

# Covenant Youth of Alaska

## Impacting Lives, One Life at a Time

Volume 10, Issue 5

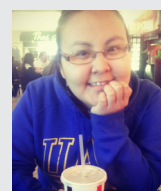
October 2014

### CYAK Young Adult Retreats

The CYAK Young Adult Retreat is a standing tradition in the history of CYAK. For nearly twenty years, young adults have gathered for a weekend of fellowship, worship, learning, good food, and fun. Students and young adults represent dozens of communities across the state, and many are involved in CYAK's Arigaa ministry either in Fairbanks or Anchorage. Many others currently attend Alaska Christian College or Amundsen Educational Center in Soldotna. Having everyone join together for a weekend of fellowship is one of many reasons why this retreat is such a joyful and encouraging time. It is a time when students and staff alike experience the love of Christ and have the opportunity to meet with God and grow in their faith. Speakers and worship leaders share testimonies and stories that connect with



students in a meaningful and real way. The weekend is an uplifting time not just through teaching, but through laughter, fellowship, frybread and smoked salmon as well! Each year, we are encouraged to see new faces, as well as to see those who return time and time again. We thank God for another wonderful weekend together, and invite you to join with us in prayer as we begin preparing for our next young adult retreat in February!



*"I enjoy going to the CYAK Young Adult Retreat to be with friends but mostly to*

*learn more about God. I really like how we have worship time and guest speakers because they encourage me to read my Bible and to worship God and talk to him daily." - Alyssa Williams, Alaska Christian College student and frequent CYAK Young Adult Retreat attendee.*

*"For the word of the Lord is right and true, he is faithful in all he does...In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name."*

*- Psalm 33: 4, 21*



#### Ministry in the Eyes of: Brent Amundsen, Arigaa Fairbanks Director

Can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

My wife Leah, daughter Ella, and I live in Fairbanks and do Arigaa college ministry. Ella just turned one, and in addition to Arigaa my wife also works as a nurse in outpatient surgery. She is a hard working lady. I enjoy hunting, playing guitar, and learning to fix our vehicles that are constantly breaking down.

#### What does Arigaa look like in Fairbanks?

The best way to describe it is it's sort of like youth group for college students with a lot more one-on-one time, and an emphasis on doing life together. We get together every Friday to worship, hear a message from the Word, eat Native food, and play games. Throughout the week we study God's word, help students find jobs, get drivers licenses, go hunting, and get outside. The ladies have craft nights; sometimes the guys go and help people get wood for winter. Transition from village life to the city can be challenging, so we emphasize building strong community and developing life skills as a way to foster discipleship. We believe spending time together in day-to-day life is really important.

#### Tell us a little bit about your students.

- They love fry bread. Seriously, it doesn't matter how much we make it is all gone by the end of the night, and if there isn't enough... tensions run high.
- They love to praise God through song. At some churches people don't like

the service to run over an hour but our students would sing all night if they could.

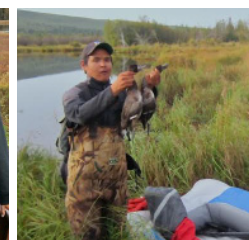
- They love to be together. From the shy girls and the athletes to the awkward guys and the newcomers, all different kinds of students find a place (more like make a place for one another) to belong. They just like to hang out even when there isn't much happening.

#### How can we pray for you?

- It is getting more difficult to have one-on-one time with as many students as we have right now, not to mention transporting them to and from events. We need more volunteer staff that can be committed to investing in their lives. Pray that God would bring people who can help disciple and build up our students.
- We don't want students to just come to Arigaa for food and fun. We are about students becoming serious minded followers of Jesus who will be the future leaders of the church. Pray Colossians 1:9-12 for us and our students (check it out, it is a radical prayer!).



Arigaa Fairbanks at the Young Adult Retreat



Charlie on opening day!



## Pray With Us!

**Praise:** Praise for **awesome retreats** in September - High School Fall Blast in Shaktoolik and the Young Adult Retreat in Big Lake.

**Praise:** Praise for the harvest - **God's provision** through creation.

**Prayer:** Pray for the upcoming **CYAK Board Meeting** - for wisdom and discernment in decision making and leadership.

**Prayer:** Pray for **teachers** in various communities across the state who are intentionally reaching out to young people in their village.

**Praise:** Praise for a wonderful **network of volunteers** who give their time, energy, and hearts to supporting and encouraging youth and young adults throughout the state!

**Praise & Prayer:** Praise for **emerging leaders**, and their excitement to serve others. Pray too, for their continued growth and development.

*We depend on the prayers of so many people across the state, country, and even world to carry out our mission. Join with us in praying for the youth of Alaska! Sign up to receive monthly prayer updates by visiting our website at [www.cyak.org](http://www.cyak.org).*

### New Mailing Address!!

The CYAK mailing address for incoming gifts has changed!

Please send all checks to:

[ Covenant Youth of Alaska  
PO Box 203356  
Anchorage, AK 99520  
Quyanna, thank you! ]

### Buy great coffee, support a great cause!

100% of all proceeds will go directly toward student scholarships for retreats and events.

Learn more and purchase at [www.cyak.org](http://www.cyak.org).



### Connect with us online!



[www.cyak.org](http://www.cyak.org)



## Partner!

### Current Ministry Needs:

- **CYAK Mission Monthly Giving!** As CYAK's ministry is expanding, there is a need to boost CYAK Mission giving.
- **CYAK Retreat Scholarships:** Help someone attend one of our retreats throughout the year by giving to the Chris Lockwood Memorial Scholarship Fund.

### Ways to Give:

- **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.
- **Check:** Made payable to: **Covenant Youth of Alaska  
PO Box 203356  
Anchorage, AK 99520**

**Questions?** Please contact our office:

Phone: 907.625.1525 Cell: 907.625.1120 Email: [info@cyak.org](mailto:info@cyak.org)

## Around CYAK...



Subsist Mentoring Retreat in Elim



New CYAKers, the Williams, in Scammon Bay



Young Adult Retreat in Big Lake



High School Fall Blast in Shaktoolik



Evangelical Cov. Church of Alaska Pastor Leader Retreat