



# Covenant Youth of Alaska

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

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## Highschoolers Unite at CHIC

### Reflections from a week at the CHIC conference in Tennessee

Last month 95 high school students from Alaska traveled across the country to attend CHIC - the Covenant Church's triennial high school conference. Drew Williams, a CYAK staffer who lives in the village of Scammon Bay, shares about it:

CHIC 2018 was a fantastic experience for our Alaska students. Due to distance and cost of travel, CHIC is no small feat for our students or our leaders, but the Covenant Church put on a fantastic Christ-filled event that made the cost and the time completely worth it.

CHIC 2018 cultivated an experience that resonated with all students who came. This is sometimes a rarity for our Alaskan, and particularly Western Alaskan students, who come from a particular context that all too often gets forgotten by wider culture and by our Church. Not so this year. It was so clear that our students resonated with everything that CHIC had to offer. From the morning sessions, to the afternoon options, to the mainstage evening speakers and worship, our students basked in the goodness of what God has to offer them, catching glimpses of the people they were always meant to be.



Students from the YK Delta Region of Alaska at CHIC.

At CHIC our students received a vision of the Church that they participate in it. Some of our students come from villages with less than 300 people and from congregations whose regular attendance is less than 10. So to enter into a room of 5,000 high school students, they got a view of the church that they had never experienced and may never experience again this side of heaven. Our students also made fantastic and deeply personal connections with other students from around the world.

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## Ministry Highlights



### CYAK Staff Training

Awesome cooks at the CYAK Staff Training time in Soldotna last month.



### Welcoming new staff

A number of new staff members have joined the CYAK staff family, and we are so grateful for their decision to serve. Please keep new staff in prayer as they raise funds.



### School is underway!

Classes have begun across the state from elementary age through college - which means regular youth group gatherings have begun as well!

Whether it was partnering with students from suburban Seattle churches, connecting through sharing and learning with students from the Yakama Nation, or playing Marco Polo with Congolese refugees from Iowa in the pool, it was so cool to see our students connect and resonate with students from all places in a way that embodies the vision cast in Revelation 7:9: *After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.*

Students are now home and have either started school or will start very soon, but the echoes of CHIC 2018 are not something that will depart from them quickly. I have heard from many of their teachers and seen on many of their social media posts lessons that they have learned and things that have stuck with them from their experience in Tennessee.

Before we left CHIC in July we cast a vision that they would return home different students. That they would hear from God. That they would be given dreams and visions. We told them that if all they got out of it was a fun time and a good memory that it would not be worth it. Our students bought into that vision and grabbed hold of it, and it will be exciting to see where God takes them with the vision cast at this incredible event.



We are grateful for the time spent together at the CYAK Staff and Team Training in Soldotna last month. Please keep this team in your prayers!

## CONNECT ONLINE



### Website/Contact:

Visit [cyak.org](http://cyak.org) or contact us at [info@cyak.org](mailto:info@cyak.org)



### Instagram:

[@covenantyouthofalaska](https://www.instagram.com/covenantyouthofalaska)



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## PRAYER PRAISES & REQUESTS

**Sign up to receive monthly prayer updates, visit [www.cyak.org](http://www.cyak.org).**

**Praise:** For CHIC and the impact the experience had on youth nationwide.

**Praise:** For time together as a staff team in Soldotna.

**Praise:** For a new year of ministry and all that God has in store.

**Prayer Request:** Please pray for new staff coming on board!

**Prayer Request:** Please pray that kids who experienced God at CHIC will continue to seek him in their lives at school and at home.

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

## CURRENT MINISTRY NEEDS

**Retreat Scholarships:** Throughout the year, CYAK hosts a number of regional youth events. These events are great times for students of all ages to learn about God and have fun! The scholarship fund makes it possible for many youth and young adults to attend who couldn't otherwise. **Give at: [www.cyak.org/scholarshipfund](http://www.cyak.org/scholarshipfund)**



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A ministry of the Alaska Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church

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