

# Covenant Youth of Alaska

*Impacting Lives, One Life at a Time*

Volume 8, Issue 5

October 2012

## *CYAK Fall Retreats*

Three CYAK retreats happen this fall: High School Fall Blast, the CYAK Young Adult Retreat, and the Jr. High CYAK Mentoring Retreat.

Fall Blast is our annual high school retreat that rotates between villages in the Norton Sound Region. This year, Fall Blast took place the last weekend of September in Koyuk, a village of about 350 people. Every year, around 75 highschoolers and volunteers travel from around the region (some have even come by boat along the coast!) to attend the retreat. Many villages do not have full time youth workers, and so opportunities to go to weekend youth events are exciting and highly anticipated. We are so grateful for all of the volunteers who have a heart for youth and help make these retreats a reality year after year!

The CYAK Young Adult Retreat happens twice a year, once in September, and once in February. It is a retreat in Big Lake for all of the young adult folks who are involved in our Arigaa ministries in Fairbanks, the MatSu Valley, and Anchorage, as well as students attending Alaska Christian College and Amundsen Educational Center in Soldotna. We all gather for a weekend filled with great community, games, laughter, encouraging and challenging messages, awesome worship and fun!

This fall's CYAK Mentoring Retreat will take place the last weekend of October, and will be geared toward middle school girls and boys. This gathering represents one of the three areas of the CYAK Mentoring Initiative, which works to encourage gender-specific mentoring relationships between young and old. We are excited to see the way the Lord will use this time to work in the lives of all who attend.



### *Ministry in the Eyes of:*

#### **Jenni Jobe, Arigaa MatSu Director**

Jenni is the Arigaa MatSu Director and has been working with CYAK since May. Jenni first came up to Alaska a couple of years ago to work at Bible Camp and has since been called back to work with Arigaa!

#### **What is Arigaa MatSu?**

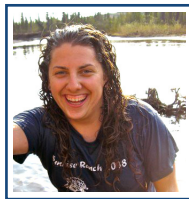
Arigaa MatSu is a young adult ministry intentionally reaching out to students who have come from rural Alaska to the road system. We offer a safe place with safe people to encourage students in their faith and their studies. Through this we work to build mature Christians and healthy whole people.

#### **What has been encouraging so far this year?**

So far, one of the most encouraging things we've done are prayer walks near and around the Job Corps Campus. We pray for the students, faculty, the grounds, upcoming events, retreats, specific students who we have developed relationships with, and whatever else God places on our hearts. It is encouraging to feel God's presence as we pray and also see Him at work answering our prayers.

#### **How can supporters be praying for Arigaa MatSu?**

Please pray for an open door to the Job Corps Center (currently, only students are allowed on Center) so we can go to where the students are and connect with them relationally. Pray that we will continue to connect with more students to encourage them in their faith.



### *Guyana, Thank You!*

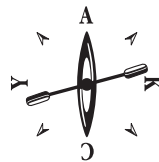
- Throughout the year, CYAK works to reach youth and young adults in Alaska with the Hope of Christ through relational outreach and discipleship ministry. Thanks to your generous support, we're able to provide opportunities all year for students to be encouraged and lifted up in their faith. We are thankful for the vital role you play, whether it's faithfully praying, supporting CYAK's ministry financially, or sharing what CYAK is doing with others. We couldn't do it without you!



Return Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE PAID  
WASILLA, AK  
PERMIT NO. 37

Covenant Youth of Alaska  
5201 Mayflower Lane  
Wasilla, AK 99654  
907.625.1525  
www.cyak.org



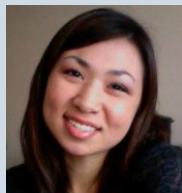
### Prayer Requests

- Praise for all of those who volunteer with CYAK to help make our retreats a reality!
- Praise for the Lord's provision in berries, fish, and other game!
- Please pray for the students who attended, or have yet to attend CYAK's fall retreats. Pray that they are encouraged through the speakers, worship, and community and that they leave refreshed!
- Please pray for the village of Kiana, as they have experienced recent violence and tragedies this past month.
- Please pray for Pastor Max Lopez-Cepero, the pastor at First Covenant Church in Anchorage as he undergoes heart surgery.



Would you like to receive monthly prayer updates via email? If so, either scan the code to the left on your smart phone, or email Lauren Ernst at: [lauren@cyak.org](mailto:lauren@cyak.org). We are thankful for your partnership with CYAK's ministry through prayer!

### Encouraging Words



"The CYAK Young Adult retreats are amazing! The experience of worshipping God in a Christian environment away from college, away from busy city life, is refreshing! I love spending time with people of my own age who share the same calling: to get away from life's busyness and to reconnect with God. God's spirit dwells when Christ's followers gather, and these retreats leave you rejuvenated and refreshed by God's presence." - Jaclynne is originally from the village of Kiana, and now lives in Anchorage with her husband Gunnar. Both Jaclynne and Gunnar have attended the young adult retreats numerous times, and we love having them there!

• • • • •  
**Like us on Facebook!** See what is going on in the daily life of CYAK and join the conversation!

• **Visit our website:** Visit [www.cyak.org](http://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

- **CYAK Alaska Internships:** We have a new CYAK intern, Chad Woods! He will be working in Unalakleet for the year, and we are excited to have him! Please consider giving to help pay for his stipend as he serves.



### Ways to Give: Visit our new giving page!

- **Online Giving:** Visit [www.cyak.org](http://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](mailto: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 \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] CYAK Mission

[ ] Special Ministry Needs Project

Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] CYAK Staff Member:

Staff Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Switch me to e-newsletters!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**All financial gifts are tax-deductible.**

**Please return the slip above with your gift. Quyanna!**