for youth and a shared vision to see emerging leaders developed in the Alaska Church. This includes teachers, nurses, administrators, prayer warriors, policy makers, financial supporters, worship leaders, board members, cooks, business owners, parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles and so many more! It is through CYAK's team of fellow workers that it is possible to reach youth and young adults in communities across the entire state, and so we are committed to building and supporting that team! We count on our team to help spread the word and get students registered for regional youth retreats and Bible Camp, as well as participate in our gatherings by leading worship, speaking, cooking, taking pictures, leading small groups and so much more. We are so grateful for the vital role of all those on the CYAK team!

Last month, at the CYAK Young Adult Retreat in Big Lake, one of the CYAK team members, Tom Mute, was able to come to lead worship for the weekend. After the retreat, over half of the young adults who attended named worship as one of the top highlights of the weekend! We are so grateful for the way Tom is willing and eager to share his gift of leading people into worship at many of our events and retreats throughout the year. And we are excited to find ways to encourage those who work with youth by reminding them that they are not alone, but rather a part of a bigger team!



COMING UP SOON:

Youth Worker Training in the YK

CYAK will be partnering with the Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska to put on a training for all those in the YK Delta Region interested in working with youth in their communities. More info to come at cyak.org and the facebook page!



Ministry in the Eyes of:

Michelle Benisek, CYAK Team Volunteer

This is my second year living and teaching in Scammon Bay. I am so blessed to be a part of a church family here that has been so welcoming and supportive. I have been encouraged by families that are following Jesus and teaching their children to do the same. Moving to Scammon Bay I desired to work with teenage girls, but didn't know how to get

started. As I continued praying and asking the Lord to lead I was encouraged to take it one step at a time. God truly has been faithful.

How did the girls who go to Bible Study first get involved?

Two high school young ladies that I knew from coaching volleyball had gone to Covenant Bible Camp's Leadership and High School weeks of camp last summer. I had them over for dinner to hear about their summers. During our conversation they expressed a desire of having a Bible study or youth group. (I had been praying that would come up in conversation!) So I really didn't even start the girl's Bible study, they did! I encouraged them in sharing how important a group like that was for myself during high school and that I was willing to help lead and create that space for them. From there we have just passed the invitation out to other young ladies.

What are you guys studying? What do you do at Bible Study?

We have a mix of ages and it varies week to week who's able to come so we have a different topic or question each week. Therefore if you miss a week you aren't "lost" the next. I use a few different teen devotionals and recently have been going through CYAK's discipleship booklet. Many times the girls

have brought up a question or topic one week in discussion and that's then the topic for the following week. The girls enjoy singing worship songs, sharing a high and low from their weeks, and praying together. We also enjoy baking and eating together.

How can we be praying for the Bible Study/ Scammon Bay?

- Please pray for these young ladies to continue to seek after the Lord, placing their identities in Him, and strengthening the relationships that are being formed in this small group.
- Please give thanks and pray for our young men as a mentorship program is developing here in Scammon Bay through the CYAK Mentoring Initiative and Subsist program!

Words from the Girls

Why do you come to Bible Study?

- "Because it's fun!"
- "Michelle always makes yummy things."
- "To learn more about Jesus"
- "To become better friends and be a part of a group"

Why is going to church and studying about God important?

- "So we can tell and teach others"
- "It's important so we can make good and right choices even when it hard"

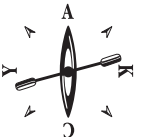




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Prayer Praises & Requests

Praises:

- Awesome Young Adult Retreat!
- Encouraging meetings with partner churches in Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa.

Prayer Requests:

- Prayer for those affected by two recent suicides in Shaktoolik and Eagle River.
- Prayer for the Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska's Annual Meeting in Mekoryuk.



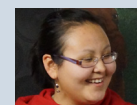
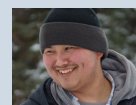
Scan the QR code, and join our monthly prayer list! Or join on the CYAK website!

CYAK Summer Internships

We are excited to be in communication with several young adults who are interested in doing CYAK internships this summer. While we have some funding in place, we are in need of more to be able to pay our interns a stipend. We are committed to seeing it happen - please consider joining us in making these internships a reality!

CYAK Young Adult Retreat Recap

The CYAK Young Adult Retreat in late February was an encouraging time of fun, fellowship, worship, and learning about the HOPE we have in Christ. Fifteen different communities were represented by the students who attended, and we are encouraged by the experiences they had at the retreat! Some of the student's favorite aspects of the weekend included: worship, fellowship, snowmachining, the speakers, and the good food. It was a blast!



More pictures at:
www.cyak.org!

Connect with us online!

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

Visit our website: Visit www.cyak.org to learn more about CYAK's ministry to youth and young adults in Alaska!



Current Ministry Needs

- **Internships:** Giving toward this will help cover the stipend for our interns this summer! Please consider making a gift to support our interns.

Ways to Give:

- **Online Giving:** Visit www.cyak.org to set up monthly, yearly, or one-time gifts using your credit/debit card or checking account.
- **Check:** 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!

Enclosed is a gift of: () \$25 () \$50 () \$100 () \$250 () other _____

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All financial gifts are tax-deductible.

Please return the slip above with your gift. Quyanna!