

# E-Newsletter for AK/BC Pastors and Supporters

Summer 2023

#### Sun Please!!

We finally made it through the long winter and have arrived at Summer. However, Summer in Alaska is more like Spring in other places. We've had a ton of rain and with that, lots and lots of mosquitos!

Speaking of which, we had rain (and mosquitos) every day at Youth Camp! This didn't damper a thing though. Everyone had a great time in spite of the gray skies. God moved in a powerful way each night as our youth prayed and worshipped in the altars. It was an extraordinary experience!

Our Summer Conference was also a tremendous success! Thanks so much to all of our pastors and ministers who attended, the missions team from Ocoee Florida, and our World Missions Representatives and sponsors. We were blessed with amazing preaching that surely stirred our hearts each night!

As you go through this newsletter, please know that ministry happens here because of you! We



This picture taken at Mt. Ranier National Park in Washington State

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# **Visits In the State**

#### **NORTH ANCHORAGE**

We visited with the North Anchorage Church of God on April 16th. Pastor's Brittany and James Kinkead are doing a great job there. It was also so good to see the former pastors, Rev.'s Fredda and Tommie Shook continuing to support and be a part of the North Anchorage congregation!









## BETHEL HISPANIC CHURCH OF GOD

We visited with Bethel Hispanic Church of God on April 9th. What an incredible

service! Pastors Sara and Moyce Polanco have such a friendly and loving church- we were blessed to spend some time with them in worship.







#### **KODIAK**

We traveled to Kodiak on April 23rd to visit with the Oceans Church of God. Pastor's Shannon and Dawn Panthin and their congregation gave us such a warm welcome! This visit was our first since the Oceans United Church officially became Oceans Church of God ending a 3 year partnership with the Assembly of God.

Keep this church and the Panthin family in prayer as they begin their new journey and look for a more permanent place to worship!





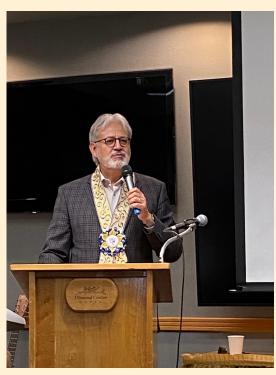




# **BEACON OF LIGHT**

On Sunday, April 30th, we visited the Beacon of Light Church of God with Dr. David and Fernanda Ramirez. Pastor Ralph and Esther Juan were presented with a plaque commemorating the establishment of the Beacon of Light Church of God on this their first anniversary. We enjoyed a wonderful service and had a great time of fellowship with this beautiful congregation!











#### **KOTZEBUE**

We visited Kotzebue June 4th. Believe it or not, it was snowing when we arrived! We announced the retirement of Pastors Wayne and Jane Cowart to the congregation during our visit. Be in prayer for the church and for a replacement pastor. While Kotzebue is a remote village with very little in the way of amenities, the gospel is desperately needed there.



Sister Bea sang a beautiful rendition of a hymn in her native language.



It's always good to visit with
Jimmy Evak when we go to
Kotzebue. Jimmy is a great
suppporter of the annual Global
Perspectives trip to Kotzebue led
by Lee University. He enjoys
feeding the students and
chaperones a traditional Alaskan
native meal!



#### **SUMMER CONFERENCE**

Our Summer Conference was nothing short of amazing! We had a wonderful turn out of both ministers and laity. We're so grateful for our state Music Committee. God truly anointed their ministry throughout the conference.



We were blessed with some of the finest preaching during the conference. Our special guest speakers encouraged and challenged us with God's word. Speakers included Third Assistant General Overseer and our Covenant Team Leader, Dr. David Ramirez, our World Mission Representative, Dr. Terrell Brinson, World Mission Representative Thomas Gillum, Pastor of Monroe Deliverance Center, Rev. Andre Hester, and Senior Pastor of Man O War Church of God in Lexington KY, Rev. Mitchell Tolle.











## **Our Missions Teams**

Without the support of our missions teams, ministry would not happen here in AK. We so depend on their prayers and their assistance to make camp meeting and other special events possible! Thank you all for blessing us at camp meeting!



Our Pastor's wives enjoyed a luncheon at Pomodoro's. The fellowship was great, as was the food! Pastor Bobby and Sis. Linda Jones served as the hosts for this conference. They also prepared their delicious prime rib luncheon for our ministers and spouses. And, special thanks to Bishop Bruce and Sis. Wanda Rabon of South Carolina for sponsoring the meal!

Thank you to Pastor Bobby and Sis. Linda and their team of workers for an amazing week!





Our local churches were represented during the conference. The Beacon of Light praise team and Sis. Tina George from The North Anchorage Church of God blessed us in praise and worship.





During Summer Conference, we were privileged to welcome House of Judah Worship Center into our fellowship! Pastors Rev. Michael and Rev. Cheryl Sweet have ministered in Alaska for 8 years. We're so thankful to have the Sweets join the Church of God family!



## **MIP GRADUATION**



Dr. McGirt took part in the MIP Graduation held in Cleveland TN in May. Dr. Ramirez was also in attendance to congratulate graduates.

# **SURRENDER YOUTH CAMP**

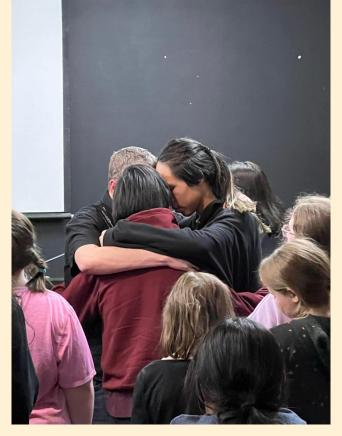
What a Youth Camp we had in mid-June! It was an honor to have our special guests

with us for this week of fun and powerful ministry. They included Rev. 'Papa' Harold Hanks of Florida, Rev. Cory and Kirsten Brown of Alabama, Amber Frady of North Carolina, and Riley and Roxanne Wilson of Alabama. God truly used this anointed group to bless us all!





There's no describing our worship services. The youth of Alaska came ready to worship and hungry for God. They were attentive and responded to the altar call each night. Hours were spent seeking God with campers praying for one another. God blessed in such a powerful way! Pray that our youth will continue to seek God!













Camp always provides a time of fun for campers! Whether it's meeting up with old friends, taking a paddle boat ride, or getting a snack from the Snack Shack-- a good time is sure to be found!





















# **Super Campers**

'Papa' Hanks blessed our campers this year. Jeremiah was voted Super Camper by camp leadership. He received an I-pad and case provided by 'Papa' Hanks. Jeremiah attends Oceans Church in Kodiak, AK.



Runners up were Saffron Temple of True North Church in Fairbanks, AK; Selena Morales from Harvest Christian Fellowship in Eagle River, AK; and Vinnie Elkins from New Beginnings Church of God in Barrow, AK. They each received a monetary gift from 'Papa' Hanks.







'Papa' Hanks also blessed our Cabin Leaders. Jennifer Thomsen of Soldotna Church of God in Soldotna, AK and Raven Svenson of Glacier Valley Church of God in Juneau, AK were nominated as Outstanding Cabin Leaders. They were each given a monetary gift.

Kyler Morales of Oceans Church of God in Kodiak, AK was also honored for completing his CAMS course. Bishop McGirt presented him with his certificate during an evening service. We are proud of Kyler and his achievements!



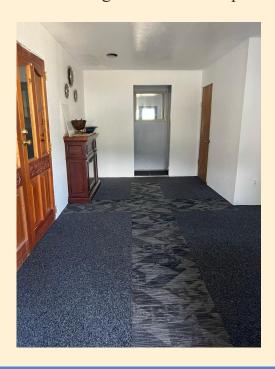


Souls saved: 23 Rededicated: 22 Souls sactified: 5

Souls filled with the Holy Ghost: 28

# FOYER COMPLETED AT CRAIG

Pastor Jeremy and Kerin Crews are proud to announce the completion of their church foyer. They have been working tirelessly to make repairs and improve the church property. The foyer looks amazing and we're so impressed with their efforts!



**AK/BC Missions** 

# Thank You! To all of our supporters, churches, and friends: thank you! We could not do what we do without your continued support. We are thankful for all you do for AK/BC! Together, we can do more! AK/BC World Missions Project Number: 102-7088

#### **World Missions**

Let's endeavor to complete our faith promise toward the 365 World Missons Challenge.

"Uniting Locally... Reaching Globally"

#### **Remember:**

We are VITAL
We are VISIONARY
We are VALUED

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