



# **History of the Alaska United Methodist Conference 1986—2020**



**Larry Hayden**

# The Story of Alaska Methodism

## 1986—2020

Welcome to this sequel to *Have Gospel Tent Will Travel* which was published in 1986 by Bea Shepherd and Claudia Kelsey, just 100 years after the missionaries (Carrs) went to Unga.

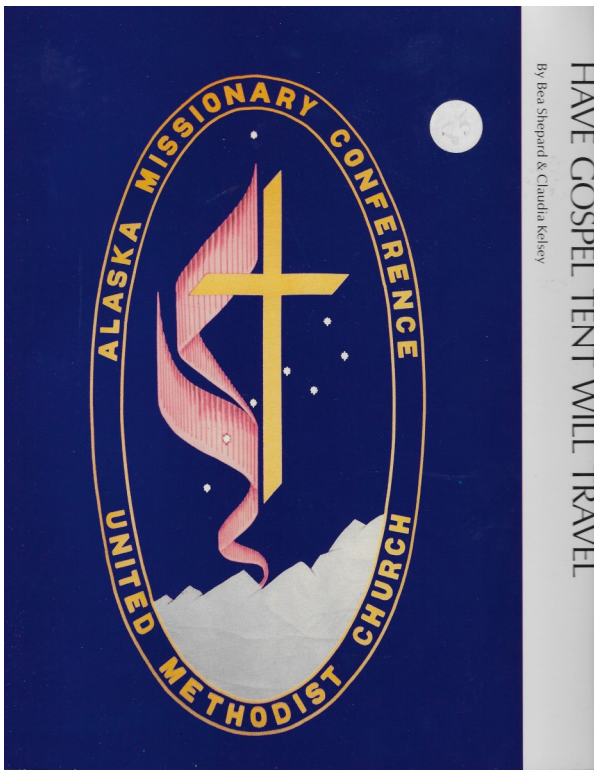
I have tried to duplicate the *Have Gospel Tent Will Travel* book's format and as it turned out it became mostly a list of activities and people for both the conference and each of the Alaskan United Methodist churches. More details on any of this information may be found in the archives.

It can become a source of ideas for projects and activities at the local church level. This is a Book of Remembrances, of how we have built community through outreach and caring. It is a history of many joys and struggles as we remember our story.

This compendium does not include everything each church has done or all the issues that were promoted at the conference level but what is here seems very comprehensive.

Most of the data came from newsletters and the conference journal/yearbooks, webpages, along with pastor comments and church historian additions for which I offer grateful thanks.

My intent with this sequel is to Educate, Inspire, and Entertain, as well as document many of the focused activities of the United Methodists in Alaska. We can be justly proud of our heritage — of the courage, hard work and unwavering faith of those who proceeded us.



Claudia Kelsey



Bea Shepherd

## The Sequel

December 2020

## **Summary of Conference History from the Conference Website**

Some of the first known Methodist missionary work was a result of visits from British Columbia to Wrangell in 1877 by the Reverend Thomas Crosby, pastor of the Fort Simpson Methodist Church.

In 1886 John and Ethelda Carr were sent by the General Agent for Education in Alaska, Dr. Sheldon Jackson, to start a school and church in Unga in the Shumagin Islands. The Women's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church furnished support and travel money for Mrs. Carr. Methodist work carried on sporadically in Unga until about 1953.

In 1890 the Women's Home Missionary Society furnished money to build and operate a children's home in Unalaska, named for Jesse Lee, one of the early itinerant Methodist preachers in the New England Conference.

The Klondike Gold Rush began about 1897 and the Reverend Carl Larson, appointed by Presiding Methodist Bishop Charles McCabe, came to preach to the miners who were primarily speakers of Scandinavian languages. Larson preached in Douglas, Juneau, and Skagway, and set up his gospel tent in Dyea. McCabe Methodist College was built in Skagway in 1899; Douglas had a Methodist church built in 1901 and Ketchikan in 1902.

The first Annual Meeting of the Alaska Mission was held in Juneau in July 1904.

In 1905 the Seward church was established. Soon after churches were built in Fairbanks and Nome. Just east of Nome in Sinuk, the Women's Home Missionary Society started a mission effort to help local people raise reindeer. A hospital was also organized in Nome.

World War Two and the Korean Conflict brought many people to the Great Land, and civilian activity brought a surge of economic growth which took place in the 1950s, and many Alaskan Methodist churches were started then.

The church at Hope, now a conference retreat center, was built in 1944. Moose Pass was added as a charge in 1945. The Women's Division operated the Seward Tuberculosis Sanatorium starting in 1946.

Anchorage organized its first Methodist church in 1944 with a log cabin which was later enlarged and named the Baxter Memorial Methodist Church. In 1952 a new Methodist church was organized in Fairbanks. Other churches soon followed. Argetsinger (Eagle River) and Birchwood Camping Ministries were started in the late 1950s, as was Alaska Methodist University. Cooperative projects were begun with Presbyterian churches. The Alaska Native Ministries Programs were given a boost in 1974 with Native Land laws and the start of the oil pipeline construction. An Alaska Council of Churches was formed in 1958.

A few churches have closed over the years but the current 28 are strong and active. Various ministries have focused on youth, students, military chaplaincy, indigenous peoples, music, health, economics, environment, global relief and general missions.

The Alaska Mission became the Alaska Missionary Conference in 1972 and in 2008 it was renamed the Alaska United Methodist Conference.

# Table of Contents

Introduction.....	2	East Anchorage.....	94
Summary from Website.....	3	Every Nation.....	97
Table of Contents.....	4	Fairbanks.....	98
PART I—The Conference.....	5	Filipino.....	103
Selected Highlights.....	8	Girdwood.....	104
PART II—The Value of History.....	19	Homer.....	106
PART III—The Lists.....	20	Jewel Lake.....	110
Bishops.....	20	Kenai.....	113
Superintendents.....	20	Ketchikan.....	118
Office Locations.....	20	Moose Pass.....	122
Office Managers.....	21	Native Ministries.....	124
Rules.....	21	New Day.....	124
Lay Leaders.....	21	New Hope.....	125
Chaplains.....	22	Nome.....	130
Alaska UM Foundation.....	22	North Star.....	134
Annual Conference Hosts.....	23	Northern Light.....	136
Mission Priorities.....	24	Palmer.....	145
Awards Groupings.....	25	Parks Highway.....	148
Denman and Lay Leaders.....	27	PLUME.....	148
Perkins Lay School of Theology.....	29	Saint John.....	149
Historic Sites.....	30	Saint Paul.....	158
Pastors.....	32	Saint Peter.....	162
Number of Appointments from Conf...38		Samoan Groups.....	164
Ecumenical Groups.....	39	Seward Memorial.....	170
Camps.....	41	Sitka.....	174
Heritage Sunday Themes.....	43	Soldotna.....	178
PART IV—Local Church Histories.....	46	Tongan.....	182
Aldersgate.....	47	Trapper Creek.....	184
Anchor Park.....	54	Turnagain.....	187
Anchorage .....	62	Unalaska.....	193
Anchorage Korean.....	68	Willow.....	197
Christ First.....	73		
Chukotka Russian.....	76	Comments by Bishop Stanovsky re Covid-19.....	201
Chugiak.....	77	Doors at each church .....	202
Douglas.....	89		



The building housing the Alaska United Methodist Conference office, the conference superintendent's office, the archive/library resource room and two ministries

## Part I — The Conference

Each Annual Conference is established by the Jurisdictional Conference with its organization described in Section VI, Section Two—Organization under the Constitution in the Book of Discipline, paragraphs 32 through 36.

The Conference is the organizational unit that manages the clergy and committee structure for its region.

In general the conference:

- Does committee work
- Manages funds
- Awards scholarships
- Develops policy
- Provides leadership training
- Provides on-the-job experience
- Offer Professional Continuing Education
- Offers communication avenues
- Promotes workshops
- Provides Spiritual Development
- Promotes Ecumenical Outreach
- Organizes Charge Conferences
- Conducts the Annual Meeting
- Conducts the Spring & Fall Rendezvous
- Arranges travel schedules for meetings

The Conference Committee structure is led by the Leadership Team.

*Program Agencies of the Conference include:*

- Council on Finance and Administration
- Professional Ministries Unit
- Council on Youth and Young Adult Ministry
- Communications Committee
- Commission on Archives and History
- Committee on Disaster Preparedness and Response
- Committee on Native Ministries
- Vitality Team
- Committee on Outdoor Ministries
- Committee on Nominations



Many staff and pastors rotate in and out of the conference

Many speakers have been brought in for enrichment

Strategic planning takes place for local and conference programs

Books are recommended for reading and discussion among various groups

Every year at annual conference Cokesbury had a display and book sale table.

The weekly e-Aurora conference newsletter is used to promote programs, give notices, alert about upcoming events, global happenings, recruitment, links to resources, reminders, prayer concerns, etc.

Committee reports of activity are in the yearly journals which can be found on the conference website with hard copies in the archive room.

Many groups, many years, many places felt the benefits of the Volunteers In Mission

For the most part I have not included projects and interests of the:

United Methodist Women

United Methodist Men

Youth

Visioning Sessions

Reports in the Journals

Budgets/Funds

Camps

because each of these could take a whole book in themselves to write about, especially the UMW which has a tremendous active program and in many cases are what holds the local church together.

We have wanted to keep our eyes fixed on the twin stars of His promise to us: the star of our tradition that told us where we came from, and the star of our vision in mission that told us where we were going. We walk along this line between past and future and keep our balance by keeping our faith.

Steven Charleston, Episcopal Bishop of Alaska, 1995

It has been said that the church is one of the greatest sources for finding meaningful friendships



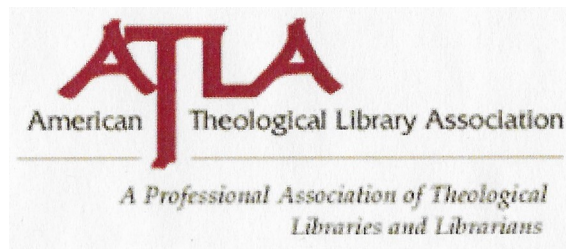
Rev. David Fison, Pastor Emeritus from St. John UMC, a giant in the Alaska United Methodist Conference, created these Easter and Christmas totems to help tell the Alaska indigenous people the two stories from the Bible.

## Selected Highlights of Conference Activities through 2020

### 1974

First conference newsletter was published in the spring called "The Bridge"

The conference has had many names for the newsletter, but during this time period (1985-2020) it was first Babylon, then Aurora Witness, then e-Aurora.



An invitation was received in April 2008 to participate in a microfilming project of the American Theological Library Association. We were pleased to accept their offer to preserve the Alaska Conference publications from 1981 to 2006.

These are now on rolls of film in the Conference Archive room. These are on the ATLA website for historians, researchers, scholars, and others with theological interest.

The conference research library has these in hard copy also. We have a nearly complete collection of conference newsletters from at least 1974 to 2020.

177 conference newsletters were microfilmed by the OCLC Preservation Service Centers in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and are now part of the OCLC's Connexion database.

This ATLA project was the result of their National Endowment for the Humanities-funded grant to microfilm religious serials of the Hispanic and indigenous peoples of the Americas.

They may also have in their collection the Journals for the conference but our Alaska Conference website also has all of them for your viewing as well.

**1982** – Creation of Western Small Church/Rural Life Centers; Filer, Idaho (208) 326-5812; still in Journals up to 1996

### 1982

January 22 – the first issue of Great Land NewsCache was printed. Ty Curtis, Editor

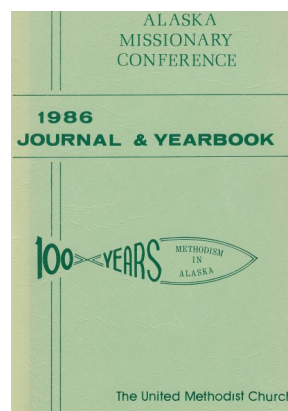


### 1982

March – Norma Luttrell sewed a conference banner designed by Rev. Ty Curtis

### 1986

Celebrating 100 years of Alaskan Methodism and the Publication of "Have Gospel Tent Will Travel"

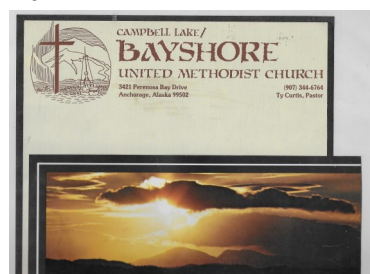


### 1986

The Alaska Housing Ministries organization completed their Wood River 62-housing units complex in Eagle River

### 1987

Bayshore/South Anchorage/Faith UMC was voluntarily discontinued



## 1987

Alaska was included in the publication of the United Methodist Reporter as a supplement, entitled Great Land NewsCache edited by Bea Shepherd (started in 1984 and last published October 1987). The Reporter was last published May 31, 2013.

## 1987

Creation of the United Methodist Foundation for Alaska

## 1988

Bishop Cal McConnell declared "Share the Vision" as our mission as Parks Highway, Korean, Native Ministry, St. Paul, and Aldersgate were all undergoing development as New Ministries

## 1988

Continuous prioritization of strategies

## 1988

Bea Shepherd became a member of the General Commission on Archives and History

## 1988

A video was created to use in iteration and interpretation "Alaska: An Adventure in Mission"

## 1988

Rev. David Fison was awarded the Alaska Pacific University Medal

## 1988

The Conference Coordinating Council was formed

## 1988

The Regional Program Councils were formed

## 1988

The loan to the Trapper Creek property was paid in full

## 1988

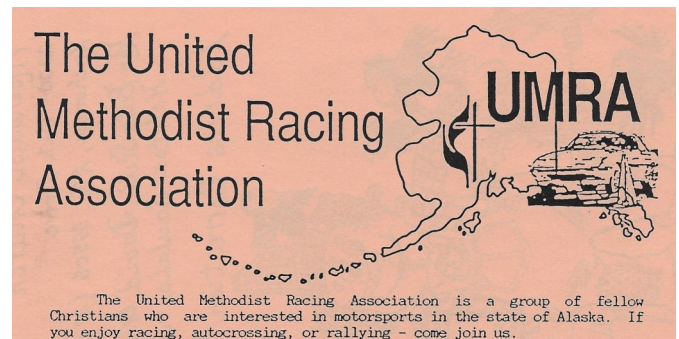
The Golden Cross offering was approved to support health and welfare ministries

## 1989

The Daybreak 20-unit building in Palmer for chronically mentally ill people was started.

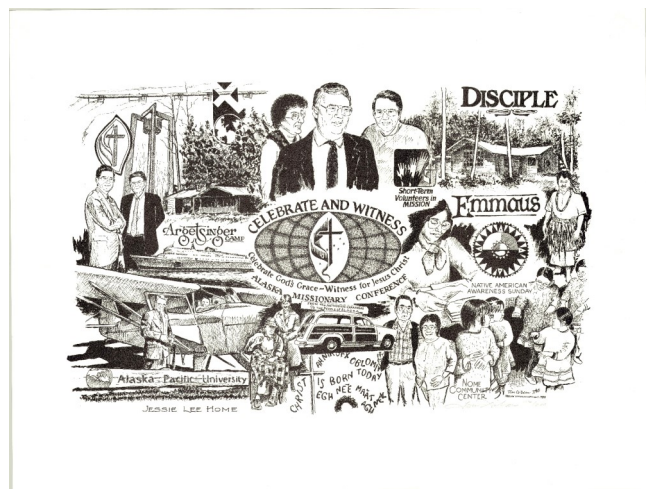
## 1989

The United Methodist Racing Association was formed for car enthusiasts



## 1989

Poster was created by Tom A. Gibson; this is print #113 of 200 (there are many available in the archives for the taking, as of January 2021)



## 1989

The Historical Society of The United Methodist Church was created at Madison, New Jersey, where the Archives are kept on the Drew University campus



## 1989

Financially supported the Black College Fund

1990 – Bayshore Tract A-3A, and Bayshore West No. 2 were sold

**1990**

Carol Ann Seckel wrote: "By maintaining our identity as a missionary conference we are able to take risks. We are free to try new things and to explore new ideas in our work in ministry."

**1990**

The 1983 session of the Alaska Missionary Conference initiated action to develop a process for conference wide planning. This "Essence of the Strategic Plan" can be found in the 1990 Journal on pages 63 to 78.

**1990**

Supported numerous missionaries around the globe

**1991**

The year of the start of the Chukotna Native Christian Ministry with Della Waghiyi

**1991**

The Alaska Missionary Conference had 9 teams of volleyball players who used the Mosley Sports Center gym at Alaska Pacific University

**1991**

Supported efforts in Honduras, the Caribbean, China, Africa, Nicaragua

**1991**

April 6<sup>th</sup> the Groundbreaking ceremony was held for Africa University in Zimbabwe

**1991**

May 9<sup>th</sup> the cornerstone was laid for the Carr-Gottstein Academic Center at Alaska Pacific University

**1993**

Nearly 75 people participated in the Conference Council on Youth Ministries Second Annual 5K "Beautiful Feet" Walk/Run held at Alaska Pacific University to support the Youth Team.

**1993**

Anvik Mission started by the Anvik Traditional Council and the Episcopalian Church

**1993**

March 1<sup>st</sup> the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Assembly of the Alaska Christian Conference met in Anchorage

**1994**

David Fison won a contest to give a new name to

the conference newsletter which was then the "The Aurora Witness."

**1996**

Start with Habitat for Humanity in Alaska, and the Russian Far East Ministry

The Russia Initiative of the General Board of Global Ministries, under the oversight of Dr. Bruce Weaver, was a loose-knit group of churches, individuals, districts, and conferences sharing the common goal of developing and supporting United Methodist outreach in the Russian Far East.

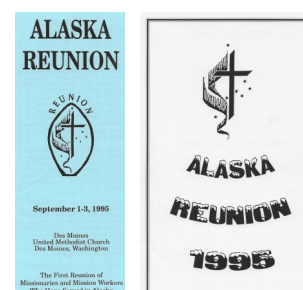
The Western Jurisdiction Task Force was an informal group of persons from the jurisdiction interested in developing work in Russia with special interest in the Russia Far East.

The Alaska Missionary Conference Russia Task Force was created as an offshoot of the New Ministries Committee two years ago to give guidance to the AMC participation in the Russia Initiative. The Conference hoped to develop an orientation or "staging area" for groups heading to the Russia Far East (Chukotka/Kamchatka Peninsula).

In the 1997 Journal it is recorded on page 55 that the Conference Coordinating Council recommended the Task Force be dissolved. The Chukotka Native Christian Ministry had developed its own governing body and the Task Force was no longer needing to participate.

**1996** – Jim Campbell wrote a poem about the Big Lake Fire entitled "The Fire at Miller's Reach."

**1996** – Over Labor Day there was an Alaskan Reunion held in Des Moines for all those in the area to reminisce, primarily missionary and mission workers. Approximately 65 attended.



**1996** was the year the Conference was responsible for building a Habitat for Humanity house in the Fairview area of Anchorage. Over \$45,000 was raised and over 60 people helped put the Christian Guerrero family into our one and only conference house.

**1996**

The Emergency Maintenance Loan Fund was established

**1996**

Part of the annual conference worship program was held outdoors on the Anchorage Park Strip.

**1996**

Funding and encouragement was provided to pilot Hal Sheffer from Lake Creek Lodge to provide VBS Camp and other ministries to the communities of Yentna Station, Lake Creek and Skwentna.

**1996**

February 16-18 – A Professional Church Worker Retreat was held

**1997**

Jim Campbell continued the Yentna Valley Fly-In Ministry begun by Hal Sheffer

**1997**

The Professional Ministries Unit presented to the Annual Conference a Covenant Statement found on pages 46 and 47 in the 1997 Journal.

**1997**

September – the first Alaska/Perkins Lay School of Theology seminar was held  
See a multi-year list of topics/presenters in the Part 3 Lists section.

**1997**

Planning was begun to create a World Wide Web home page for the conference

**1997**

Supported Volunteer In Mission teams

**1997**

Birchwood Camp received accreditation from the American Camping Association for site approval and for the camp

The Advance celebrated 50 years of mission and ministry. The Alaska Missionary Conference

received much from churches throughout the United States connection through the Advance. Church buildings, local ministry programs, outreach ministries, and pastors' salaries have all been supported through "Advance Specials." It is another evidence of the love that reaches beyond local concerns to carry the Gospel to areas that otherwise would find it difficult to provide ministry to those around them.



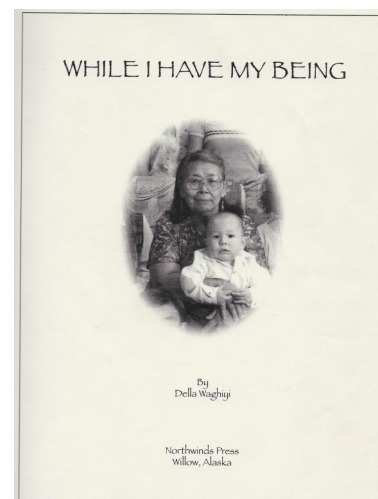
November – Alaska's first Chrysalis Girls Flight happened November 8-10<sup>th</sup> at St. John UMC. The Boys Flight was scheduled for February 14-16, 1998 also at St. John.

**1998**

The first time ordained clergy could become members of the Alaska Missionary Conference was at the annual meeting of the AMC in June 1999. Later this action was revoked on a motion by Milo Thornberry but allowing for local pastors.

**1998**

Della Waghiyi published her booklet "While I Have My Being"



## 1999

Alaska IMPACT was created by the Alaska Christian Conference advocating awareness and action on social issues

## 1999

First publication of the Western Jurisdiction newsletter "The Western Circuit Rider"

## 1999

A million dollar gift was expected to benefit Outdoor Ministries which would help implement the Plan developed in February 1993.

## 1999

The Superintending Team was created at the Seward Annual Meeting as a new management tool to spread the work around among 3 pastors. Worship was held on Fox Island June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Bishop Paup was able to survive the blanket toss at the Seward Waterfront Park.

## 1999

Five Habitat Projects in the Conference each received \$1300 from the balance of the fund from the 1997 Habitat House surplus

November – Kevin and Carol Seckel became Missionaries-in-Residence at the General Board of Global Ministries office in New York City

## 1999

UM Youth Fellowship scholarships promoted  
UM Committee On Relief was promoted  
Carry the Light to Nome – Iditarod missional priority  
Promoted Native American Awareness Sunday  
Conference acquired an address on the web  
Peace with Justice Sunday  
Promoted Outdoor Ministry with two camps and one retreat center  
Hosted the Lay School of Theology  
October 14-17 one of many Walk to Emmaus weekends

## 2000

At the annual meeting at Anchorage First UMC on June 1-4<sup>th</sup> a request was sent out to collect 2000 photos of children to post up for part of the missional priority focus on children. The conference emphasis was "The Bishop's Initiative on Children and Poverty". The goal was to raise a minimum of \$30,000 nationwide for the Children of Africa.

## 2001

The Moravian Russian Far East Human Aid and Ministries program and exhibits were held at the Alaska Native Heritage Center in Anchorage which included throat singers.

## 2003

Guests of the Conference were Rev. Dr. Leslie Griffith and his wife Margaret; from London; he has been Superintendent Minister at Wesley Chapel in London after ministering in Haiti for nearly 10 years.

*May 31, 2003 Rev. Dr. Leslie Griffiths from Wesley Chapel in London reminded the conference to "...not look back over your shoulder..." but look forward to the future, as did John Wesley*

## 2003

June 1 – There was a Pan-Methodist Celebration at First Anchorage UMC with the African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, and Christian Methodist Episcopal church groups; Conference theme was: In the Wesleyan Spirit.



## 2003

End of the Superintending Team concept

Igniting Ministries

Bonnie Curtis retired as Conference Administrative Assistant

In November a VIM team from the Alaska Missionary Conference traveled to Tonga to work on the remodel of the Methodist Tupou High School.

### 2003

The following mission statement was developed and presented at the 2003 Annual Meeting: The Mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Held and supported by the transforming relationship with God through Christ, we of the Alaska Missionary Conference seek to be a community that creates a home for all peoples, finds our hope through grace and journeys together into God's preferred future:

#### Emphases:

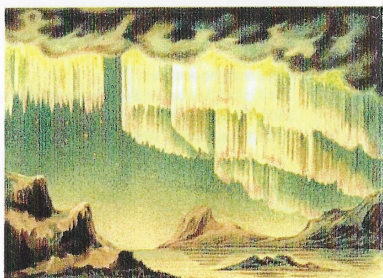
- Effective ministry with ethnic cultures
- Hospitality
- Leadership training, especially for laity (and validation)
- Developing solid and equitable funding
- All congregations vital and healthy

### 2004

May 29<sup>th</sup> John Campbell introduced the Society of Northern Light Fund to honor Bishop Edward Paup to enhance mission and ministry in Alaska. Goal was to raise \$50,000 during the next two quadrennia.

#### SOCIETY OF NORTHERN LIGHT FUND

In partnership with the United Methodist Foundation, during the next two quadrennium the Trustees of the United Methodist Foundation of Alaska will solicit donors to insure and enhance mission and ministry to Alaska through the Society of the Northern Lights. The Northern Light Fund will provide the opportunity to enhance ministries that relate directly to our common vision statement developed with the guidance and leadership of Bishop Edward Paup.



### 2004

Rachel Lieder Simeon was the first nominated person for bishop as an ordained elder serving in the Alaska Missionary Conference as an official nominee in the Western Jurisdiction.

### 2004

The Archives that had been kept in the Douglas church and managed by Bea Shepard, Claudia Kelsey and Verna Carey was moved to the Anchorage Conference Center in November.

The Alaska Missionary Conference moved from the Portland Conference to the Seattle Area Conference office with Bishop Ed Paup

### 2005

Fall Rendezvous meetings were held in Nome

### 2005

Recommendation was made for a special Sunday – Camping Sunday, to be the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in February

### 2006

Chancellor Thomas Dahl died as a result of a fall from a ladder while on a mission trip in Mississippi; a memorial fund was established

### 2006

Brenda Wingfield (member of the Oregon-Idaho Conference) became the first person who completed the ordination track in cooperation with an annual conference while serving in Alaska, as the Alaska Missionary Conference does not have clergy members.

Lonnie Brooks proposed a rule change (R5.0100) connecting the Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns (Discipline Paragraph 631) to Southcentral Regional Program Council (R5.1016)

### 2007

Start of the Nothing But Nets campaign

**2007** – Della Waghiyi ordained an elder in the Alaska Missionary Conference by Bishop Paup

## 2007

Petition #14 to change name of the Alaska Missionary Conference. Report to be given in 2008. Approved.

## 2008

The Rules Committee introduced Rule Change #2 which changed the Alaska Missionary Conference name to the Alaska United Methodist Conference; R1.00

## 2008

Jim LaBau was sworn in as the first ever President of the United Methodist Men of the Alaska United Methodist Conference, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Local chapters continued to struggle with male activation.

## 2009

Fiscal records were transferred to the Pacific Northwest Conference office

In 2009 the Alaska United Methodist Conference received an unrestricted gift of property from the GBGM. It was sold for \$2 million and the proceeds were placed into the Legacy Fund of the Alaska Annual Conference. These Legacy Funds were transferred in 2016 to the Alaska Ministry Endowment Fund (which has details in the 2016 Journal, pages 43-44.)

Motion was made by the Two Million Dollar Task Force:

That the AUMC invest the proceeds from the Alaska Children's Services sale in the Pacific Northwest Conference Foundation's Intermediate Investment Portfolio, pending the decision on the visioning process by the AUMC; further that the Conference Coordinating Council be the body to coordinate the disposition of the proceeds with respect to the visioning process.

Rev. Leila Disburg became Director of Connectional Ministries

## 2011

The Conference eliminated the Director of Connectional Ministries position

The Pacific Northwest United Methodist Foundation merged with the Oregon Idaho Foundation. There are 5 services which the Foundation provides:

Endowment Consultation

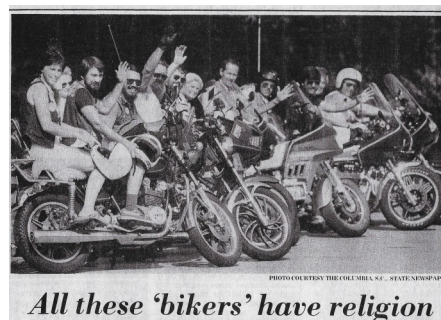
2010 –  
New Logos  
introduced



Planned Giving Programs  
Loans  
Financial Management  
Stewardship

The website is [www.nwumf.org](http://www.nwumf.org)

Advertised on Facebook on Christmas Eve  
Imagine No Malaria  
Clergy Bike Ride



Church is a Verb program  
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder became a Missional Priority

## 2012

The Greater Northwest Episcopal Area was established July 1<sup>st</sup> with one bishop with the episcopal "seat" in Seattle.

The Conference Coordinating Council was replaced by the Leadership Team

The Regional Program Councils were discontinued

## 2012

Resolution No. 1 was approved regarding Ministry of Memory. Each local church should have a historian and that each church would promote the use of the Conference library/archive room by their members; and could call upon commission members for assistance.

The Nome property had asbestos which needed to be removed.

The Advance #931027 was to be used to channel salary and project support to local church needs

The GBGM no longer handled or fully funded clergy moves to and from Alaska

## 2013

Fran Lynch presented a video showing the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Office of Deaconess

Nora Ortiz Frederick started a new faith community called Ascent Alaska to experience God outdoors

Funds were moved from Wedbush to Wespath

First UMC Fairbanks presented two large wooden mosquitos to Bishop Hagiya and Superintendent David Becket. The Bishop gave his to be auctioned. Kenai UMC had the high bid of \$250. In June large metal mosquitoes from the annual conference made its rounds among various United Methodist churches to raise funds for Imagine No Malaria.

Soldotna and Anchor Park engaged in the Beta Vitality Project of the Tuell Foundation

A few took advantage of the Academy for Missional Wisdom

Promoted *Pick Click Give* for the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend program

In July UMCOR gave money to Galena for relief from floods

Alaska Children's Services became Alaska Child & Family

## 2014

November 18<sup>th</sup> Alaska Child & Family celebrated 10 years of having a sweat lodge

November 5-8 AFACT (Anchorage Faith & Action – Congregations Together) offered a Leadership Training event for clergy and lay on faith-based community organizing

Bishop Tuell died January 10<sup>th</sup>

In June pastors and lay signed up for the "Imagine No Malaria" Health Miles Challenge

In April UMCommunications came to Alaska to interview David Fison about his totem poles

## 2015

The Conference office, Wesleyan House, was put up for sale and sold

Kelly Williams made a presentation celebrating the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AK Child & Family and showed a video

The Conference utilized Facebook for communications

Fundraiser was held - Walk to End Alzheimer's in Memory of Dennis Holway.

In June the United Methodist Board of Church & Society established the Faith United Against Alzheimer's Coalition to promote dignity and compassionate care, provide family support and work to find disease-modifying treatments and a cure.



The Innocence Project was supported over the years by the Alaska United Methodist and union churches through a yearly special Sunday offering.

Walt Hays initiated Ink Jet cartridge recycling centers in area churches to help the PET program (Personal Energy Transportation)

Promoted "Giving Tuesday" each year through The Advance

In November everyone was invited to attend an Inclusive Church Workshop - Welcoming Transgender Persons, held at Lutheran Church of Hope in Anchorage

Free webinars were offered by General Board of Discipleship.

On October 27<sup>th</sup> the Rev. Dr. Ken Sloane along with General Board of Discipleship offered a Stewardship Training event at St. John UMC for area wide churches

Promoted annually 6 Special Sundays  
Promoted United Methodist Men  
Promoted Youth activities  
Promoted community efforts  
Promoted United Methodist Women  
Promoted the United Methodist Federal Credit Union

## 2016

Ascent Alaska discontinued

East Anchorage United Methodist Church was discontinued

Research began to establish a new faith community/church in the Muldoon area

Last hosting of the Lay School of Theology/ GATE (Greater Alaska Theological Education) was held

September was Disaster Preparedness Month

Conference promoted Imagine No Malaria

September 1<sup>st</sup> was the beginning of Bishop Elaine Stanovsky's assignment to the Greater

Northwest Episcopal Area  
Office electronic mail address went from [umc@gci.net](mailto:umc@gci.net) to [alaskaumc@gmail.com](mailto:alaskaumc@gmail.com)

The Anchorage area churches were invited to an Earth Day Event of Flying a Kite on the Park Strip

## 2017

The Northwest United Methodist Foundation Endowment had a balance over \$2,100,000

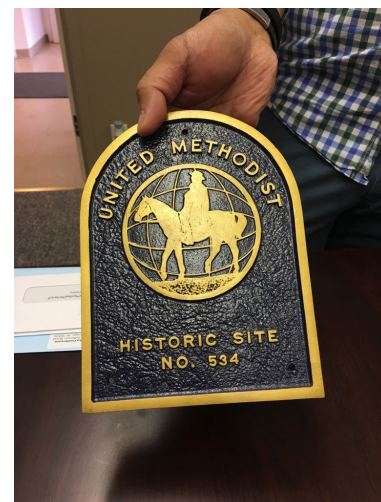
Nico Romeijn-Stout made a motion to amend a resolution that was carried:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Alaskan United Methodists will commit ourselves to decreasing our environmental impact through investing in energy efficient upgrades to our churches, parsonages, and other facilities, implementing sustainable usage patterns and practices, and when feasible, investing in renewable energy such as solar, and wind power.

January 6 the Conference office was broken into and things stolen; Later the zone valve failed and flooded 3 offices in the conference building

June 26-29 Conference Historian Larry Hayden hosted the Historical Society of The United Methodist Church and the Western Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History to their annual meetings in Anchorage at Alaska Pacific University

On October 6<sup>th</sup> a ceremony was held at Alaska Pacific University recognizing the campus as a United Methodist Historic Site



Psalm 44:1 — We have heard for ourselves, God, our forefathers have told us what deeds you did in their time.

## 2018

Nunaka Valley UMC began on July 1, 2018 with Rev. Murray Crookes which became Every Nation United Methodist Church.

Pastor Andy Bartel moved that the clergy session of the Alaska United Methodist Conference, with the Alaska United Methodist Conference meeting now in full session in Seward, Alaska, moves that the Alaska United Methodist Conference, as provided in P586.4a, does hereby establish the right of full membership in the Alaska United Methodist Conference. Approved unanimously. For the benefit of Charles Brower.

In February a two day seminar was led by Kelly Marciales on Faith-based Community Organizing

In August Caesar Marciales became leader of the P.L.U.M.E.-born missional community known as Mesa Sagrada (the sacred table) – a multi-ethnic, multi-generational, multi-denominational ministry in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough

St. John UMC hosted the Alaska Forum on A Way Forward with a panel of 6 people

In May the United Methodist Committee on Relief office provided the Alaska Conference a shower trailer for times of disaster or need

October 13<sup>th</sup> there was a celebration in Fairbanks to recognize the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Campus Ministry at the University of Alaska, with Nona Howard as Event Planner

Global Ministries Missionary Journalist and Photographer Paul Jeffrey came to Alaska and interviewed and videotaped Charles Brower, Fran Lynch, Bertha Koweluk and Lisa Talbott for a United Methodist Women program

A year-long study using the book “We Make the Road by Walking” was initiated by Bishop Stanovsky. A blog and website were available for comments and support.

## 2019

The United Methodist Committee on Relief office provided 21 home sanitation units to the relocated Newtok/Mertarvik community

United Methodist Committee on Relief office aided Chignik communities in the Bristol Bay region with a food security program through the winter and summer seasons

A Cross-Cultural Competency Learning Event was held Feb. 7/8 at the Conference Center

First Alaska Disaster Response Mini-Academy was held April 26/27 at Birchwood Camp

Table Talks were scheduled in March on human sexuality issues



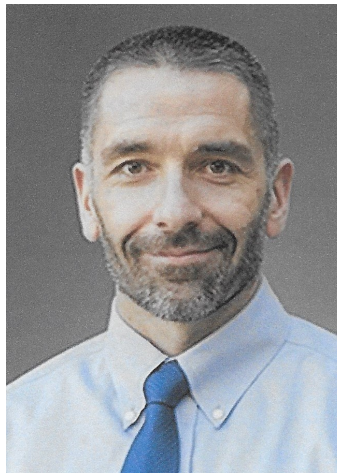
On September 30<sup>th</sup> the annual CROP Hunger Walk was held (**C**hristian **R**ural **O**verseas Program was original name.)

October 15-25 Anchorage First UMC Pastor Steve Fisher led a Holy Land Tour

October 13<sup>th</sup> – a Health Fair was held at the Conference Center

The Conference and Denomination had been making connections with the Lutherans, Episcopalians and Native Americans

On June 1<sup>st</sup> the Conference affirmed the four commitments from the United Methodist Church Next meeting in Kansas City



Alaska Pacific University's Eleventh President Dr. Robert Onders announced his retirement.

## 2020

January the Bishop called three meetings to discuss the journey to Mission District status. Then in February at the Special Called Session pastors and lay leaders voted on two petitions – one to dissolve the missionary conference status and two, to become a mission district within the boundaries of the Pacific Northwest Conference. Action #1 requires General Conference approval in May. Action #2 requires Jurisdiction approval in July.

The General Conference scheduled for May in Minneapolis was postponed until August 2021!

Recognized 100 + years of Methodist Scouting in February

Promoted the use of the United Methodist Federal Credit Union.



Certified Lay Ministry classes in Basic and Preaching were offered in May at St. John UMC.

A remarkable historic global pandemic spread around the United States coming out of China and spreading to Europe and eventually the rest of the world. It was named Coronavirus (COVID-19) and created great panic and survival shopping. Recommendations came forth on how to prepare for it, one of which was to avoid large groups of people and to not shake hands with anyone. As a result of many deaths in the Pacific Northwest Conference, the Bishop directed all churches in the Pacific Northwest Conference, the Oregon Idaho Conference and the Alaska Conference to not hold Sunday worship services until the end of May (three full months—including Easter!) and to basically close all churches to all groups during this incubation period. Worship went into computer mode.

For the first time in recent history the decision was made to have the Pacific Northwest, Oregon-Idaho, and Alaska Conferences to meet jointly

as one combined annual conference June 11-14 in Puyallup, Washington (which ended up being postponed a year).

Webinars were offered by the Greater Northwest Area of The United Methodist Church with panelists and Bishop Stanovsky talking about issues during this crisis on Wednesday evenings.

The Alaska United Methodist Women hosted an online morning devotion and Bible Study to alleviate some of the isolation during the pandemic and were available on Facebook for later viewing.

April 26<sup>th</sup> was Native American Ministries Sunday and fifty percent of the Special Sunday offering remains in the Alaska Conference to develop relationships and strengthen local Native American ministries, such as at Nome.

Alaska Pacific University Chaplain Brian Anderson gave the Invocation at the Commencement Program on April 25th and Graduation on December 12, 2020

The new President of Alaska Pacific University is Valerie Nurr'araaluk Davidson from Bethel.



November—The Jesse Lee Home buildings in Seward were torn down

Rev. Dan Wilcox created an Alaska United Methodist Disaster Response Facebook Page



Two of the Seven Principles of Kwanzaa



## Part II

# The Value of History

**History** is “past tense;” it is what God has done for his people over the ages.

**Heritage** is present tense; it is that faith and knowledge which previous generations have handed down to us and which we treasure today.

**Legacy** is future; it's what we will pass along to the rising generations! We dare not break the chain of inheritance. And we keep it alive by celebrating it. The church is devoted to the creation of a better future.

Historians not only recover and preserve the stories of years gone by, but also offer to others how history informs and relates to our current practices. We have the responsibility of continuing that narrative of God's work into the stories of our own congregations.

What history can help us understand in many areas of our church life is that what may have been cherished by one generation may be overshadowed by newer focuses, such as style of music and instruments, color, time of day, day of week, versions of religious texts, etc.

It is our job as history makers in Alaska today to tell the stories in such a way that folks may better understand the present as they become more informed about the past. We can often use our history to help bring about a better understanding and acceptance of what is happening in the present.

Daniel J. Boorstin wrote in 1956, in the book *American Catholicism* by John Tracy Ellis... “history” means both the events of the past and the account of them.” The historian...will see the past as personal and full of meaning – not as a chronology to be outlined, but as experience to be interpreted.” (page vii).



### Archives and Church Historian MISSION STATEMENT

It shall be the duty of the Church Historian to collect and preserve the historically significant records of your United Methodist Church. This includes, at a minimum, data relating to the origin and history of the church including: minute books, membership records, births, marriages, deaths, related photos and photo scrap books. Historical information shall be available to the members of your United Methodist Church and the general public, upon request.

History is important because it is a huge economic driver; just think of the thousands of museums there are around the world and the number of parks and statutes and buildings that people pay to go see and learn and remember.

The major value of history is that it helps us to understand who we are, where we have come from, and why we often act as we do.

History is entertainment...a fascinating way to learn about the past. The History Channel tells all about places and things we find inspirational. Think about genealogy.

History like the Bible can show us role models that we may want to emulate. History expands our worldview.

## Part III — The Lists

### Bishops:

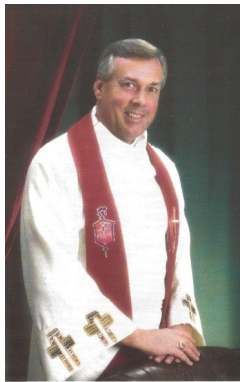
Calvin D. McConnell - 1985, 1986, 1987

William W. Dew, Jr. – 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995

Ed Paup – 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 (died March 21, 2012)

Grant Hagiya – 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015

Elaine Stanovsky – 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021



### Superintendents:

Thom White Wolf Fassett - 1985, 1986, 1987

Carol Ann Seckel – 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993

While Carol Seckel was on a study leave, the Rev. Dr. Raymond Balcomb was interim superintendent; he died June 10, 2012 at the age of 89 in Portland

Billy Still – 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998

Team Format: Rachel M. Lieder Simeon, Dennis B. Holway, Milo L. Thornberry: 1999, 2000

Team Format: Rachel M. Lieder Simeon, Dennis B. Holway, Monte Baker: 2001, 2002, 2003

Rachel M. Lieder Simeon – 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007

Dennis Holway – 2008

David Beckett – 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

Carlo Rapanut – 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021



Conference Office Addresses since the 1950s:

833 H Street  
711 Ninth Avenue  
1209 West 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
501 West Northern Lights Blvd.  
Suite 201/203  
3402 Wesleyan Drive  
1660 Patterson Street

## **Administrative Assistants/ Office Managers:**

Nancy Lowell Fassett - 1986, 1987

Kathleen Moser – 1988, none identified  
for 1989

Betty DeVore – 1990

Connie Page – 1991

Connie Mengniot – 1992

Faye G. Fellers – 1993

Sandy Hileman - 1994

Bonnie Curtis – 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998,  
1999, 2000, 2001, 2002

Brenda Wingfield – 2003, 2004, 2005,  
2006, 2007

Crystal Feaster – 2008, 2009, 2010,  
2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016,  
2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

## **Rules Section of Journal**

### **Rules of Order Index**

Division 1 - Organization

Division 2 - Membership

Division 3 - Attendance

Division 4 - Officers

Division 5 – Standing Committees, Units,  
Councils

Division 6 - Procedures

Division 7 - Policies

## **Lay Leaders:**

1985 – James R. Jose and Arlene Wood

1986 – Arlene Wood

1987 - Arlene Wood

1988 - Arlene Wood

1989 – Arlene Wood

1990 – Arlene Wood

1991 – Arlene Wood

1992 – Arlene Wood

1993 – Lane Rees

1994 – None identified

1995 – Susan Smalley

1996 – Susan Smalley

1997 – Susan Smalley

1998 – Susan Smalley

1999 – Susan Smalley

2000 – Susan Smalley

2001 – Susan Smalley

2002 – Susan Smalley

2003 – Susan Smalley

2004 – David Kobersmith

2005 – David Kobersmith

2006 – David Kobersmith

2007 – David Kobersmith

2008 – Lonnie Brooks

2009 – Lonnie Brooks

2010 – Lonnie Brooks

2011 – Lonnie Brooks

2012 – Lonnie Brooks

2013 – Lonnie Brooks

2014 – Lonnie Brooks

2015 – Lonnie Brooks

2016 – Jo Anne Hayden

2017 – Jo Anne Hayden

2018 – Jo Anne Hayden

2019 – Jo Anne Hayden

2020 – Jo Anne Hayden

2021—Jo Anne Hayden

**General Conferences from  
1972 to 2021  
are listed on page 117**

## Chaplains

Rev. Jim Stevens, Providence Hospital  
Jean Bruscia, Providence Hospital  
Steve Lambert, Providence Hospital

Ron Myer, University Community  
David Fison, Alaska Pacific University  
Scott Keele-Kober, 1995  
Diane O'Connell, Alaska Pacific University, 1989  
Jonathan Coppedge-Henley, Alaska Pacific University  
Karen Dammann, Alaska Pacific University  
Autumn Kruger, Alaska Pacific University 2017, 2018  
Brian Anderson, Alaska Pacific University, 2019, 2020

Kevin Seckel, Alaska Children's Services  
Jim Davis, Alaska Children's Services

Mable Rasmuson, Fairbanks Correctional Center  
Mary Reeves, Bartlett Hospital, 2012

Charles Bailey, Fort Wainwright  
Emilio Chaviano, Elmendorf AFB; Home Conference Florida - 1988  
Joseph Johnston, Galena AFB, HC Southern Georgia  
Roger Kappell, Ft. Wainwright, HC Kansas East  
Robert Robertson, Eielson AFB; HC Western Pennsylvania

## Alaska United Methodist Foundation

2008

The AUMF had two accounts invested with The United Methodist Foundation of the Northwest: The Society of Northern Light Account, with a balance of \$4,563.83; and the Thomas H. Dahl Memorial Ministry Fund, with a balance of \$103,837.79, as of March 31, 2008.

In an effort to create vision and mission statements for the Foundation, in the fall of 2007, members of the Foundation met with the Conference Superintendent to set goals for use of the funds that are invested in the Foundation. Goals that were discussed include:

The creation of a church of all nations to help those who have immigrated to Alaska,  
The establishment of indigenous native ministry in Alaska villages;  
The support of the Conference's "mission within a mission," and  
Financial assistance with new church starts (new worship services or new ministries).

2008

Proposal was made to use settlement proceeds resulting from the St. Paul litigation to create a fund known as the Thomas H. Dahl Mission Fund. It would be managed by the AUMF with distributions on request through the New Ministries and Native Ministries Committees.



Bishop Stanovsky

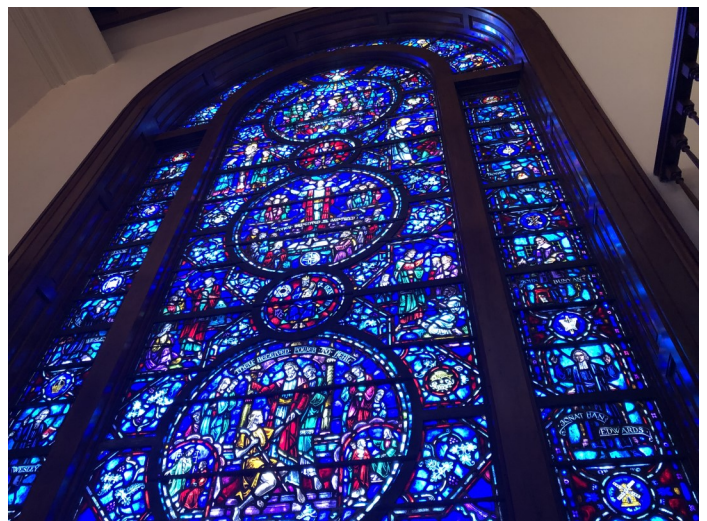
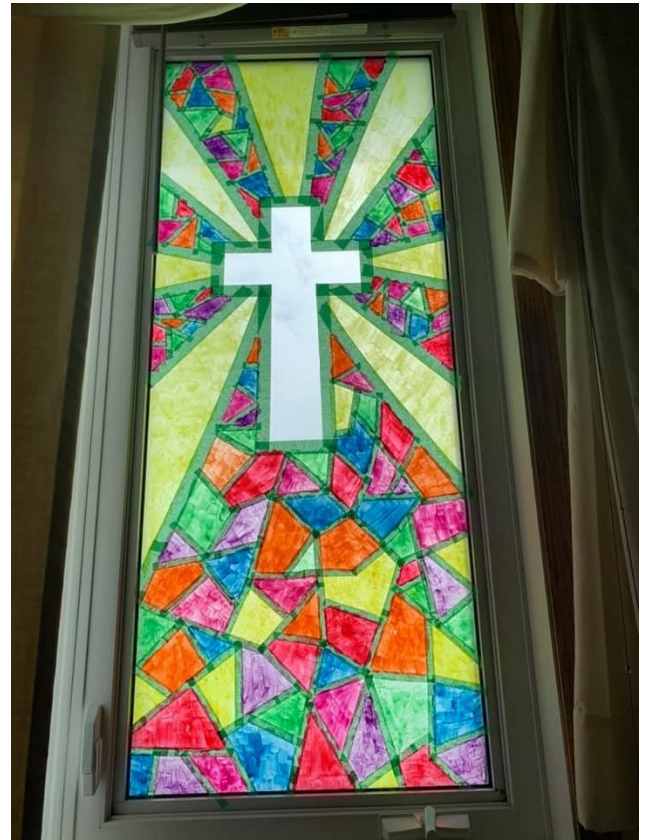
## Annual Conference Hosts:

1985 – Alaska Pacific University  
 1986 – Alaska Pacific University and  
           Anchorage area churches  
 1987 – Alaska Pacific University and  
           Anchorage area churches  
 1988 – St. John  
 1989 – Soldotna

1990 – Alaska Pacific University  
 1991 – First UMC Fairbanks and  
           North Pole  
 1992 – First UMC Anchorage  
 1993 – First UMC Anchorage  
 1994 – First UMC Anchorage  
 1995 – First UMC Anchorage  
 1996 – Alaska Pacific University  
 1997 – St. John  
 1998 – First UMC Anchorage  
 1999 – Seward/Fox Island

2000 – First UMC Anchorage  
 2001 – St. John  
 2002 – First UMC Anchorage  
 2003 – Chugiak and First UMC  
           Anchorage  
 2004 – Chugiak and St. John  
 2005 – St. John  
 2006 – St. John  
 2007 – St. John  
 2008 – St. John  
 2009 – St. John

2010 – Anchor Park  
 2011 – Homer  
 2012 – St. John  
 2013 – St. John  
 2014 – Anchor Park  
 2015 – St. John  
 2016 – St. John  
 2017 – St. John  
 2018 – Seward Memorial  
 2019 – Christ First in Wasilla  
 2020 – Puyallup, Washington State  
           Postponed; but  
 2020—each conference had their own  
 meeting via Zoom in a 3 day period  
 2021 expected to meet again sometime  
 when the pandemic is more under  
 control



## Conference Mission Priorities

- 1989 - Unalaska  
Native Ministries  
New Church Development  
Vitalized Congregations
- 1994 – Presbyterian—Spiritual Formation;  
Evangelism; Justice; Partnership
- 1995 – Expanding Our Vision – Building the  
Future with Love
- 1996 – From the Past Will Come the Future
- 1997 – Habitat for Humanity House in  
Fairview/Anchorage
- 1998 – Willow, Anvik, Grayling (WAG)
- 1999 – Nome Community Center and Church
- 2000 – Children of Africa
- 2001 – Russian Far East/Moravian Mission
- 2002 – Outreach in Outdoor Ministries
- 2003 – Covenant Relationships and Children  
of Iraq
- 2004 – Alaska Children’s Services Spiritual  
Life Program
- 2005 – UMCOR = United Methodist  
Committee on Relief
- 2006 – First Samoan UMC of Anchorage
- 2007 – Oklahoma Indian Missionary  
Conference
- 2008 – Native Lay Leadership Training
- 2009 – Turning the World Upside Down
- 2010 – Clean Water Initiative for Haiti and  
Campus Ministries
- 2011 – Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder
- 2012 – Church Revitalization; Stewardship;  
Youth and Young Adults; New  
Church Starts; Native Ministries
- 2013 – Nothing But Nets
- 2014 - Church Revitalization; Stewardship;  
Youth and Young Adults; New  
Church Starts; Native Ministries
- 2015 – Church Revitalization; Stewardship;  
Youth and Young Adults; New  
Church Starts; Native Ministries
- 2016 – Church Revitalization; Stewardship;  
Youth and Young Adults; New  
Church Starts; Native Ministries
- 2017 – Church Revitalization; Stewardship;  
Youth and Young Adults; New  
Church Starts; Native Ministries
- 2018 – Church Revitalization; Stewardship;  
Youth and Young Adults; New  
Church Starts; Native Ministries
- 2019 – Church Revitalization; Stewardship;  
Youth and Young Adults; New  
Church Starts; Native Ministries
- 2020—Church Revitalization; Stewardship;  
Youth and Young Adults; New  
Church Starts; Native Ministries
- 20/20 Vision: Leading to God’s New Horizons



# Award Groupings

## Roadrunner Award

Established by Elmer Schmidt

Before 1990 was Keith Wise

1988 - James Stigall

1990 - Linda Jean Myers

1991 - Robert D. Bowers

## Walrus Awards

1988 - David Fison

Aleen Fison

Richard Heacock

Walter Moffett

Bernice Moffett

Nancy Lowell Fassett

1988 - The Walrus Award was given to churches who paid 100% of their apportionments and also increased membership:

100%

Moose Pass

Willow

New Hope

Ketchikan

Girdwood

Douglas

Turnagain

St. Peter the Fisherman

And increased membership

Korean

St. Paul

Wasilla

Seward

Nome

Northern Light

Homer

Chugiak

St. John

Jewell Lake

Aldersgate

Anchor Park

Soldotna

East Anchorage

1990 - Mary Hicks Good

GBGM National Division

Jenny Sue Hayward

Bonnie Campbell

Edmund and Blythe Stanton

Dennis Holway

1991 - Don and Mary Ann Harlan

Ed and Mona Bittenbender

Patricia Wise

David Ochoa

Chris Spencer

1992 - gave to pastors leaving Alaska:

Carl Landerholm

Judith Bithe

David White

Curt Pollock

Arlene Wood

1994 Mike Isbell

Gina Holloman

Betty Letzig

1995 - Max and Gladys Cramer

Joe and Mary Davis

1996 - Duane Chase

Maggie Wilcox

Betty Letzig (again)

## Other Awards:

1993 - Green Pot Award

Jim Campbell gave it to John Campbell for Unalaska and John gave it to Billy Still

1997 - Bishop Paup presented Joan Van Der Sanden of Homer a mission festival prize

1995 - AMC Shepherd Staff Award

Given to David Fison by Billy Still - a diamond willow walking stick

1997 - Billy Still gave one to Della Waghiyi

1999 - Bob and Beverly Bowers (diamond willow)



Easter (first one in 1999) and Christmas totem poles were given till supply ran out.

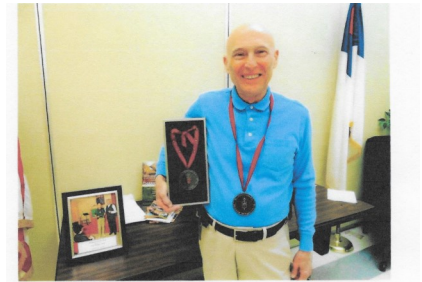
Certificates of Dedication were given to churches which paid 100% apportionments and increased membership.

Stoles were popular to give a leaving pastor as were blown-glass art.

Some churches had their own awards.

The One Matters Award was established in 2015. The 2020 recipient was the Palmer Fellowship. It is to recognize one church that is turning zeros into positive numbers with a renewed focus on discipleship. The award includes a plaque and \$1,000 from Discipleship Ministries.

Lonnie Brooks, one of many giants in the Alaska United Methodist Conference, may be the only one in Alaska to receive the Bishop's Award from two different Bishops.



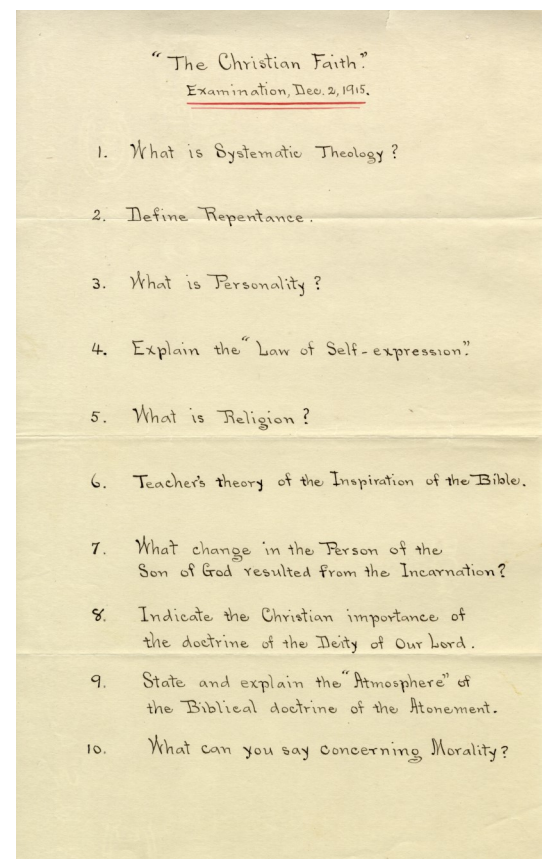
Lonnie Brooks holding The Bishop's Award from Ed Paup



Bishop Grant Hagiya presenting The Bishop's Award to Lonnie Brooks  
June 6, 2015



Conference Superintendent consulting in the Conference Archive Room

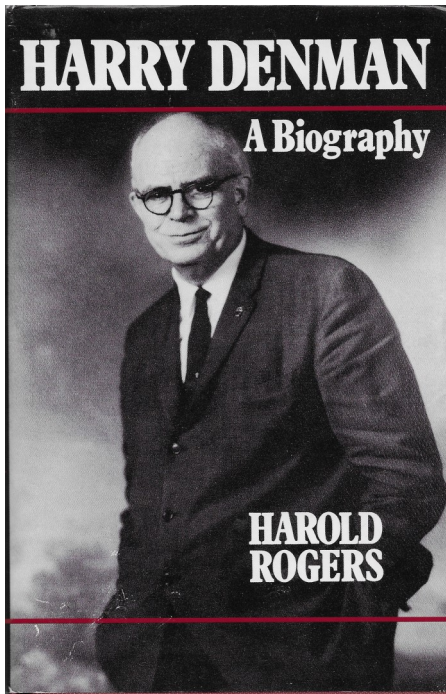


From the Drew  
University Archives

## Denman Evangelism and Lay Winners

**What:** The Denman Evangelism Award was established in 1980 by The Foundation for Evangelism to honor pastors and lay persons who are doing the work of responsible evangelism in the local church. In 1980 it was a national award. After nominations had been received from individuals in all five jurisdictions, the Executive Committee of The Foundation for Evangelism selected one clergy and one lay person who were honored to begin the program. In 1981, the Denman Awards were introduced to the annual conferences so they could have the opportunity of honoring one clergy and one lay person annually. Each year more choose to participate. This is a time of inspiration which reminds all of the church's purpose for existence. This award reminds us of the fact that United Methodism has always been an evangelistic movement. We have an intelligent, holistic evangelism for which the world is ready and which we must share.

**Who:** There are three annual Denman Evangelism Awards - one for a lay minister, one for an ordained minister and one for youth. They are persons who are doing the work of effective evangelism. Making true disciples of Jesus Christ can involve speaking, personal witnessing or inspiring the church to be involved in evangelism. The ones honored should be persons whose lifestyle brings honor to Christ and the Church.



**When:** Awarded annually, with the award being presented during the annual conference session.

**Selection:** The recipients will be selected by a panel appointed by the Elected Leader Team.



This book is available in the  
Conference Resource Room

Journal/ Yearbook	Outstanding Lay Person of the Year	Harry Denman Recipient
1981	n/a	Bob Smay, Don Hartman
1982	n/a	Jim Buffington, Reeves Havens, Joyce Edwards
1983	n/a	Art Edwards, Nu and Halatoa Saulala
1984		John Garvin, Willie Senungetuk
1985	Eva Christian	Jack Christiansen, Jackie Campbell
1986	Bea Shepard and Claudia Kelsey	Geo-Chong Park, Richard Haight
1987	Roland Stanton	Sharon Cooper
1988	Natalie Brooks	Julia Smith and Wayne Weld-Martin
1989	Verda Carey	Lane Rees
1990	Maynard Gross	John Campbell, Les and Betty Ludlam
1991	Ellen Northrup	Harry and Ann Janzen
1992	May Campbell	David Fison, Verda Carey
1993	Dale Davidson	Jan Cawvey, Carol Ann Seckel
1994	Jodi Martinez	Bonnie Campbell
1995	Phyllis Folta	Sailitai Maga and Waldemar Bobrowski
1996	Natalie Brooks	n/a
1997	Susan Smalley	n/a
1998	n/a	Jim Campbell, Fran Lynch
1999	n/a	n/a
2000	n/a	n/a
2001	Don Gotschall	n/a
2002	n/a	n/a
2003	Leslie Baker	Arlene Brovald
2004	Keith Stoltz	Rose McLean
2005	Arlene Woods	Walt Hays
2006	Karen Chase	n/a
2007	KJ Metcalf	Kay Abrams
2008	Betty J. Worthington	Lynn Kennedy
2009	Jo Anne Hayden	Dennis Holway
2010	n/a	Richard Heacock and John Anderson
2011	n/a	Karolann Whetsell and Richard Whetsell
2012	Donna Singleton	Charice Moore
2013	Abby Dunning-Newbury	Lonnie Brooks and Tafa Fulumua
2014	Kay Abrams and Jan Wachsmuth	David Beckett
2015	n/a	Philip E. Campbell
2016	Stephen and Marie Sweezey	n/a
2017	Wendy Taylor	n/a
2018	Paul Williams	Lisa Talbott, Barbara and Charlie Mitchell
2019	Kathy Kane-Lobdell	Mo Narus, Jo Anne Hayden, David Hall
2020	Terry Sherwood, Ola Williams	Donna Singleton

## Perkins Lay School of Theology Classes.

Year	Topic	Presenter
1982	Bible Teacher Training Event	John C. Holbert
1997	First One Organized by Lonnie Brooks	
1997	St. Luke and Church 2000	Dr. Virgil Howard
1997	Generation X: Preparing for the Future	Dr. Stanley Menking
1998	Three Little Stories with Several Big Ideas: Joseph, Jonah, and Ruth	Dr. John C. Holbert
1998	From the Social Gospel to Christian Realism: Twentieth Century Christians Look at Their Society	Dr. Robin W. Lovin
1999	Discerning Christian Spirituality: An exploration of Biblical, historical and continuing Christian Spirituality and its implications for today's church and world	Rev. William K. McElvaney'
1999	Understanding Revelation	Dr. Vigil Howard
2000	Thinking about God from the Underside	Dr. Joerg Rieger
2000	Murder in the Toilet, Dealing with Scandal and Violence in the Bible	Dr. Canna Nolan Fewell
2001	Beyond Boundaries: Evangelicals and Liberals in American Protestantism	Dr. Edwin D. Aponte
2001	How We Got Our Bible	Dr. Vigil Howard
2002	The Extreme Cente: John Wesley's Life and Thought	Scott J. Jones
2002	The Book of Revelation in History and Culture	Jouette Bassler
2003	Those Pesky Ten	John C. Holbert
2003	That's All A Mule Can Do: Rethinking Work and Vocation	Rebekah L. Miles
2004	Jesus in the (Other) Gospels	Dr. Virgil Howard
2004	Jesus, Then and Now	Charles M. Wood
2005	An Update on Paul	Jouette M. Bassler
2005	American Methodism in the 21st Century	William B. Lawrence
2006	What God Wants for Your Life: Changing the Way We Seek God's Will	Frederick W. Schmidt
2006	Guests of Jesus: Invitation to Communion and Discipleship in the Contemporary Church	Mark W. Stamm
2007	Experiencing God Through the Gospel of John	Jaime Clark-Soles
2007	Let Justice Roll! Amos and His Times	John C. Holbert
2008	The Gospel of Mark: Constructing Character under Pressure	Abraham Smith
2008	Parables for Today	Alyce M. McKenzie
2009	Finding a Good Fit: Evolution, Human Nature, and Mismatch Theory	Rebekah Miles
2009	The Kindergarten of Eden	Richard D. Nelson
2010	A New Kind of Church	Elaine A. Heath
2010	Rereading Romans	Sze-kar Wan
2011	The Book of Matthew	Jaime Clark-Soles
2011	Reinhold Niebuhr and Christian Realism	Robin Lovin
2012	Let's Begin at the Beginning: The Book of Genesis	John C. Holbert
2012	Christianity in a Religiously Plural World: A Biblical Exploration	Robert Hunt
2013	The Most Important Christian since Paul	William J. Bryan III
2013	The Character of Abraham and the Question of What is Most Important in Religion	Roy L. Heller
2014	Mary, Mystics, and Martyrs: Models and Mentors of the Faith	Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner
2014	Disturbing Texts in the New Testament	Sze-kar Wan
2015	Transforming Bodies: Reclaiming Worship That Matters	Dr. Heidi A. Miller
2015	"God Grant me the Serenity..." Exploring Faith and Politics	Rev. Gary B. MacDonald
	Name changed to GATE = Greater Alaska Theological Education	
2016	scheduled but did not happen	
2016	Called to Action: From Word to Deeds	
2016	Who is She? Who are We?	Dr. Jamie Clark-Soles
2016	Social Holiness: Exploring Our Wesleyan Roots	Dr. Hugo Magallanes
2017	End of Program	

# Historic Sites

## Unalaska

1997 – Petition #1 – Approved recommendation to GCAH the making of the location of the original Jesse Lee Home at Unalaska a United Methodist Historic Site. Became #350 on May 24, 1998 and the church building was dedicated as Alaska's first United Methodist National Historical Marker (#350); special thanks was given to Helen Hoffman of Alaska Monuments in Palmer, Alaska for donating and carving the large colonial rose marble historical monument, given in honor of her Methodist family members killed by the Stalin purge in the Soviet Union. Coe Whittern, son of Pastor Keith Whittern (drowned in 1957), donated the site through the process of a dedicated and recorded easement.

Original Site, Jesse Lee Memorial Home, 1890-1925, Established and operated by the Women's Home Missionary Society Of the Methodist Episcopal Church  
Dedicated to all who served here In the spirit of Jesus Christ



Bishop Ed Paup

And

Superintendent Billy Still

## Historic Sites

### Ketchikan

1999 – Petition #18 – Ketchikan awarded No. 368 on August 9<sup>th</sup> being the oldest continuous Methodist church in Alaska, a celebration of over 100 years.



### Alaska Pacific University/Alaska Methodist University

2017 – Resolution #4 A Resolution/Petition In Support of identifying Alaska Methodist University/Alaska Pacific University as a United Methodist Historic Site. Service of Dedication was on October 6, 2017 and given the site number 534.



## Pastors Alphabetical by Last Name and Home Conference

Pastors Last Name	Pastors First Name	Home Conference
Agtarap	Alfredo	Philippines
Alora	Donna	Presbytery of Alaska
Airey	James	
Ashworth	Anthony	Rocky Mountain
Baggett	Allen	Oklahoma
Baker	Monte	Rocky Mountain
Bartel	Andy	Dakotas
Barton	Lucile	California Pacific
Beckett	David	West Ohio
Bishop	Jerry (Jeri) Lee	Virginia
Bither-Terry	Judith	California-Nevada
Bledsoe	Monta Ann	Memphis
Bobrowski	Waldemar	Red Bird Missionary
Boegli	Susan	Oregon Idaho
Born	Mark	Alaska
Bowers	Robert	Wisconsin, East
Bradley	Darla	Missouri
Brawner	Bailey	Pacific Northwest
Brooks	William	Oregon Idaho
Brower	Charles Asiagnataq	Alaska
Campbell	Bonnie	Baltimore Washington
Campbell	John	Baltimore Washington
Campbell	James	Iowa
Campbell	Philip	Rocky Mountain UCC
Carlton	Janice	Iowa
Carroll	Emily	Pacific Northwest
Case	J. Bruce	Mississippi
Chase	Duane	Central New York
Christian	Mark	South Carolina
Clendenen	Patricia	Tennessee
Conrad	Mark	Texas

Cornish	Jason	North Georgia
Counts	Rachel Ann	Oregon Idaho
Covey	C. Ronald	North Indiana
Cramer	Max	Central Pennsylvania
Crooks	Murray	Oklahoma/Alaska
Dahl	Thomas	Minnesota
Dammann	Karen	Pacific Northwest
Day	Erin	Alaska
Disburg	Jon	Iowa
Disburg	Leila	Iowa
Dobler	David	Yukon Presbytery
Dodson	John	California-Nevada
Doepken	James	North Indiana/O-I
DowlingSoka	Christinia	Holston
DowlingSoka	Joe-D	Holston
Dyrenforth	David	New England
Eldred	Stephen	Nebraska
Elmore	David	Louisiana Annual Conf.
Elmore	Julie	West Michigan
Erbele	Teri	Oregon Idaho
Erbele	Evelyn	Oregon Idaho
Fellers	James	Oregon Idaho
Fisher	Steve	West Ohio
Fison	David	Northern Illinois
Frost	Charles R. III	Mississippi
Fulumu'a	Fa'atafa	Alaska
Garvin	John	Western Pennsylvania
Gilbert	Richard	Rocky Mountain
Greer	Edith	Alaska
Hagler	Ken	North Georgia
Hall	April	Alaska/Pacific Northwest
Hall	David	Pacific Northwest
Hammett	Sandra	California-Nevada
Handlong	Doug	Desert Southwest
Hardenbrook	Jim	Church of the Brethren

Heacock	Richard K Jr	Southwest Texas
Henry	John	Detroit
Hepner	Kenneth	Wisconsin
Hicks	Robert	Pacific Northwest
Hicks	Tori	Pacific Northwest
Hildenbrand	Lois	
Holslag	Tom	Presbyterian
Holstein	Susan	Alaska
Holway	Dennis	California Pacific
Hoover	Kathleen	Alaska
Horn	Vicki	Yellowstone
Hubbard	Joe	Pacific Northwest
Janzen	Ann	
Jones	Luke	California Presbyterian
Jones	Robert	Virginia/Pacific Northwest
Karns	Curtis	Yukon Presbytery
Kelley	Dale	Disciples of Christ
Keum	Won Jea	Korean Methodist Church
Kimbrow	Sandra	Texas
Kirsch	Charles	West Ohio
Knight	Susan	California Pacific
Knight	Arthur P	Oregon Idaho
Koo	Jin Mo	California Pacific
Koweluk	Bertha	Alaska
Krier	Matthias	Dakotas
Kruger	Autumn	Dakotas
LaFils	Donald	Alaska
Lambert	Steven	Texas
Landerholm	Carl	Pacific Northwest
Langenwalter	Jon	Oregon Idaho
Lee	Suk-Boo	California Pacific
Lee	Sung Yop	California Pacific
Lewis-Moss	Scott	Alaska
Lieder Simeon	Rachel	Yellowstone

Lindsay	Greg	Oregon Idaho
Lindsay-Hudgins	Debra	Delaware-Peninsula
Llenado	Ferdinand	Bulacan Philippines
Ludlam	Les	Alaska
Lush	Daniel	Rocky Mountain
Maga	Sailitai	Alaska
Marciallis	Kelly	Alaska
Martin	Donna Lee	Yellowstone
Martindell	Charles	West Ohio
Martinson	Ron	ELCA
Matz	Curtis	ELCA
McCarey-Laird	M. Martin (Maggie)	Troy
McClellan	Faith	PCUSA
McConville	Tomothy Christo-	Western Pennsylvania
Moffett	Walter	Oregon-Idaho
Moss	Scott Lewis	North Indiana
Munn	Michael	Texas
Murray	Henry	Alaska
Myers	Linda Jean	Iowa
Myers	Ron	Iowa
Myers	Thomas	Oregon Idaho
Nabua	Bennie Grace	Pangasinan Phillipines
Nowlen	Charles A Jr	Yellowstone
Ochoa	David	Alaska
Oconer	Luther	Pampanga Philippines
Oldham	Martha	Alaska
Page	John	Oregon Idaho
Park	Woo-Shoung	California Pacific
Park	Moon-Chong	East Conf; Korean
Park	Geo-Chong	Korean Methodist
Perry	Peter	Desert Southwest
Perry	Jesse	

Pippin	Richard	South Indiana
Pitney	Deborah & John	Oregon Idaho
Pollock	Curtis	Yellowstone
Poole	Marsha	Northwest Texas
Quick	Robert	West Ohio
Ramos	Imelda	East Mindanao Philippines
Rapanut	Carlo	Pacific Northwest
Reinders	Matthew	Alaska
Robertson	Norvell	West Virginia
Romeijn-Stout	Nico	Pacific Northwest
Rooker	Lewis	Presbytery of Alaska
Russell	Jack	Alaska
Sather	Donald	Alaska
Saulala	Halatoa	Alaska
Schaadt	Jo Ann	Pacific Northwest
Seckel	Carol Ann	Oregon Idaho
Seckel	R. Kevin	Oregon Idaho
Shaffer	John J	Central Illinois
Sheffer	Julie	Alaska
Shock	Lauren Kay	Oklahoma
Shook	Judith	California-Nevada
Simmons	Robert	South Dakota
Skiba	Laura	Western Pennsylvania
Slater	Martha	Western North Carolina
Smith	Robert	Greater New Jersey
Smith	Richard	New Mexico
Smith	Jennifer	Pacific Northwest
Stamper	Janice	Yukon Presbytery
Stanton	Edmund	Oregon Idaho
Stigall	James	Kansas East
Still	William S III	Northern Mississippi
Strait	Donald	Rocky Mountain
Stuart	William James	Alaska

Talbott	Lisa	Pacific Northwest
Taylor	Thomas	Wyoming
Telfer	Thomas	Pacific Northwest
Thornberry	Milo	New York
Tichenor	Karen Martin	Pacific Northwest
Tindall	John R	Florida
Trudeau	William	Detroit
Tucker	Daniel	North Indiana
Tuiolemotu	Selusi	Alaska
Van Hoose	Thomas	Yellowstone
Waghiyi	John	Alaska
Waghiyi	Della	Alaska
Walters	Jon	South Indiana
Wanders	Daniel	Yellowstone
Ward	Ruth	Alaska
Ward	Sandy	Alaska
Warden	Mary Ann	Alaska
Washburn	John W	Oregon Idaho
Wasser	Julie	Alaska
Wasser	Delbert	Western Pennsylvania
Waterhouse	Bob	Alaska
Weld-Martin	Anne	Oregon Idaho
Weld-Martin	Travis Wayne	Oregon Idaho
Whetsell	Richard	Oklahoma
White	David	Mississippi
Wilcox	Paul	Central Pennsylvania
Wilcox	Daniel	Central Pennsylvania
Wilde	Ralph	Alaska
Wilkins	Joan	Alaska
Wilson	Kathleen	Western North Carolina
Wingfield	Brenda	Oregon Idaho
Wise	Keith	Southern New Jersey
Yi	Sang Ho	California Pacific
Young	Darryl	Alaska
Young	Charles L.	Northern Illinois
Yunker	Ellen	South Carolina

# Number of Appointments from each Conference

## 1985—2021

Home Conference		
33	from	Alaska-mostly Local Lay Pastors
2	from	Baltimore-Washington DC
1	from	Bulscan Philippines
4	from	California Nevada
8	from	California Pacific
1	from	California Presbyterians
1	from	Central Illinois
1	from	Central New York
3	from	Central Pennsylvania
1	from	Church of the Brethren
3	from	Dakotas
1	from	Delaware-Peninsula
2	from	Desert Southwest
2	from	Detroit
1	from	Disciples of Christ
1	from	East Conference Korean
1	from	East Mindanao Philippines
2	from	ECLA
1	from	Florida
1	from	Greater New Jersey
6	from	Iowa
1	from	Kansas East
2	from	Korean Methodist
1	from	Louisiana
1	from	Memphis
1	from	Minnesota
3	from	Mississippi
1	from	Missouri
1	from	Nebraska
1	from	New England
1	from	New Mexico
1	from	New York

2	from	North Georgia
4	from	North Indiana
2	from	Northern Illinois
1	from	Northern Mississippi
1	from	Northwest Texas
4	from	Oklahoma
19	from	Oregon Idaho
14	from	Pacific Northwest
1	from	Pampanga Philippines
1	from	Pangasinan Philippines
1	from	PCUSA
1	from	Philippine
1	from	Presbytery of Alaska
1	from	Red Bird Missionary
5	from	Rocky Mountain
1	from	Rocky Mountain UCC
2	from	South Carolina
2	from	South Indiana
1	from	Southern New Jersey
1	from	Southwest Texas
1	from	Tennessee
4	from	Texas
1	from	Troy
4	from	Unknown
2	from	Virginia
1	from	West Michigan
5	from	West Ohio
1	from	West Virginia
2	from	Western North Carolina
4	from	Western Pennsylvania
2	from	Wisconsin, East
1	from	Wyoming
7	from	Yellowstone
3	from	Yukon Presbytery



# **ALASKA**

## **COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

### **Directory of Participating Denominations**



The symbol on the cover is the one for Christian unity. The Greek word Oikoumene is the root word for ecumenical and means "the whole inhabited world." "Anaayu" is the Eskimo word for church. The symbol pictured was designed by Lydia Hays and Gary Holthaus of Anchorage. The plywood frame is covered with black felt, spotted seal skin and bleached moose hide.

## COUNCIL OF CHURCHES WORK IN ALASKA

The Alaska Council of Churches is young, having been founded in 1957 through the efforts of Dr. Fred McGinnis, Bishop William Gordon and Dr. R. Rolland Armstrong. It is vigorous and has accomplished a great deal in the years since its formal organization.

Among these accomplishments has been the fostering of a strong legislative concern on the part of churchmen in Alaska. Largely through the efforts of the late Dr. I. J. Montgomery a legislative newsletter was created to keep these churchmen, and other interested persons, informed about legislation with which the church should be concerned.

In addition, the Alaska Council of Churches has provided a vehicle for mutual cooperation in the areas of research and planning for institutional ministries and new church development. The mandate for this cooperation was established in the late 1800s by a comity agreement which divided the Great Land Geographically and assigned specific areas to each of the denominations. In recent years, however, even more unity has been accomplished with the ecumenical parishes in Valdez and Kenai. Here the denominations are working together to provide a single church for the community, serving and served by, all the denominations. This is the continuing trend of the efforts of the Research and Planning Committee.

More recently the Council has held ecumenical worship services with prayers for Christian unity, in which Roman Catholic and Orthodox have participated. The cause of Christian unity will be forwarded as individuals and churches realize that brotherhood is more important than doctrine.

In the autobiography of S. Hall Young, he said, "It seems to me that Alaska is more favorably situated than any other country for the experiment of Christian unity . . . This united church would be free to launch into a wider, fuller and more Christ-Like Christianity." The Alaska Council of Churches seeks to be the vehicle of that unity and as such deserves and solicits the support of individuals, business enterprises and industry in our state.

*Please see inside pages for a map showing the approximate locations of these churches and outstations.*



### Ecumenical Groups

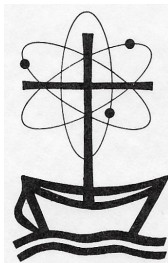
1956 – Alaska Association of Churches formed

1957 – Became Alaska Council of Churches

1972 – Became the Alaska Christian Conference



**VIA**  
Valley Interfaith Action



The Alaska Council of Churches

January 13, 1970

# Camps

## **Eagle River Southeast** [www.methodistcamp.org](http://www.methodistcamp.org)

June 1994 Friends of the Southeast United Methodist Camp received title to the camp property from Forest Service. See history of this camp in separate document. People were encouraged to save Campbell labels for redemption. In 2000 people around the globe could donate using *Special Advance* number 931231-0.

## **Birchwood Camp:** [www.birchwoodcamp.org](http://www.birchwoodcamp.org)

MAD Camp = Music, Art, Drama

SOUL Camp = Skills for Outdoor Living

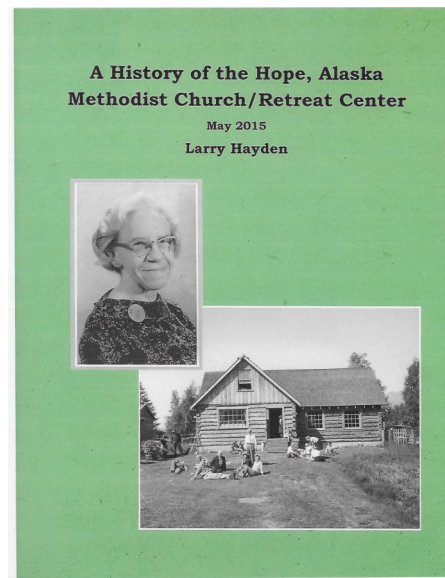
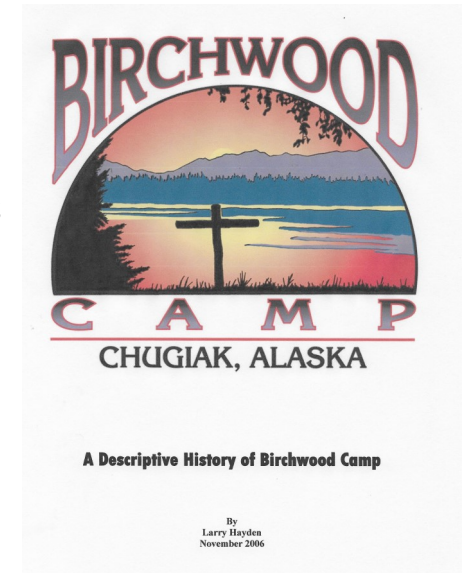
Camps—Primary; Family (renamed Methodist Mixer); Senior High; Intermediate; Junior; Junior High, Snow; Outback; All-Niters; Women Afoot. See history of this camp in separate document.

## **Hope Retreat Center**

2003

Conference received the deed for the property from GBGM

See history of this camp in separate document.



## Camps

**Rainbow Glacier Camp** of the Presbytery on Chilkat Inlet, about eight miles south of Haines. The facility was donated by Rev. and Mrs. Eugene Bromley to provide an opportunity in Christian growth, fellowship, communication and understanding of self and others.

Camps: Outdoor Bound/Hunter Safety; Primary; Explorers; Adventurers; Seekers; Junior; Wilderness; Family; Fair; and Trail Camps

**Bingle Memorial Camp**, PO Box 80570, Fairbanks, 99708  
Also has a Salcha Address  
Mile 319 of the Richardson Highway at Harding Lake

In the early 1950s the Presbytery of Yukon leased from the Federal Government land on Harding Lake. In 1985, the Presbytery received title to this property. Bingle memorial Camp is located on the 66 acre site. Bingle Camp, formerly called Harding Lake Camp, was started in 1953 by Rev. Bert Bingle and his wife Mabel, pioneer Alaska missionaries. It is a not-for-profit camp. The Knox Retreat Center can be used year-round. Other buildings include a chapel, lodge, sleeping cabins, picnic shelter and out-houses.



Camps include: Discovery; Junior; Bike; Mimi; Beginning canoe; Music, Arts & Crafts; Advanced Canoe; Junior Highs; Explorers; Adventure; Outdoor skills; family, archery.

**Camp Dexter** out of Nome

**Salmon Lake** Lutheran Camp on Seward Peninsula



Lake at Victory Bible Camp 2019

**Victory Bible Camp**, Mile 95 Glenn Highway near Matanuska Glacier

**Solid Rock Camp** near Soldotna

**Meier Lake Camp** in Wasilla, Episcopalian

**Shrine of St. Teresa** north of Juneau

**Sheldon Jackson College** in Sitka

**Trail Lake National Forest Service campground** near Seward

**Eklutna Lake Campground** north of Birchwood



Bruce Roberts Memorial Chapel at Birchwood Camp

## Heritage Sunday Annual Themes

*Heritage Sunday shall be observed on Aldersgate Day (May 24), or the Sunday preceding that date. The day provides an opportunity for reflection on heritage, celebration of where the Church has been, how it understands itself as it shapes us today, and the meaning of Christian conferencing. Heritage Sunday calls the Church to remember the past by committing itself to the continuing call of God. from 264.1, The Book of Discipline, 2012*

Heritage Sunday is set aside specifically for remembering our legacy as United Methodists. Prior to 1968 the Association of Methodist Historical Societies were consulted on what yearly themes were available. Aldersgate Sunday would later be changed to Heritage Sunday after the 1968 merger.

Unlike today, Heritage Sunday did not necessarily have a set theme set by the General Commission on Archives and History. The Interpreter magazine would feature an article on Methodist History in pending acceptance by the general secretary. Later the GCAH would provide a list of resources for the day.

The General Commission on Archives and History develops specific themes for each Heritage Sunday, and many of its resources can help local churches or an Annual Conference commission prepare its own observance. An Order of Worship and A Service of Word and Music are prepared around the theme each year. The General Commission also publishes a booklet of more general worship resources as well as a packet of planning suggestions for churches wishing to celebrate their heritage. Local churches and conference commissions are certainly free to develop their own themes and/or to celebrate Heritage Sunday at other more convenient times of the year.

The underlying message of all Heritage Sunday observances is that history is an essential part of the church's ministry, and that all members of the church family can celebrate our shared heritage. We can remember that United Methodist heritage is also community heritage.

Heritage Sunday is set aside for remembering our legacy as United Methodists. It is an ideal time for local churches and Annual Conference Commissions on Archives and History and Historical Societies to develop programs and projects reflecting the importance of history in congregational formation and casting the future.



**ARCHIVES & HISTORY**

General Commission on Archives and History

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1966	1994
Bicentennial Observance	Celebrating our Heritage of Christian Perfection
1970	
Our United Methodist Heritage	1995
1972	United Methodist Witnesses for Jesus Christ: Founders
Renewing Methodism's Mission to America (Tunnell Interpreter Article)	1996
1975	United Methodist Witnesses for Jesus Christ: The Laity
Looking Back in Gratitude (Albea Godbold Interpreter Article)	
1981	1997
Celebrating Our Unity in Cultural Diversity	United Methodist Witnesses for Jesus Christ: Women
1985	
Celebrating Our World Parish	1998
1986	United Methodist Witnesses for Jesus Christ: The Local Church Lay Preachers
Our Heritage Alive in our People	
1987	1999
Celebrating Our Heritage of Music	The World is My Parish: Africa
1988	
250th Anniversary of John Wesley's Experience at Aldersgate	2000
Celebrating Our Heritage of Worship	The World is My Parish: The Americas
1989	2001
Celebrating Our Heritage of Preaching	The World is My Parish: Europe
1990	2002
Celebrating our Heritage of Witnessing	The World is My Parish: Philippines
1991	2003
Celebrating our Heritage of Assurance	"300 <sup>th</sup> Birthday of John Wesley: His Life and Legacy"
1992	2004
Celebrating our Heritage of Holiness and Accountability	Barbara Ruckle Heck and the Witness of Lay Women
1993	2005
Celebrating Our Heritage of Itineracy	World Methodism

2006

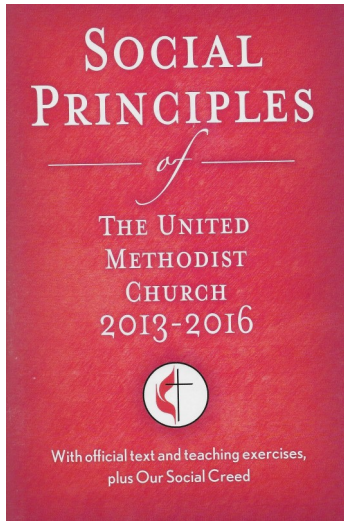
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Full Clergy Rights for Women

2007

300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Birth of Charles Wesley

2008

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Methodist Social Creed



2009

Developing Leaders: Our Heritage

2010

New Places for New People and Renewing Existing Congregations: Our Heritage

2011

Engaging Ministry with the Poor

2012

United Methodism's Historic Mission for Global Health

2013, May 19

"The Power of Place: The Contemporary Mission of Heritage Landmarks and Historic Sites"

2014, May 18

"The Church's Heritage in Mission: Remembering the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Death of Thomas Coke"

2015

Welcoming the Stranger – the Strangers' Friend Society

2016, May 22

"Roots, Shoots, and Branches" – the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Francis Asbury

2017, May 21

Milestones – Calling Local Churches to Discover and Celebrate Their History

2018, May 20

"JUBILEE": The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The United Methodist Church

2019, May 19

150 Years of United Methodist Women – Bold Women, Audacious Faith

2020

The Power of Through: Division and Unity in Methodist History

Prior to 1968 the Association of Methodist Historical Societies were consulted on available yearly themes. Aldersgate Sunday would later be changed to Heritage Sunday after the 1968 merger. Unlike today Heritage Sunday did not necessarily have a set theme set by GCAH. *The Interpreter* magazine would feature an article on Methodist History in pending acceptance by the general secretary. Later GCAH would provide a list of resources for the day.

## Part IV

### Local Church Histories

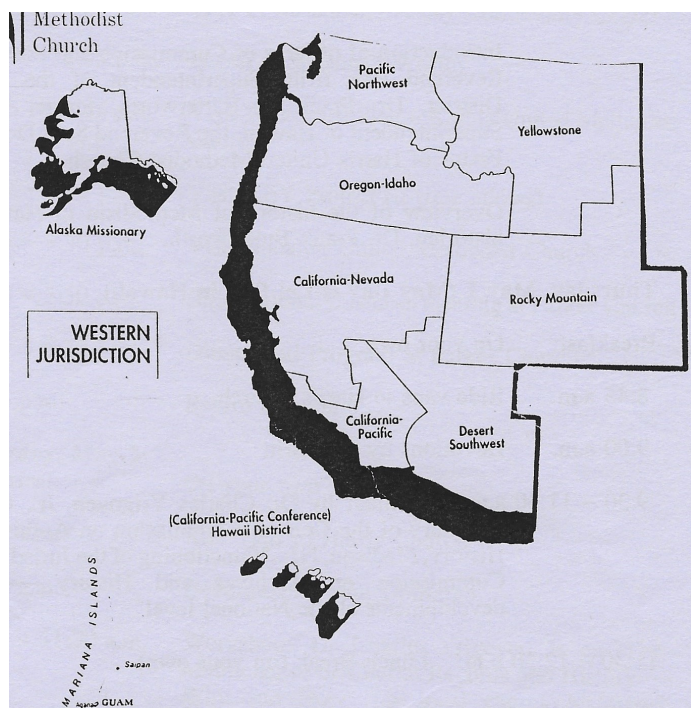
All of our churches tend to do many of the same things, such as weddings, baptisms, funerals, recognizing graduates, promoting camps, VBS, UMW, recognizing birthdays and anniversaries, giving thanks, all age classes, choir, youth activities, parsonage management, Bible study, workshops, seminars, awards, anniversaries, celebrating holidays, birth announcements, donations for alter flowers, book reading discussion groups, confirmation classes and thanking those who DO things.

What follows are some of the activities each of the churches have done in those years following the publication of *Have Gospel Tent Will Travel* and could be an inspiration for any members of each church to adopt the same activities as appropriate. One can assume that the missing data from gaps in the dates for local churches contain the same outreach activities as already documented.

Most churches have a pattern of ministry which consists of five major areas:

- Worship
- Education
- Caring
- Outreach
- Community

Most of the Alaska churches translate the faith of its members into amazingly numerous and substantial missions of stewardship. Some selected illustrative highlights of these endeavors are included on the following pages.



Alaska expects to become a Mission District of the Pacific Northwest Conference after the next General Conference votes on it with approval.

Yellowstone and Rocky Mountain has already merged into the Mountain Sky Conference





# Aldersgate

## Mendenhall Valley, Juneau

The Fellowship began in June of 1984 with a group of 15. They began meeting in the Mendenhall River School Music Room. Later in the Gym. The Fellowship became chartered on October 5, 1986 and became Aldersgate United Methodist Church. Sharon K. Cooper gave Joe Alter (lay leader from Northern Light United Church) the credit for starting a Methodist church in the Valley as far back as the 1960s by planting the seed in the Juneau Cooperative Church Council.

The church's official Motto: A Church in Mission; Growing in Faith. Serving with love.

The partnerships with so many groups in the lower-48 was called "The Rainbow Connection"

Pastors:

Robert B. Crocker, 1984, 1985 initial contact from Arlington Heights, Illinois during the Fellowship beginning of the church

John Campbell, 1986 officially chartered, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991

Milo Thornberry, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995

Ellen Younker, 1996, 1997, 1998

Robert Quick, 1999

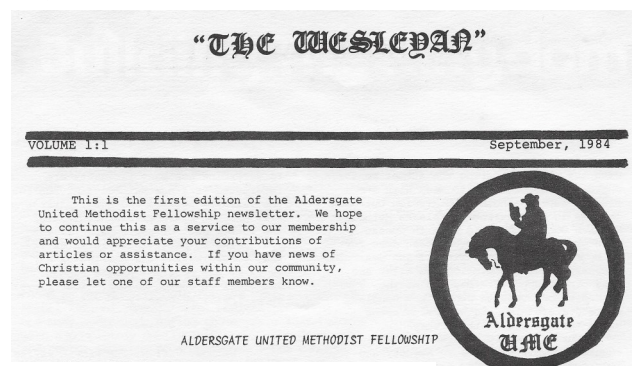
Thomas Dahl, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003

Daniel Wanders (Interim) 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007

Judy Shook, 2008, 2009, 2010

Susan Boegli, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015

Karen Dammann, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021



## 1984 The Start

The name of the first Aldersgate newsletter was "The Wesleyan"

Founders called themselves the Aldersgate United Methodist Fellowship

Other preachers in 1984 included Art Knight (from Douglas CUMC), Reeves Haven (from Northern Light United Church), Sharon Cooper, Jack Jackson, Pastor Paul of the Nazarene church, and maybe others

The fellowship first met in Sharon and Fred Coopers house and then moved to the Mendenhall River School music room at 10901 Mendenhall Loop Road

## 1985

In October of 1985 a team of Volunteers in Mission from the California Conference helped with the survey which was undertaken in the area from Lemon Creek to Auke Bay along with a competing Lutheran survey to garner interest in a new church mission. Radio and newspaper surveys were also done in addition to person to person contact.

In November the Board of Global Ministries took action to support Aldersgate wholeheartedly.

The Fellowship interviewed John Campbell via a conference call and he was approved to be the first church pastor.

## 1986

In the Fall the parsonage was purchased at 9490 Moraine Way (the 8690 Dudley Street address was a rental)

The Rainbow/Butterfly banner was hung in the sanctuary and refurbished by Sue Gleason around 2003

Established a major support connection with the Lewisburg District of the Central Pennsylvania Conference which consisted of 120 churches. A pledge of \$50,000 per year for three years was made.

Offered Pie Ministry to first time visitors



The chartering service was held on October 5<sup>th</sup> with 34 members each receiving a framed certificate, hand lettered in calligraphy by a member of the congregation

Harold, a large furry blue monster, and other puppets, welcomed the 30 children of the congregation and helped give them certificates as preparatory members.

Plaques were presented to persons who had been especially instrumental in helping to get the new church started and showed in calligraphy the Aldersgate Affirmation of Faith.

Bonnie Campbell spent many hours cross stitching a lovely frame Psalm for a lay person whose deepest desire was to see Aldersgate become a living, breathing vessel for God.

Then, visiting folks from Douglas Community United Methodist Church presented a pulpit Bible to the congregation to be used in its worship services.

Participated in Juneau International Christian Youth Exchange

The parsonage moved to 8317 Aspen Avenue Canoe Camp

WDBS (Women's Daytime Bible Study)

## 1987

Church picnic at Sandy Beach

Donated toward Wales new church ministry

Donated toward Africa Silungal church extension

Donated toward Argetsinger Camp

First Directory was published

Library was started by Dawn Stewart, later Vicki Miller helped manage it

The newsletter name "Rainbow Connx'n" was used in February and possibly earlier. The name was selected from a contest and was won by Ellen Northup, and her daughter Melissa Goese-Goble did the design and artwork. The first issue of "The Rainbow Connex'n Weekly" was April 9.

The Glory Hall Emergency Shelter, Soup Kitchen and Care Center was supported to help those most in need to achieve well being.

Entire services were recorded on cassette tapes  
Four members attended the Louisville Global  
Gathering March 12-15  
Covenant Players Drama Group  
Youth went to Sitka for mission  
First anniversary event on October 4<sup>th</sup>  
Youth made and sold 25 advent wreath kits at  
bazaar

## 1988

UMW Rainbow Circle  
Family Fellowship Circles formed  
Men's Breakfast Group  
First Easter Egg Hunt  
Garage Sale for Mission  
Teemed with Douglas UMC for Vacation Church  
School  
Chestnut Grove Presbyterian Church in  
Phoenix, Maryland, donated a set of paraments  
for the pulpit and communion table, and a new  
candlelighter in recognition of Bonnie Camp-  
bell's parents' 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary  
Ellen Northup made an entrance sign for the  
camp just north of the Eagle River bridge

## 1989

Linda Layfield, missionary to Pakistan with  
handicapped children, spoke  
Notecards were developed with cover art by  
Melissa Goese-Goble called Aurora with poetic  
text. Sold to fund building skylight  
May 14<sup>th</sup> the All Church Conference approved  
the building site  
Blessing of the Fleet at Maritime Park  
Promoted camp with a display at the Nugget  
Mall "Outdoor Show"  
Pastors Campbell purchased a trailer at #90  
Kodzoff Acres as an office

The Juneau City and Borough Planning and  
Zoning Commission approved on August 8<sup>th</sup> the  
conditional use permit to build on the Cinema  
property. This allowed the purchase of the  
property from Gross Alaska.  
The Cooperative Church Council printed a map  
showing places of worship in Juneau which  
was placed on ferries and tourist information  
centers each summer  
100 new hymnals were dedicated in honor and  
memory of many people  
The Alleluia Sunrise Service was held at  
Skater's Cabin

## 1990

A Liturgical Dance Group was organized  
Teddy Bear Picnic  
A promotional video premiered on May 20<sup>th</sup>  
showing the history of Aldersgate near Auke  
Bay  
Cub Scouts  
Sponsored Girl Scout Troop #16  
Made a large doll house for the Aware Shelter  
Phonatopia  
Adopt-A-Flower Bed project  
Deck built at Parsonage by VIM team from  
Illinois  
Disciple Bible Study

Bishops' Initiative Against Drugs and  
Violence  
Barbara Mitchell made 5 Advent banners  
Youth went on an Appalachian Mission Trip  
Frequently held all-church swims in the high  
school pool

## 1991

The 2.83 acre property was officially closed  
on February 28<sup>th</sup>  
10 VIM teams came to build building  
Breakfast Club for neighborhood children  
Two from Aldersgate and 11 others from  
Alaska attended The Gathering with 3569  
United Methodists from around the world in  
Fort Worth, Texas  
Ken Steward from Hughes UMC in Wheaton,  
Maryland performed as Rev. Robert Straw-  
bridge around the area when he wasn't work-  
ing with his VIM team at Aldersgate

## 1992

In February 115 attended the consecration  
banquet (first dinner) in new building  
New banners were made for consecration  
service by Barbara Mitchell and Connie  
Coffelt and others  
The Outreach Committee kept very busy  
those first few years  
On January 23, 1992 the Service of  
Consecration was held by John H. Campbell

## 1993

Connie Thornberry wrote a short story in a  
booklet about Aldersgate "The Raven and the

Church on Cinema Drive" as a fundraiser

1994

Aldersgate published "The Southeast Connection" which had information about the southeast United Methodist Churches  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
Survivor Support Group

1995

Ratified an initiative to build a 40' x 43' education wing addition to be built by Peachtree Road UMC VIM team

1996

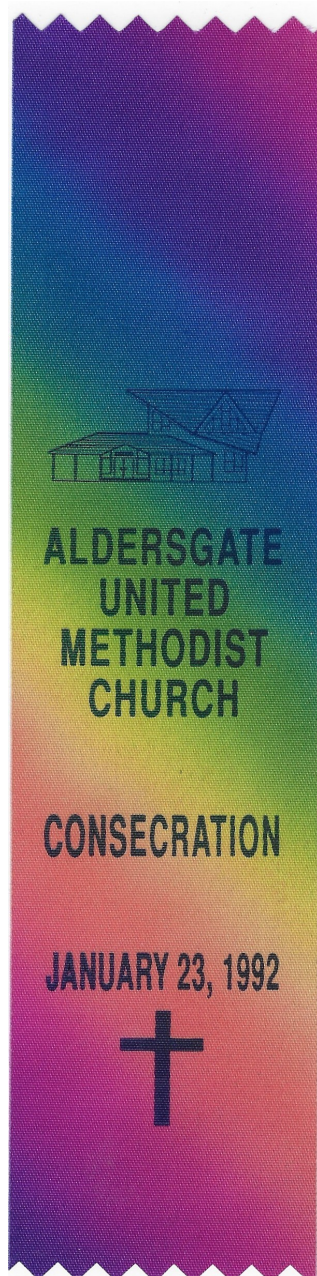
Montessori School for preschoolers started renting the fellowship hall and classrooms  
Rainbow Valley Breakfast Club served 28 kids in the Fall

1997

Storage Shed was built by VIMs and others  
Harvest Carnival  
Brownie Troop #46  
The Southeast Mission Event was held at Aldersgate Nov. 7th and 8th

1998

Emmaus  
Pastor gave opening prayer at three sessions of the Alaska State House of Representatives  
Word of Life gave notice of no longer renting space on Sunday afternoons



Senior High sponsored a hunger awareness meal of rice and bean soup  
Raymond Reed won 3 gold medals at the All-Alaska Special Olympics  
Church directory available  
Parking lot was graded and gravel put on it  
VIMs repaired the parsonage

1999

Tlingit Drum Dancers performed to benefit the camp  
Food Bank  
VIMs

2000

Quilting Crusaders held a garage sale  
Permanent Endowment Fund established  
Cooking classes were offered  
Millennium Watchnight Service  
Transitions cooking class held by the school district for disabilities students between ages 18-24 were contracted for each Thursday between 10-2.  
March 19<sup>th</sup> Rainbow Planet concert with Jim Valley  
Valentine Cake Walk  
Parsonage roof needed replacement  
Prayers of the Heart workshop  
UMW sponsored the first annual Pet Parade at the Pioneer Home

2001

Sold parsonage and put money in trust  
May Campbell Memorial Fund was used to purchase "The Faith We Sing" supplemental hymnals along with computer items  
Promoted labels and box-tops for education  
Each month in the newsletter for all years there would be a saying that could be clipped and placed on ones' refrigerator  
Alaska Christian Ministries Convention was held at Chapel by the Lake  
Dunwoody UMC in Atlanta hosted a concert featuring Banks & Shane to raise funds to pay off Aldersgate debt  
Video tape of the Christmas pageant was available  
Prayer of the Heart Intensive Retreat was held at Shrine of St. Teresa  
Who's Who Wall was put in place with member photos  
Software for the Kidsreach computer lab was

purchased by a grant from the Coast Guard Women's Association of Juneau

## 2002

Doug Eckland and Russ Shivers made two handicap parking signs placed near the church entrance

The sound system was installed in sanctuary with one lapel and one handheld microphone  
A Commemorative Tlingit paddle carved by Leo Houston was presented by Pastor Tom Dahl to the Dunwoody UMC in Atlanta as part of a huge thank you for all their support  
The 1985 Ford van was replaced with a 1994 Ford van

## 2003

An All Church Conference discussed whether to lease a 180' cellular telephone transmission and receiving tower and equipment storage building on a 50' x 50' piece of Aldersgate property from Cellular One. Negotiations failed and it was not placed

Friday Night at the Movie Lenten Study  
Aldersgate sent out its first VIM team to the Fairbanks United Methodist Church

## 2004

Family Skate Night

The Way of Forgiveness: an 8 week small group experience was offered

## 2005

Directory was updated

In December the building debt was paid in full  
The mortgage burning celebration was held Sunday, June 12, 2005

Game Day

Irish Dinner on St. Patrick's Day

Held Easter Sunrise Service at Skater's Cabin  
Aldersgate won a \$500 grant from the Coast Guard Women's Association of Juneau from March Charity Auction Grant

Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes  
Gulf Mission Trip to clean up after the hurricane season

## 2006

Mission Trip to Mexico

Another Mission trip to the Gulf in March

Participated in National Hunger Awareness Day by fasting one meal and giving the cost of that meal to the hungry  
UMM hosted FAMI1Y (Fast A Meal in 1 Year) Celebrating a rich history of liturgical art in banner making and altar cloths  
Recycled printer ink cartridges  
Big Brothers/Big Sisters  
Nothing But Nets  
Rainbow Connex'n Newsletter continued  
AWARE Shelter  
Alaska Children's Services  
Glacier Valley School breakfast program  
UMCOR  
Glory Hall  
Juneau Love INC

## 2007

Sharon Cooper passed on to Aldersgate a Tapa Cloth that the Anchor Park Tongan Fellowship had given her

Hymn Sings

Easter Violets in Memory

In February got new web address:

[www.gbgn-umc.org/juneaualdersgate/](http://www.gbgn-umc.org/juneaualdersgate/)

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

First year of playing softball

Marriage Enrichment Workshop

## 2008

In January the Audio Induction Loop Assistive Listening System for the Hearing Impaired was installed, along with 10 receiver sets

Girl Scouts

Supported the Johnson Youth Center

Thomas H. Dahl Mission Fund established  
Networking dinners were provided in the homes of Aldersgators

By October 30 PETs were given away

Church building was used for voting booths  
Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes

Alternative Christmas

Drove children to Glacier Valley School for breakfast program

Sponsored VBS with Shepherd of the Valley

Lutheran (ELCA) and St. Brendan's Episcopal

An agreement was reached with Big Brothers/Big Sisters to provide "bigs" for children of incarcerated parents

"Cinderellas" continued to help those moving out of Juneau by giving their houses a final cleaning.

2009

AWARE

UMCOR

Church Directory updated in February

Contributed to the Shepherd of the Valley

Church Food Pantry

The gazebo was built as an Eagle Scout project in memory of Amy Martin

Issue 58 in August was the last hard copy of newsletter mailed to people unless they paid \$7 per year; email would henceforth be the preferred method of delivery

PET

Glory Hall

Blessing of the Animals

Got a Facebook page

Tuesday Night Lives

VIMs

Family Game Night

Nothing But Nets

Love INC

Participated in National Night Out

Senator Mark Begich spoke at Town Meeting at Aldersgate

Seeding Culture of Peace with Interplay event by Masankho Kamsisi Banda from Malawi

Performed Christmas caroling at various homes and for a home-bound member

Thursday Night Live program with a meal

A photo of the flower cross created from a Worship Team workshop for Easter made the "Church of the Week" on the GBGM's website.

2010

Parking lot paved and garage built

Hospital Chaplaincy

Softball team

2011

Vandals spray painted graffiti on outside walls

Silver Anniversary of the Chartering by 34 members observed on October 9, 2011

Had a Serving Team, Learning Team, Prayer Team, Worship Team

Support Committees were: SPRC, Trustees, Finance, Lay Leadership, Church Council, and Lay Leader

New projection system was purchased in memory of Chuck Bishop

Congregational Care with First Response Team

Red Wagon used to collect for Valley Food Bank

Pigs on a Mission

Snow Help Team to help remove snow or run errands

Parking lot light tipped over in a wind storm

A Prayer in Remembrance of 9-11 Service

Raised \$825 at the Bowl for Kids 2011 event for Juneau Big Brothers/Big Sisters

2012

Aldersgate hosted the Democratic Presidential District Caucus

Simple Soup Supper and Study

Had a website:

[www.juneaualdersgate.weebly.com](http://www.juneaualdersgate.weebly.com)

Living the Questions Small Group Study

Blessing of the Pets

Murder Mystery Dinner

Got 2 new boilers

Hospice of Juneau

Mittens and hats for Glacier Valley Elementary school

Hosted seminary intern Allyn Steele for a year from Vanderbilt Divinity School

Camp Champ with Douglas and Northern Light

90 day Bible Reading

Family Faith Nights

2013

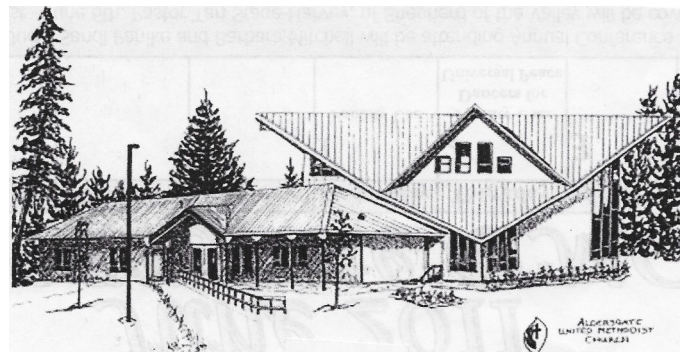
New floors laid in kitchen and bathrooms

First ever BBQ Throwdown

Softball team called the A'Gators

Rummage Sale

Hosted their first Cooperative Youth Minister intern





Aldersgate sanctuary

2020 (not active because of COVID-19)

Brunch Bunch each Thursday

Juneau Tabletop Gaming Club

Aurora Light Childcare Center

Feed the Future for Glacier Valley  
Elementary School

Easter Bonnet Tea

Glory Hall meal service

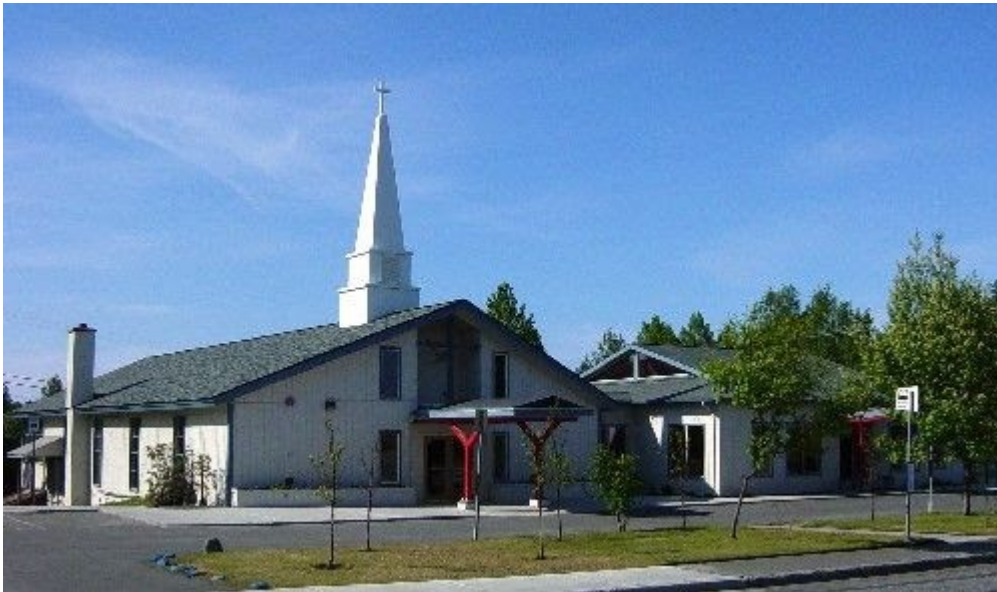
LGBTQIA+ potluck second Friday

United Methodist Women

**DOUGLAS COMMUNITY & ALDERSGATE  
UNITED METHODIST Congregations**



Third Sunday of Advent  
10am December 13, 2020



# Anchor Park

## Middle East Anchorage

### Pastors:

John W. Washburn, 1985

William S. Still III, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993

David White, (associate) 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991

Charles Kirsch (interim) 1994

Joseph Davis, 1995

Thomas W. A. Telfer, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998

Monte Baker, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003

John and Bonnie Campbell, 2004, 2005, 2006

Jon and Leila Disburg, 2007, 2008

Jon Disburg, 2009, 2010, 2011

Jennifer Smith, 2010, 2011

Doug Handlong, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

Autumn Kruger, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020

Ken Hagler, 2020, 2021

1985

The church office became computerized

On May 12th Keighley Malone Fassett, the daughter of Superintendent Fassett, was killed in a car crash. The family were members of Anchor Park, where the memorial service was held.

1986

The Northside Seventh Day Adventist Church started meeting in the Anchor Park building and stayed for three years

New piano was purchased from memorial funds remembering Bruce Frenzel

Jim Snead from Nashville led a multi-church worship for the United Methodist Men.

Began an eight year tradition of a Senior Citizen Christmas Tea and Lights socials organized by Tony and Billy Johnston.

1987

Storage space on the north side of Wesley

Hall was made by Robbie and John Robinson and Gary Eley.

1988

The three storage sheds were built by Garnet Dima.  
Reid Bond created the picture board  
Assisted in the "Paint the Town" mission project  
\$1,060 was sent to Katanga, Zaire, to Lodjo Bastor's School.  
Softball Team came in Second Place in Division  
A Shepherd's Staff was given to Peggy Hicklin

1989

Volleyball at Lake Otis School  
Tuesday morning exercise  
Bruce McDonald made Camai buttons  
Mission to Mexico  
Lant Platner awarded the Scout District Award of Merit  
Michele Sims painted altar in Lawhorn Room  
Used van purchased (probably the white one)  
Parents Morning Out  
Reed basket making class  
Tongan luau  
New hymnals purchased  
Videotape was made from the slides shown at stewardship dinner  
Youth went caroling  
Kids of Note led by Linn Seidel  
Youth Musical – Surrender

1990

Youth Musical – Celebrate Life  
Covenant Players Drama program  
Scouts collected recyclables  
UMCOR  
Building Committee considered options for expansion  
Billy Still had an angioplasty  
New directory out  
Youth mission trip to Juneau/Douglas  
Wednesday Night classes with food, music  
Reached out to APU students/staff  
Basketball at APU  
A Mile of Pennies (84, 480)  
Notable Camai Ringers

1991

Exterior of building got painted  
Supported Brother Francis Shelter  
Volleyball

Craft Group

Francis Kongaika won his event (wrestling? Football?) at the Arctic Winter Games in Yellowknife, Canada

Men's Breakfast

Jennifer Watkins became Alaska's Junior Miss (aka Alaska's Young Woman of the Year) and competed for the United States title in Mobile, Alabama

Teacher Appreciation Breakfast

Mission Committee held a Mexican Pig-Out to help the Kurds in Iraq

Anchor Park Youth Summer Mission hosted children from the Airport Heights neighborhood for a Day Camp

Kids Club Thursdays

Anchor Park Family Day at Birchwood Camp  
Previous Anchor Park pastor Ken Heflin was guest preacher August 25<sup>th</sup>

1992

Senior Citizen Tea

Sweetheart Dinner (over the years they were held at Diane's Restaurant, Wesley Hall, APU, Arco Atrium, Golden Lion)

Heifer International

Walk to Emmaus

Touchstone Men's Homeless Shelter

Beans Café

Softball Team

VBS



Faka-Me

Aloha Night

Alaska Flag/Benny Benson Day at ACS

New carpet placed in Lawhorn Room

First Annual Halleluiah Party (replaced Halloween)

1993

First Annual Job Fair

Craft Group

AA  
 Scout Troop #603  
 Parsonage Kitchen remodeled  
 Spring Break Marathon Weekend  
 Mission Youth Trip to Chickaloon, Valdez,  
 Fairbanks  
 FISH  
 Love INC  
 Tongan Unity Conference with Dr. Tevita Puloka  
 UMW Holiday Auction  
 Altar Guild

1994

Handbells  
 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with memory books  
 Vai Soliai received "Shepherd's Staff" recognition  
 for his work with Samoa youth and gangs  
 New telephone directories became available  
 Jim and Jean Strathdee in Concert October 21-  
 23  
 CROP Walk  
 Sharon Kimbrough Cooper was presented a  
 stole as part of her Diaconal Consecration

1995

Daryl Young was chosen as Nurse Practitioner  
 of the Year by the American Academy of Nursing  
 Professionals  
 Easter Brunch  
 VIMs

1998

November – Tongans organized a Praise Band  
 with Talakai Finau

1999

Carry the Light to Nome \$2 per mile  
 Red Cross Blood Mobile on site  
 A web address was assigned for our use  
 Toys donated by Dawn Linton Warren for the  
 nursery  
 Chancel Choir  
 Ensemble Chair  
 Photo board created by Dean Hyatt and friends  
 Singspiration  
 9 youth and 3 adults went to Knoxville for  
 Youth '99; sold shares of stock for \$10  
 Brian Eley made a pew shorter to accommodate  
 a wheelchair  
 Carpet purchased for sanctuary; pews were re-  
 moved to parking lot; the ceiling was painted  
 and other details were done while pews were

gone  
 Vacant lot where Camai House was land-  
 scaped and beautified  
 Donated \$167 to Intermission Crisis Nursery  
 Distributed Internet Ministry Surveys  
 White icicle lights were hung outside the  
 building during the City of Lights campaign

2000

Puppetry Festival  
 Mary Magdalene House  
 Youth Mission to Tonga  
 Food Bank  
 Alternative Christmas market  
 Resounding Ringers  
 Clare House  
 Photo Directory published  
 Souper Suppers  
 Stephanie Oglesby bought high chairs for  
 Wesley Hall  
 Pastor Baker was jailed for MDA  
 Evangelist Alex McFarland spoke at Anchor  
 Park on his 50 states in 50 days Tour of  
 Truth  
 Tongan Fellowship Car Wash  
 Gale Smoke's Signals: What I've Been Read-  
 ing Lately , 2 books monthly  
 Moscow Nights performed November 19<sup>th</sup>

2001

No Strings Attached puppet team  
 Talent Show  
 Tongan Caucus  
 Shane Inch made the Paschal candle holder  
 Laura Gardner was an Alaskan of the Year  
 Scholarship winner  
 Youth Mission to Homer  
 Dean Hyatt built shelves in the nursery



2002

Participated in the Kairos Prison Ministry  
  
 June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 60 youth in the Charles Wesley  
 Singers from Damascus, Maryland, sang at  
 Anchor Park  
 SERRV – Sales Exchange for Refugee  
 Rehabilitation and Vocation

Elmer McDonald installed the roof over the kitchen entrance to the Wesley Hall.

## 2003

ChristCare Prayer Shawl Group  
Missionale  
The west side addition to the building was nearing completion in April

## 2004

The Blood Bank Life Mobile parked in the lot as part of a community drive  
Holiday Auction was an annual event for Mission  
Supported Tongan missionary Mary Catherine Kelly  
Provided tuna fish to F.I.S.H.  
PET  
Expanded worship offerings by adding a monthly Sunday evening Praise Service  
Operation Christmas Child to Russia  
Alcoholic Anonymous  
Started a Developmentally Disabled Boy Scout Troop  
Walk for Hunger  
Recycling program  
VBS  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
Hands Up Mission Project  
50<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
Potlatch Circle  
Fair Trade Support

## 2005

Mission Trip to Nicaragua  
Recycling at State Fair  
Grief Support Group  
Prayer Shawl Group  
Hosted a New Start Plus Seminar on healthy living and choices  
Food Bank  
Sweetheart Dinners  
Clare House  
2005 First medical mission to Nicaragua  
Youth raised money for mission trip to Appalachia  
Reading Group  
Beans Café  
Faka Me  
Parking Lot Sale  
Softball

## 2006

Food deliveries for F.I.S.H.  
Photo Directory created  
Father-Son Retreat at Birchwood  
New roof put over sanctuary  
Celebration on July 30<sup>th</sup> of partnership with East Anchorage UMC which started officially on July 1<sup>st</sup>  
Night of Talents  
Habitat for Humanity  
Blessing of the Animals  
Parent Autism Support Group  
Quilting Group  
Parsonage burglarized  
“Light on a Stand” event  
STAND together Against Gang Violence  
Tongan missionary Mary Catherine Kelly spoke  
Parent Autism Support Group formed  
Items for Alaska National Guard members  
Bicycle field trips with Pam Bell  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
Medical Mission to Nicaragua



## 2007

Kairos Prison Ministry  
Mother-Daughter Retreat at Birchwood  
Steeple was placed on building in November  
CPR class  
Snow Camp  
National Kokasi Tongan Caucus Annual Meeting  
Halloween Carnival  
Received a \$5,000 grant from the Youth Service Fund to do “The Art Project”  
VBS  
FISH  
Softball team

2008

Projection System was in use  
Mary Magdalene Mission Project  
Steeple Dedication in memory of Rev. David Blackburn was on June 19  
Sunday school children made quilt blocks with the help of Sara Pate and Susan Williams and was sent to the McCurdy School in New Mexico  
Halloween Carnival  
Journey to Bethlehem  
Holiday Beanie Boxes  
Took school mediation training  
Scrapbook memories  
AFACT – Anchorage Faith and Action Congregations Together  
Supported the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference  
Beans Café  
Nicaragua Medical Mission

2009

Boiler and Heater were demolished and replaced  
Youth Mission trip to Iowa  
Web site was online  
Beans Empty Bowl project  
Reading Group  
Fundraising concert by Madison and Amanda Lorentzen  
Easter Prayer Vigil  
Fake Me  
Jo Anne Hayden recognized as Lay Person of the Year by the Conference  
Presentation of Bible to 3<sup>rd</sup> graders  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
Helping Hands – Caring Hearts  
Kairos Prison Ministry

2010

Supported the WAG Mobile Library  
Shane Claiborne preached; he is author of “The Irrestible Revolution” and “Jesus for President”  
Provided labels for McCurdy School  
Alternative Christmas with pottery from Nicaragua made by Pedro Guerrero  
Holiday beanie boxes  
Dessert @ Denny’s  
Leaving a Legacy: Writing an “Ethical Will”  
Raven Pitts was selected to serve as a student ambassador by the People to People program

and traveled to Australia

2011

Kids Kitchen  
Received an “Outstanding Service Award” from Beans Café  
First Annual Church Campout July 15-16 at Eklutna  
Small Group Formation  
Recycling  
Children’s Lunchbox  
Journey to Bethlehem  
Campus Ministry  
Movie Night  
Labels for McCurdy School  
Disability Scouts  
Brother Francis  
Quilting Retreats  
Health Fair  
Beans Café  
WAG Mobile Library  
Church is a Verb  
Hiking with Sue  
Celebrate Recovery Program  
Fake-Me  
Madison Lorentzen sang in concert  
Sermons were available on website  
Journey to Bethlehem Celebration Event  
United Way Walk for Warmth  
Developed a new logo



UMCOR  
Launched Military Care Package project  
UAA Care packages  
Thanksgiving Blessing Project with 500 cans of green beans

2012

Parsonage Spruce Up Day  
UAA Campus Ministry effort by Jenny Smith  
Safe Sanctuary workshop  
Cookbook published

Strong Women Strong Bones exercise program  
Parsonage Repair Fund established  
Health and Wellness Ministry

2013

Celebrate Recovery Connectional event  
20's and 30's Ministry  
Helped WAG Library (Willow Anvik Grayling)  
Strong Women, Strong Bones Program Holiday Beanie Boxes for homeless

2014 -

Hosted the UMW Mission event for the southcentral region  
Susan Williams organized a Quilt Retreat in Wasilla  
Ken Pendleton presented some architectural drawings regarding the upgrade of the parking lot  
New signage was proposed and created  
Downstairs Women's restroom was renovated  
Lifetouch produced a new Prayer Directory  
Vicki Packer organized a Children's Easter Event  
UMW sponsored the second annual Crossroad's baby shower  
May 18th 60th anniversary event  
New Day hosted a neighborhood BBQ in the Anchor Park parking lot  
Anchor Park hosted the Annual Meeting of



the Alaska United Methodist Conference  
2015

Held Brown Bag Sessions organized to discuss

inclusion of LGBTQ people  
Hats and mittens made by the Fiber Fellowship were given to people at the Airport Heights Elementary School  
Two parking lot lights were installed  
Team was recruited to run/walk in the Alaska Run for Women  
Janet Ulukivaiola served as the summer intern

2016

The United Methodist Women continue to be a major part of the church programs

Tried a new management system—single board governance for a trial year  
Idita-Walk to benefit Nome Community Center  
On March 13th there was a parking lot celebration  
Held a Parking lot Rummage Sale  
Youth went on a Summer Mission trip to Nome  
Collected Peanut Butter and Jelly jars for Airport Heights Elementary School  
Jo Anne and Larry Hayden attended the General Conference in Portland  
Hosted a series of Town Hall meeting about the Anchor Park Mission Field

Recovery is  
Everyone's  
Access to  
Life  
About Addiction met in Wesley Hall

Financial Peace University seminars were offered  
The Reading Group continued meeting  
Buddies were sought for helping those who would benefit from English as a Second Language classes  
Prayer Room was dedicated November 6th  
Goal was to collect 500 cans of green beans for the Thanksgiving Blessing Project  
Keuring coffee machine was used to help raise funds for the youth group mission trips  
Poinsettia's were distributed to Fire Stations, gas stations, restaurants, Providence Extended Care and other places after service.

2017

Easter Prayer Vigil was held in the new Prayer Room from April 14th at 9 p.m. till April 15th at 4 p.m.

Mission Team went to West Virginia to help recovery after flooding

12 Scouts earned their Dentistry Merit Badge working with Dr. Lara Mabry staff led by Lant Platner

Stuart Benson painted and framed an image of the church building

Harry Ricker organized a Men's Fellowship with Thursday evening Ping Pong games

Collected coin change for Global Missions

God's Singing Angels resumed rehearsals

2018



Continued to collect tuna for F.I.S.H.

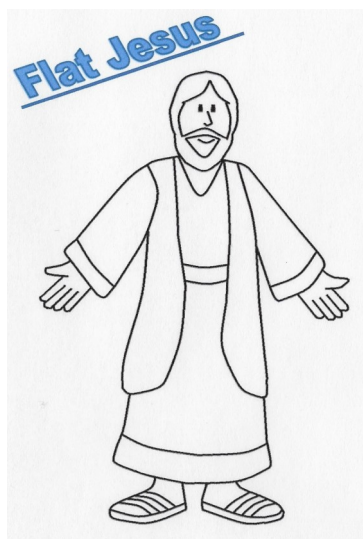
Continued with softball team

People were encouraged to take Flat Jesus with them on their summer travels and take pictures to put in newsletter.

Neighborhood Yoga sessions were offered

VIM team from West Virginia was welcomed

Continued to collect food items for the Willow



Red Barrel

Chess club was started by Bob Mitchell

On March 8th the church hosted a reception for the Mural Reveal from the Anchorage Opiate Task Force and REAL About Addiction group

A Bingo Night fundraiser was promoted the help a Lake Otis school family

Buddies were sought for the Brother Francis



Shelter

2019

Backpack Buddies

Alcoholics Anonymous

Beans Café

Clare House

F.I.S.H. Fellowship in Serving Humanity

Willow Community Food Pantry

R.E.A.L. (Recovery is Everyone's Access to Life) Addiction support group

Helped Pack NarCan Kits

Nicaragua Medical Mission

Downtown Hope Center

The Social Justice group has raised awareness about landmines, Fair Trade, Earth Stewardship, Recycling, Nets for Malaria and LGBTQIA issues

October 12<sup>th</sup> there was a Community Health Fair held

A few formed a Thursday Reading Social Discussion Group

2020

January 19<sup>th</sup> was the first ever sermon

message delivered as a pre-recorded video as the pastor was called away on short notice to attend a funeral in Nebraska

Gail Phillips was recognized as the 2020 Iditarod Honorary Musher with Bib #1  
E.P.I.C. was created by Jade Hayden for the Youth Group name = Everything's Possible In Christ

Continued to support the Downtown Soup Kitchen Hope Center with clothing/toiletries  
Marsha Frederick, our accompanist, moved to Mississippi

Parsonage was put up as a rental unit  
For the first time since 1985 there was no softball team organized.

Youth Group and Brian/Jade Hayden family created a food box alongside sidewalk.



Continued to hold a monthly Red Barrel Drive-by Food Drive to benefit Willow

Before the pandemic there was support as Backpack Buddies for Airport Heights Elementary School

Pillowcases were made for local not-for-profit

By April worship services needed to be watched on YouTube computer channel

Fiber Fellowship continued all year (Zoom)

Pastor Autumn transferred to St. John and a drive-by farewell/thank you happened on June 28th

Pastor Ken Hagler started July 1 via computer in Idaho

Elnora Ouding turned 100 and best wishes were extended to her on a drive-by on June 14

EPIC Youth held a Facebook Live Auction

November 1st was the first time ever that a drive-by Communion Service was held.

The Blessing Box was featured on the evening news on KTVA November 6th.

Rev. Jesse Perry wrote in the September 2008 Northern Light News "Facing the Future." John McCutcheon and Steve Seskin wrote a song in 2002 called "Used to Be" that ends with these lines:

*The best years are still ahead for you and me*

*And there's no future in how it used to be.*

Memories of yesterday can exercise a seductive power over us and keep us from enjoying God's promises today. We are creatures of time and our God inhabits eternity. The future will supply our every need. The past consumes, it does not produce. Our treasure lies ahead in the future that awaits us. There is nothing in the past worth hanging on to if it slows our pace toward a new heaven and a new earth. Let us then follow Paul's advice, and "*forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, let us press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called us heavenward in Christ Jesus.*" (Philippians 3:13-14). For all of us, the best is still ahead.



# First Anchorage

## Downtown Anchorage

### Pastors:

John R. Tindell, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993

Curtis J. Pollock, (associate) 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991

Carol Ann Seckel, 1994, 1995

Patricia A. Clendenen, 1996, 1997, 1998

Richard Gilbert, interim 1999

Debra/Douglas Lindsey-Hudgins, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

Ruth Ward, interim 2011

Ronald Myers, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014

Steve Fisher, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

Newsletter was called the Pacemaker in the 1960s-1980s era, then Pacemaker News, then "fumc Newsletter" and now First Things First.

On October 22, 1944 the first worship service was held with 33 people

Planted 3 Methodist Churches

1976

Cookbooks were for sale

The UMW newsletter was call *Bell Ringer*  
There were "Missionettes"

1989

Mission Trip Boogie dance

Carol Withey received the William Seward Award for excellence in finance from the University of Alaska

Alaska's first Lady, Michael Cowper, sent Ruth Marshall an eagle designed pin in recognition of her volunteer work with the blind

A Building Committee is reviewing expansion plans with architect Larry Cash

Alaska IMPACT Project was organized by the Alaska Christian Conference

First ever Hunger Walk for Anchorage Inter-faith Council on October 8, 1989

Marriage Enrichment Seminar

Mission Trip to Shageluk for VBS  
 Mission Trip to Exit Glacier to build a trail, split wood, and collect trash  
 \$1000 was raised for the library of Paine College in Augusta, Florida  
 Made sandwiches for people at Brother Francis Shelter  
 Folk Choir  
 Gospel Choir  
 Refreshments provided during "Finals Week" at each university  
 Some youth were matrons/patrons in the Anchorage Chapter 8 of the Order of Eastern Star Circles = Action; Discussion; Friendship; Quiana; Sunshine  
 Sweetheart Brunch

Donated \$1200 to the Aldersgate College in the Philippines  
 Received \$40,000 of ARCO parking lot income and put it into a building fund account  
 Helped relocate the Anchorage Rescue Mission from downtown to East Tudor Road  
 Frank Kayter was selected Federal Employee of the Year for 1988 by the Federal Executive Association

Volleyball practice and tournament  
 New hymnals purchased  
 Supported the Mary Conrad Center  
 Touchstone men's transitional housing  
 Photo directory board updated  
 New organ dedicated May 21 by John Gray  
 Cruise taken by friends and members in May into Kenai Fjords National Park; over a 100 went on a similar cruise in 1988

1990

Molly Bynum was selected Librarian of the Year by the state  
 Frank Turpin was selected Rotarian of the Month in April  
 Supper Clubs were formed  
 Hosted the Alaska Prospector's Society  
 Hosted Chugach Gem and Mineral Society  
 Groundbreaking for new addition was on July 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Supported Spafford Center in Jerusalem  
 Supported Gerusa Santos Ministry in Brazil  
 Clare House

1991

May 9-12<sup>th</sup> – Gym/addition building consecrated



Weight Watchers  
 Bouquets for Day Break adult care  
 Cherub choir  
 Sunshine singers  
 Supported Daybreak (Alzheimer care)

1992

225 chairs and 32 tables purchased  
 \$3670 given to Heifer Project International  
 Annual Rummage Sale  
 Cookbook produced  
 Meet & Eat groups of 8-10 people  
 Fellowship Committee organized an all church square dance  
 Supported the Salvation Army McKinnell Emergency Shelter

Held an annual Filipino Dinner on October 11  
 Hosted many groups for overnights and programs  
 Music library was updated  
 Hospital and Home Visitation Committee

1993

Friendship Force International formed an Anchorage Chapter (social exchange)  
 New sanctuary speaker system installed  
 Love Inc.  
 Card Crafters  
 Held New Member Empowering meetings

1994

50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on August 21<sup>st</sup>  
 Funds were distributed by the First UMC Foundation  
 US Inc. = United Singles in Christ  
 3 security units installed on building

Twelve Keys to Spiritual Growth & Vitality  
classes  
New directory out  
New sprinkler system installed  
Kids were having their poems published in the  
Anchorage School District's "Pencils Full of  
Stars" book  
Pennies for F.I.S.H.  
Used a Flower Chart for weekly signup

1995

Love Inc  
Brother Francis Shelter  
Birchwood Camp  
Recycling  
English as a Second Language  
4 A's = Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association  
Recycling effort  
Food donations for AIDS people  
5<sup>th</sup> graders visited Pioneer Home  
Closet to Closet Clothing Drive  
Mentor Moms  
Chester Creek Senior Center had Vespers at  
3 p.m. on Sundays  
Caroling various places

1996

Name tag board  
Feast or Famine Dinner  
Parish Visitor Program  
Clare House – lunchboxes and backpacks

1997

Parsonage vandalized  
May 18<sup>th</sup> was Dorothy Gillam Day  
June 21 – Chattanooga Boys Choir performed  
New directory out  
Supported Al Anon  
First Flight of Chrysalis  
Grief Support Group  
Sonrise Basketball  
Midnight Sons Barber Shop Quartet performed  
Kids Kitchen  
Helped Build the "Wall of Wishes for Literacy"  
Parsonage address: 2112 Esquire Drive  
Sufi Dancers  
Covenant House

1998

Area wide Singspiration  
"The Bellringer" was the name of the UMW  
newsletter

Youth mission statement was created  
88 teddy bears found new homes around  
town  
Darrell Lilly crafted wooden crosses, chicks,  
and bunnies to benefit Heifer  
Sarah's Circle  
Prayer Chain started  
Contracted out to replace some of the roofs,  
paint the exterior and do roof maintenance  
Youth in Mission at Atlantic Street Center at  
Seattle inner city  
All Church Harvest Party  
Mary Magdalene Home Alaska, Inc. Annual  
Christmas Auction/Tea  
Covenant House Candlelight Vigil  
Las Posadas

1999

Debt restructured  
Food Bank  
Grant Clark received the 1999 recipient of  
BP's "Teachers of Excellence" award

2001

Put out a photo directory

2002

Cottage Meetings  
Book Club

2005

The Circles were called: Hope; Friendship;  
Sunshine  
Book Club  
Crafters  
Hill Climber Group  
Brother Francis sandwich making  
Recognition of graduates  
Annual church picnic  
Blessing of the Animals  
UMW Used Book Sale  
VBS  
First Ever Road Rally  
Baptism banners were made by Chrystal  
Reese  
Clare House  
New Directory published  
Used a Library cart  
PET  
Pumpkin Carving Contest and Auction  
UMCOR  
Out to Lunch Bunch  
Got income from renting parking lot

Food to Inlet View Elementary School  
Safe Harbor  
Red Kettle Campaign  
Disciple III Bible Study

2006

Mission Trip to Costa Rica

2007

Empty ink cartridges and cell phone recycling  
Greeters Program



Peanut Farmers Men's Group  
Alaska Flag Day Celebrations  
Provided parking, chairs, and refreshments for  
4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade  
African Children's Choir concert Sept. 2, 2007  
Chick Flick and Dinner  
Volleyball  
Christmas Angel Tree

2008

Wee Kids'  
Kids' Celebrations  
Wednesday's Word  
Clare House  
Sandwiches for Brother Francis Shelter  
Provide occasional food and support to the  
Henry House transitional housing facility for  
men  
Gifts from the Knitting Tree to residents at the  
Safe Harbor Inns of Anchorage  
New choir robes were purchased  
Theo's Thursdays  
Participated in death penalty interfaith prayer  
vigil  
Enjoyed handbell and chancel choirs

2009

Had a special focus on APU 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
worship service on June 28, 2009 at 8:30  
a.m.  
Provided scholarships to Birchwood Camp for  
families with financial needs

2010

Provided meals to Clare House the first  
Wednesday of each month  
Prayer Chain  
60 pounds of towels donated to AWAIC  
May 16<sup>th</sup> Melissa Beck held a benefit concert  
for One Great Hour of Sharing  
June 13<sup>th</sup> people heard a piano recital by  
David Troy Francis  
Alaskan Against the Death Penalty Annual  
Chili Feed was held March 6<sup>th</sup>  
1000 pairs of socks were donated to Safe  
Harbor Inn, Clare House, Sock Lady at  
Bean's Café, and the Henry House

2011

Mission trip to Cape Town, South Africa  
Welcome baskets for ACS  
Benefit for Haiti concert by The Derry Aires  
September 10, 2011  
Candlelight vigil on church lawn for "Shed  
the Light on Domestic Violence" prayer  
service

2012

Rally for Jubilee Hunger Advocacy weekend  
([//hungerjubileeak.blogspot.com](http://hungerjubileeak.blogspot.com))  
Socks to Brother Francis Shelter

2015

September 26<sup>th</sup> held their annual Used Book  
and Bake Sale  
May 9<sup>th</sup> a rummage and bake sale was held  
to benefit Nome Community Center

2016

The start of the Emergency Cold Weather  
Shelter with 7 other churches

This was the 6<sup>th</sup> year with partner United  
Way to help raise money for the 211 program

to help families with utilities and rental assistance through the Anchorage Run and Walk for Warmth project  
2017

Held a Roadmap to Renewal with surveys, visits to neighboring churches, interviews with downtown businesses, government offices and people in the downtown area to develop the Ministry Action Plan



2018

Completed a "Road Map to Renewal: Rediscovering the Church's Mission!" process with 3 action items: create a viable and robust children and youth program; link FUMC to other downtown organizations; and enhance volunteer opportunities.

2019

AK Child & Family  
The Magic Yarn Project  
Bikers Against Child Abuse  
Kids Corp Head Start  
Hosts an Emergency Cold Weather Shelter  
A Place @ the Table  
Brother Francis Homeless Shelter  
Clare House Women's Shelter  
AA  
Co-op Home School Group  
Alaska Prospectors  
Offer a place to hold the Alaska Bar Exam  
Recreational soccer groups

The FAUMC Foundation offered grants to be used for educational benefits, scholarships, outreach and capital improvements in March.

November 10<sup>th</sup> was the celebration of 75 years of ministry in Anchorage with Rev. John Tindall attending.



2020

Continued with the Book Club discussions

There was a Pastor's Café online, (Morning and Evening)

Out to Lunch Bunch

Coins for Lent collected

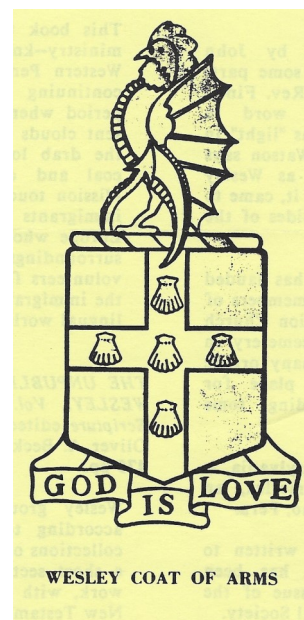
Newsletter name was First Things First

Fundraising goal of \$60,000 for the boiler replacement

Steve Maga received the Alaska United Methodist Women's  
Racial and Social Justice Award 2020



19th Century Circuit Rider





# Anchorage Korean United Methodist Church

## South Anchorage

### Pastors:

Geo-Chong Park, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989

Moon-Chong Park, 1990

Mo Koo Jin, (maybe Jin Mo Koo) 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994

Sung Yup Lee, 1995, 1996, 1997

Sang Ho Yi, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002

Unassigned, 2003

Suk-Boo Lee, 2004

Woo Shoung Park, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2010, 2011

Unassigned, 2012

Won Jea Keum, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

Motto – Be a church where everyone is welcomed

1930

The Korean Methodist Church was organized

1984

The National Committee on Korean-American Ministries was created by the 1984 General Conference.

1984

Dr. Pharis J. Harvey, Executive Director of the North American Coalition for Human

Rights in Korea, iterated throughout Alaska as a mission interpreter from October 19<sup>th</sup> through November 5<sup>th</sup>. He presented topics of Korea such as human rights, economic and political development, the growth of “minjung” theology (the theology of people, the masses, the poor), the ministry of the church among labor and urban poor, United States policy on Korea, and other related subjects. Janet Kussart of Juneau organized his trips to churches in Fairbanks, North Pole, Nome, Homer, Kenai, Soldotna, Seward, East Anchorage, Douglas, Juneau, Sitka, Ketchikan, and UMW groups.

1985

Dr. Geo-Chong Park and his family arrived in Anchorage on January 18, 1985 to begin a Korean language UM church in Anchorage, starting in St. John UMC Sundays at 1 p.m. with the first one on March 3, 1985 with 31 attending. He came from Wonju City, Korea. The Korean UM Church also provided a five-minute telephone sermon service, under the title “The Bell of Dawn.” There was a new message each day.

1985

A 15-passenger van was purchased

September 7<sup>th</sup> – a banquet was held for elderly Koreans who lived in the Anchorage area

January 19<sup>th</sup> witnessed another outstanding event in the life of the congregation when Bishop Soon Mok Lin of the Korean Methodist Church preached at the services of both St. John and the Korean Fellowship.

1986

The Anchorage Korean United Methodist Church was chartered on Sunday, February 1,

1986, with 36 charter members and 43 preparatory members. Superintendent Fassett officiated at the ceremony held in the sanctuary of St. John UMC. The church had been meeting there regularly at 1:00 p.m. each Sunday.

Pastor Park was presented the Conference Clergy Denman Award for Evangelism.

1987

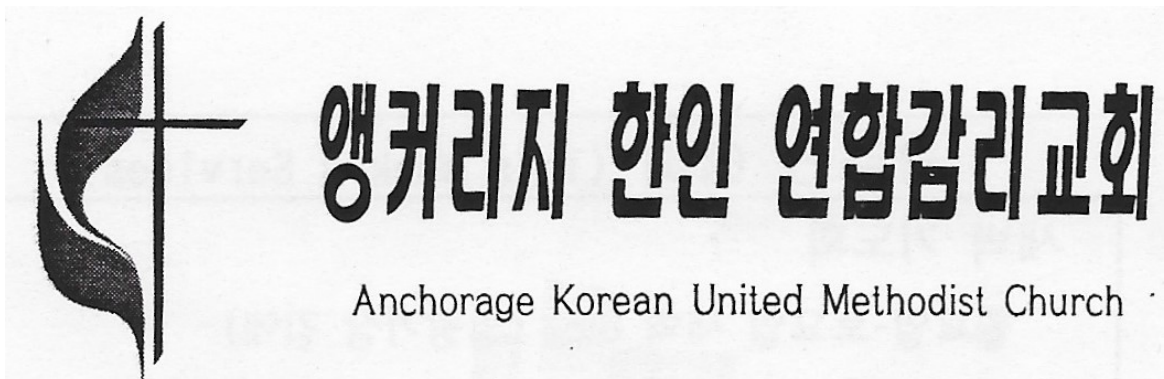
The Association of Korean-American United Methodist Churches developed plans to increase the number of Korean churches to over 500 from the then current 210 by 1993. They needed to be more selective in picking new communities for new churches since many communities already had other denomination Korean churches (mostly Presbyterian). There was a movement in the Korean caucus to work together.

Regional missions were formed to administer congregations. Each mission was to have some of the powers of an annual conference but would operate under the supervision of the National Division of the Board of Global Ministries. A Korean superintendent would direct mission operations.

The United Methodist-related School of Theology at Claremont (California) planned bilingual Korean-English ministerial instruction to meet the need for pastors to serve the new churches. In 1987 the UMC had 284 ordained Korean-speaking ministers.

1987

March 6<sup>th</sup> the General Commission on Religion and Race passed a resolution calling the Korean Creed a “witness to the true Wesleyan



spirit of 'shalom' and universalism." The creed was written in 1930. In the 2004 Edition of the United Methodist Hymnal "A Statement of Faith of the Korean Methodist Church" can be found on page 884.

1989

Rev. Geo Chong Park wrote "Hallelujah! I'll never forget that you have been giving me love and encouragement since opening of New Korean Ministry in Anchorage, Alaska.....Now, I am serving the Korean United Methodist Church at Lake-wood in Long Beach."

1991

Bishop Sul-Bong Park, D.D., President of the Methodist Union Seminary in Korea, requested donated books in English for the seminary's library. Dr. Kim was the liaison and orchestrated the shipments out of the Asian Center at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Illinois.

On August 31, 1995 Thomas S. McNally wrote in the United Methodist News Service that "The Korean Methodist Church as risen from the ashes of war to become the second largest autonomous Wesleyan denomination in the world with more that 1.4 million members, 4,300 congregations and 201 missionary families serving in 52 countries around the world. About 131 Korean Methodist Church congregations are located in the United States. It has seven annual conferences, each presided over by a bishop who also serves as a pastor of a local church."



Donated books in English were sent to Methodist Hyup Sung Theological Seminary Library in Kyung Ki-Do, Republic of Korea 554-890.

1994

Pastor Koo moved to Tustin, California to serve the Korean Fellowship there. Pastor Lee arrived from Covina, California with his wife and 2 daughters

1997

The Mission of the Anchorage Korean United Methodist Church in 1997 was:

Reaching out and receiving person as they are;  
Helping persons relate to God;  
Nurturing them in the faith and send them forth as disciples of Jesus Christ to make their homes, workplaces and communities more loving and just;  
Seeing and understanding in the new ways our oneness in Christ;  
Helping and donate for rescue mission with hunger peoples.

1997

Started an AWANA Bible Club for Children and Youth Group  
Started a Kenai Korean New Ministry outreach  
Lilly Senior Mission Club was organized  
Church became incorporated February 7, 1997

1999

Slogan was "Seeking for the Lost"

2000

The 2000 General Conference created the United Methodist Council on Korean American Ministries and with it some \$2.8 million dollars for its strengthening work. It was a great moral support and blessing for the Korean community. The Council office is located in Pasadena in our Western Jurisdiction.

The Korean American National Plan is about the vision of planting people, making disciples and developing servant-leaders for our mutual mission and ministry in The UMC, wrote the Rev. Dr. Brandon Cho of the Council.

In 2019 it was estimated that 5,000 Koreans live in Anchorage and there are more than 20 Korean churches.

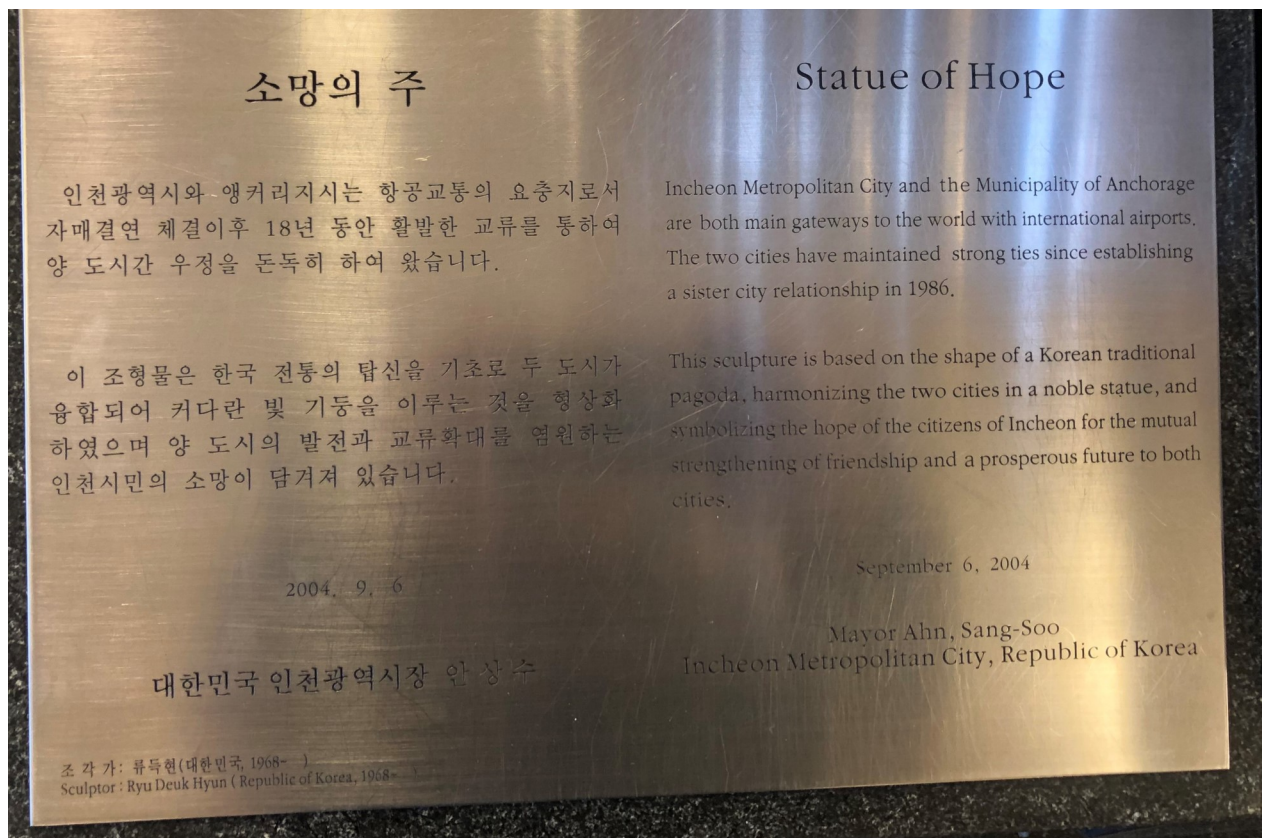
The Anchorage Korean UMC was #11 on the Western Jurisdiction priority list of the National Plan for new ministries and projects in 2001. It was chartered on February 2, 1986 as part of the St. John UMC with 36 charter members and 43 preparatory members.

2001

Cell Ministry – the “Pasture Ministry”  
Established the Vision Center Development Committee  
Held revivals and open houses for member recruitment  
The Igniting Ministry campaign developed promotional resources including one Korean-language radio spot and a TV-spot featuring Asian/Koreans.

2002

Mission goals were worship; education; fellowship; service; and evangelism.  
A VIM Team from North Carolina finished the front deck with a handicap ramp



2003

When Rev. Suk-Boo Lee ministered, a few neighbors protested having the church across from her property along Abbott Road and Carlson Road because it violated zoning codes and traffic and parking disturbed the peace. It was determined to be grandfathered in so a few property issues needed to be corrected and things settled down for a while.

2004

September 7<sup>th</sup> a "Statue of Hope" was unveiled at the North Terminal of the Anchorage International Airport as a joint effort of the city of Anchorage and the South Korean sister city of Incheon as a true testimony of our shared vision of hope and faith and a reminder that we are on holy ground. In part this was in recognition of the Sister Cities compact. Pastor Dennis Holway met with Rev. Ju Hawn Kwak at the event. He was pastor of Bethany Methodist Church in Seoul.

2005

20<sup>th</sup> anniversary service was held on March 6 at First Anchorage UMC on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue


2006

Chan-Hie Kim, Professor Emeritus, Claremont School of Theology, wrote a paper, which we have in the AUMC archives, which was presented to the 2006 annual meeting of the Western Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History at Claremont entitled "The Origin and Development of the Korean-American Methodism in the United States."

2020 will be the 90th anniversary of the unification of the two Methodist bodies in Korea on December 2, 1930. A Board of Education was organized. The first General Secretary was Rev. Joon OK Kim, a graduate of Southern Methodist University and Vanderbilt University.

2014 to 2020

Rev. Won Jea Keum received a religious visa and entered the United States with his family in January 2014. With the slogan "Church that always walks with Jesus 24 hours a day, 365 days a year," he is still pastoring AKUMC today. Every Sunday service, Rev. Won Jea Keum does expository preaching starting with the Gospel of John to connect the Bible to the modern lives of the AKUMC congregation. Under his leadership, the AKUMC congregation are volunteering as missionaries once a month in downtown Anchorage by partnering with the Church of the Nations, which is led by Rev. Daniel Song.



## 앵커리지 한인 연합감리교회

Anchorage Korean United Methodist Church

2002년 표어: "가서 온 족속으로 제자 삼으라"

2002년 9월 22일 제 2002-38 호

**성령강림 후 열여덟째 주일**

<p>&lt;오전 11 시&gt;</p> <p>전주 Prelude ..... 성가대</p> <p>경배와 찬양 Praise time ..... 찬양팀</p> <p>합심기도 Tongsung Prayer ..... 다함께</p> <p>사도신경 Apostles' Creed ..... 다함께</p> <p>찬송 Hymn ..... 21 장 ..... 다함께</p> <p>기도 Prayer ..... 김영환 권사</p> <p>나눔의 시간 Sharing Moment ..... 다함께</p> <p>봉헌송 Offertory ..... 71 장 ..... 다함께</p> <p>* 봉헌 Offering ..... 다함께</p> <p>성경봉독 Bible Reading ..... 다함께</p> <p style="text-align: right;">누가복음 15:1-10</p> <p>찬양 Anthem ..... 성가대</p> <p>말씀선포 Sermon ..... 이상호 목사</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"예수님처럼: 잃은 것을 찾으려 찾아"</p> <p>결단의 기도 Silent Prayer ..... 다함께</p> <p>광고 Announcement ..... 집례자</p> <p>* 결단의 찬송 Hymn ..... 276 장 ..... 다함께</p> <p>* 축도 Benediction ..... 이상호 목사</p> <p>* 후주 Postlude ..... 성가대</p>	<p>집례: 이상호 목사</p>
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매달 첫 주 나눔의 시간에 성만찬이 있습니다.  
\*표는 일어서 주십시오 (Please stand if able).



# Christ First

## Wasilla

### Pastors:

Jack Christian, 1984

Charles Nowlen, 1985, 1986, 1987, died 10/5/94; the was part of Parks Highway Parish

Linda Jean Picht Myers, and Robert R. P. Myers, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993

Ron Myers; also served as Chaplain for the Mat/Su Boroughs Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team; he was Chaplain for Campus Ministries for UAA/APU in 1989

Monta Ann Bledsoe, 1994, 1995, 1996

Mark C. Conrad, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003

J. Bruce Case, 2004

Karen Martin Tichenor, 2005, 2006, 2007

Robert and Tori Hicks, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

Dan Wilcox, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

Newsletter Name: Celebration Times 1997

1984

Officially chartered on May 6, 1984 with 42 members

Started in the public library and later a trailer

Benefitted from many VIM work teams on its six acres

1989

First Fellowship Dinner at Wasilla UMC held Dec. 8

Garage at the parsonage was built by VIMs and locals

Hymnals were given in honor and memory of mothers

In covenant with Morningstar UMC, Normal, Illinois; First UMC in Garland, Texas, and in Iowa with Danville/Rock Rapids/Christ and First UMCs

Softball players held a 5-1 record in Valley League

Made miniature Eskimo yoyo's for Advance supporters

Marriage Encounter  
 Recycling  
 Gave 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders Bibles  
 Sent care packages to college students

1990

Marriage Encounter  
 Hosted the Upper Room Prayer Line Ministry  
 All-Church Work Day  
 Kiss the Pig Sunday

1991

VBS  
 Ice Cream Social  
 Betty Crocker coupons for new silverware  
 Cookbook created  
 Recycling  
 T-shirts and sweatshirts were available for purchase  
 Rummage sale  
 Brochure was developed to promote ministry

1992

Laura's Pantry  
 Library was established on June 14, Pentecostal Sunday and in 2007 was officially named the Kitty Gair Memorial Library"  
 Safe Home Program  
 An 11-minute videotape of the church was developed to send out to 70 supporting churches/individuals and work teams.  
 The UMW published a cookbook

1993

The consecration of the education wing was on December 5  
 Dr. Richard Day donated almost 6 acres of adjoining land

1994

Community Dance Fundraiser  
 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary mugs for sale  
 Majestic Mountain AME Zion shared the Wasilla worship space for the first 5 years of their ministry  
 On Sunday February 27 the church building was broken into and many items stolen  
 Habitat  
 Storytelling program  
 Education addition completed

1994

Cooperated with the Valley Christian Conference and 10 other area churches  
 Received on February 1st notice that the loan for building the educational wing addition was paid for in full from National Bank of Alaska

1995

The Night the Chimes Rang – Children's Christmas Program

1996

Children's Playgroup  
 Start of Boy Scout Troop 368  
 TOPS – Take Off Pounds Sensibly  
 Supported recovery from Millers Reach/Big Lake Wildfire  
 Hosted the Red Cross Center for Big Lake fire recovery and the church hosted some folks who were victims  
 Hosted a series on Family Violence presented by Valley Women's Resource Center  
 A suggestion box was built by Jeff Robinson and is next to pastors office

1997

Tuesday October 7 had another burglary/theft  
 Halloween Carnival  
 Peanut Butter and Jelly Sunday

1998

Bought 2000 pounds of rice for Kamchatka village

1999

A 16-member team from the Marvin UMC in Tyler, Texas came to Wasilla to build a parsonage between July 1-10 and on July 9<sup>th</sup> woke up to find the construction had been set on fire by an arsonist and all was lost.

Wasilla won first place certificate and booties for raising \$1 per mile (totaling \$1,049) in the 1999 Missional Priority – The Great Race of Mercy to Nome. Over \$18,000 was raised to help the mission in Nome.

2000

Parsonage was at 1980 Black Bear Drive in Wasilla and was in the process of being sold by the General Board of Global Ministries

2001

The Puppet Team performed at church and the Pioneer Home

2006

Mission Trip to Mississippi  
Family Promise, formerly Interfaith Hospitality Network, is a ministry where local churches partner to host families who are homeless in our area. Wasilla Christ First committed to host a homeless family for one week every eight weeks.

The Outreach Committee adopted a cottage at Alaska Children's Services which houses 6 adolescent girls and gifts were purchased for Christmas time

2007

Wasilla Girl Scouts had a project to "Build a Mountain of Food" for the Food Pantry

2008

Nimble Needles Circle

Worked with Girl Scout Troop 943

Worked with Girl Scout Troop 84

Worked with Girl Scout Daisy Troop 919

Supported the Treasure Loft Thrift Store as they moved into a larger building. This is the fundraising arm of the Mat-Valley Community Charities Agency which provides opportunity, support and services to Valley individuals, families and organizations.

Supported the LaLeche League

May 10<sup>th</sup> was the fourth annual Luzelle Le Claire Tea Party

A fund raiser for building projects was held April 19<sup>th</sup> featuring a "Not-so-much-Talent Show"

November 4<sup>th</sup> was election day and the church is a voting place and members have a bake sale table and hospitality for voters

October 11<sup>th</sup> there was Harvest Dinner/Auction

Celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a remembrance book

2014

Offered a "Cook a holiday turkey safely" workshop

2016

Held an Epiphany Breakfast fundraiser on January 3<sup>rd</sup>

2019

A telephone directory was published

2020

Hosted a Leap Day Pancake Feast Dinner  
Silent Auction Fundraiser to help pay medical bills for Pastor Dan Wilcox

Turn A Leaf Thrift Stores  
Valley Residential Services  
Boy Scout Troop 395  
Family Promise  
Bible Study

John  
Wesley's  
Seal



Signature for  
graphoanalysis

# Chukotka Native Christian Ministry

Pastor:

Della Wagiyi – 1991 (ordained by Bishop Paup in 2007)

Dennis Holway – 2001

Jim Campbell - 2000

Lucy Barton - 2004

Started in 1991

A mission to the Russian Far East

Leaders of three Chukotka Fellowships were consecrated as elders

The church in Sereniki took the name “The Church of the Living God”

One theological student is attending St. James Theological College

Major shipments of medication were sent to the Providenya Hospital

1996

In July of 1996 the Western Jurisdiction Conference adopted the Magadan Outreach Project as a mission of the Western Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church.

1998

The United Methodist Church contributed over \$20,000 in humanitarian aid to the peoples of the Chukotka Region through the auspices of the Chukotka Native Christian Ministry.

Medications and clothing and school supplies were sent over

Several VIM teams were sent to Magadan to build a children’s shelter.

2001

Participating member churches and religious organizations were formally listed as: Alaska Moravians; Presbytery of the Yukon; United Methodist/AMC; Covenant, Evangelical

Lutheran Church of America/Alaska Synod; and Wycliffe Bible Translators

A summer training event for Siberian Yupiks was held at the Presbyterian Church

Members of the Alaska Missionary Conference related to the CNCM are Della Waghiyi, Lucy Barton, and John Henry. Also Arlene Wood.

2003

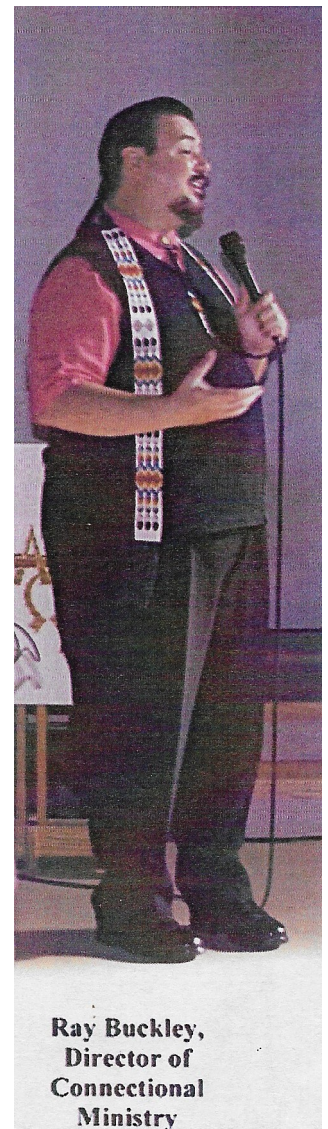
The CNCM purpose is to encourage the development of indigenous churches in the Chukotka region of Siberia. The main focus has been to do training on St. Lawrence Island. It is a combination of teaching, witnessing, singing and dancing.

2004

Blankets and first aid kits were sent over from donations from Seattle and Indiana. Calendars for the 2004 year were sold with children’s original art of Chukotka as a successful fundraiser

The August training event took place under the directions of the Presbytery of Yukon.

The former ecumenical Board of Directors is dormant and the ministry is being led through the office of the Presbytery of Yukon.



**Ray Buckley,  
Director of  
Connectional  
Ministry**



# Chugiak

## Pastors:

Jon F. Langenwalter, 1985

Judith Bither-Terry, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991

Howard DeVore, interim, 1992

William James Stuart, 1992

John McGowen, Interim, 1992

Joseph Davis, interim, 1993

Rachel M. Lieder Simeon, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2001, 2002, 2003

Jerry Bishop, Associate, 2001

Daniel Wanders, 2003, Associate

Steven Lambert, 2004, 2005, 2006

Milo Thornberry, 2007, Interim

Darrel Hinshaw, 2007, Interim

Carlo Rapanut, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

Linda Jean Myers, 2014 (died before starting)

Gary Grundman, Interim, 2014

Timothy McConville, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018

David Hall, 2019, 2020, 2021

Historical Note: The 24" bell in the bell tower came from an old school house in Spring Lake near Isanti, Minnesota and was brought up the Alaska Highway by Paul and Margaret Swanson in August 1954.

Charter Sunday was February 13, 1954; the church was officially organized at a chartering service February 21, 1954 with 39 signatures on the charter membership roster.

1986

33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary with birthday cake, coffee, punch and photos

Montessori School used the building

Monday through Saturday 9-12

Alanon

Seventh Day Adventists used the building Tuesday and Saturday

Anchorage Literacy Project tutoring

First Annual Goods and Services Auction

Seventh annual canoe trip on Swan Lake with portaging

Outdoor Barbeque picnic

Craft Circle

Stephen Ministry



Newsletter Name: The Chugiak Crier

AWAIC = Abused Women's Aid in Crisis, Inc.  
Marriage Encounter  
Clan of the Food Drop Bears  
Builders Club

1989

Co-Dependence Anonymous Group  
35<sup>th</sup> anniversary February 14, 1989 with cake,  
photos and artifacts  
New hymnals purchased  
Scout Pack 223  
Blackburn Missionary Fund created  
Food Pantry  
Good Samaritan Fund  
Cynthia Sage Lowe Memorial Fund  
Clown Troupe  
Quilting Group (Chugiak Comforters)  
Stained Glass Group  
Women's Hiking Group  
4<sup>th</sup> Annual Goods and Services Auction  
CROP Walk  
The Eagle River Christian Writers Support  
Group  
Alaska Food Bank  
UMCOR  
Subscriptions were encouraged for the Great  
Land NewsCache

1990

Singing Valentines  
First meeting of the Building Study Committee  
was on March first  
Pennies for UMCOR  
Labels collected for Four Corners Native  
American Ministries  
Had a booth at the Bear Paw Festival  
Blessing of the Animals  
Cookbook created  
Montana Logging and Ballet Company concert  
Picture Board created  
Joys and Concerns bulletin board hung  
Mitten Tree

1991

Library shelving expanded  
Supported Détente of Homer  
Choirs merged into one – Family Choir  
Trick or Treat for UNICEF  
All-church Thanksgiving dinner (potluck)  
ACOA = Adult Children of Alcoholics

1992

Walk for Hunger  
Job Fair  
Overeaters Anonymous  
Bean-A-Fit  
Entire outside of church painted  
Older Adult Project  
Men's breakfast  
Disciple Bible Study  
Youth choir  
Easter Sunrise service at Birchwood Camp  
(Youth provided breakfast)  
All-church picnic to honor Sunday School  
Teachers  
Balloon Sunday for Fall season kick-off  
Crop Walk



VBS

1993

Roofs of both the church and parsonage  
were replaced  
UMM Fellowship  
UMW Circles—Phoebe Circle, Deborah Circle  
Balloon Sunday  
40<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
Progressive Fellowship meal  
Mid-Week Lenten Soup Suppers  
Seder meal  
Easter Egg hunt at Birchwood Camp after  
Sunrise service  
God-friend program for new members  
Crop Walk  
“Twinkle & All Star Angel Band” Christmas  
pageant

Cleared play area below the back of the church  
VBS

1994

The Master Site Plan was accepted as a community project for the Alaska National Guard Youth Corps "Challenge" Program to clear 13.5 acres of adjacent land

Strathdee music program on June 5th

Couples Retreat: Celebrating Marriage: Growing in Love

Playground Improvements

Loaf of bread for first time visitors

Christmas gifts were given to children in Anvik

Dinners for 8 – gatherings to know each other more deeply

1997

Singspiration – gathering of Community Churches in song

Couples Enrichment Classes

Epiphany Speakers from the Congregation witness to God's light in their lives

Parenting Classes

Rev. John Pitney Concert

Pack lunches for Beans Café

Family Christmas Craft activity

Christmas baskets for CCS families

Disciple Bible Study

Job Jar set out for church repairs

1998

June – Service of the Talents

Goods/Services auction

Thanksgiving Day service and dessert fellowship

Sunrise service at Birchwood Camp

Easter Prayer vigil

Lenten Soup Suppers

Spring Fling, crafts & egg decorating

Sunday night worship service w/potluck meal

Bear Paw parade

Blessing of the Animals – July

Stacy Brown becomes missionary to Japan

Care Bears support those in crisis w/meals

Rock Retaining walls built near front of church

Playground tower expanded

Doris/Leon Graham, Mission workers = VBS, organize library

"Seeds" project. \$5 given as challenge to be put to work and "grown"

1999

UMYF dinner theater

Loan application for building expansion

Dinners for 8 continues

Direct Deposit of pledges encouraged

VBS

Spring Fling ... Family Easter crafts

Lenten Soup suppers

Jessica Davis attends National UMC Youth Conference

Andy Bartell provided leadership for Country-wide Youth group work camps

Heritage picnic, July 4 to share ethnic foods

Blessing of Animals

VBS joint with Joy Lutheran

Goods/Services auction

Congregational vote on building expansion

Blue Grass service with Greg Lindsay & River of Life Blue Grass Band

New name tag board

Alternative Christmas project

Lay Associate joins church leadership

Alternate Christmas gift sale

Family Christmas craft fair

CCS Christmas family baskets

Pastor vacates parsonage for housing allowance

2000

UMYF lock-in at Alaska Club

UMYF 30 hour famine

Building fund campaign

Lenten Soup Suppers

Cabin Fever Reliever event (snow sports, stories and auction)

Mike Redmond assigned as "Designated Worrier" regarding building questions

UMYF dinner theater

Sunrise service at Birchwood Camp

Builder's store established as fund raiser

Doris/Leon Graham, returning mission workers

VBS with Joy Lutheran

In-vestment group creates clergy vestments as fund raiser

Gift bags made for welcoming breads

Building Superintendent hired

Van purchases to assist w/VIMs

7 VIM teams for summer

Church quilt made by combined efforts to be auctioned off

Sponsored "Montana Logging & Ballet Co.", music event

Elevator shaft excavated

Footing for expansion poured

Phill Manderson hired as new building superintendent

New addition consecrated while Bishop was visiting, 12/17/2000.

10-day Holy Land Tour of Israel (later cancelled when company went bankrupt)

Baby Shower to benefit Nome Community Hospital

Prayer Warrior Network updated

Alternative Christmas Market

Work on Building addition continued by many VIM teams

The Tribe of Levi organized for general maintenance

2001

Cook Book completed (fund raiser)

Cottage Groups formed to raise building funds

Care Bears continue

Job foreman, John Cooper Sr. arrives

Administrative Assistant, Marilyn Ives, volunteer from Maine

Site coordinators, Marvin and Jan \_\_\_\_\_, volunteers from Texas

Chris Books joins as full time (unpaid) sexton

Multiple VIM Teams

Lamp of Safety ritual instigated after 9/11

Helping Hands take over Care Bear duties

2002

Associate Pastor, Dan Wanders arrives

Dinners for 8 expanded to 9

Fat Tues. to support Christian children's Fund

UMYF Dinner Theater

Steve Lambert joins with pastoral team

Participate in Kairos Prison Ministry

Liturgical dance troupe under Marilyn Ives

7 VIM teams

Over \$15,600 given to missions

2003

5 VIM Teams and Nomads completed Phase II building plan

Rock Garden installed at front of church

Upper parking lot paved

Fat Tuesday pancake meal

Fair Trade Coffee for Sale

UMYF dinner theater "And So They Had None"

Hosted the Alaska Annual Conference

2004

Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>, Celebrated 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Picture Quilt (Volunteer Construction teams)  
made by Sarah Eliassen and Bev Wanders.

Congregational Care Committee formed

UMYF bought Alternate hymn books, "The  
Faith We Sing"

VIM team from Boulder Colorado

Tribe of Levi expands into 3 clans

Hanging of the Greens, Nov. 28

Alternate Christmas Market

Sunday School with Santa

UMYF leader, Scott Powell killed by lightning

2005

Centering Prayer group formed

Alternative Christmas Market

UMYF dinner theater

13 candidates studied to become confirmed

UMYF Mission trip to Birdwood

Scout Religious Award classes offered

CCS (Chugiak Children's Services) Family  
Christmas baskets

CCS book drive

UMCC adult Mission team to start Girdwood  
church foundation

John Nilsen Concert

Mom and Me play group started

VBS with Joy Lutheran

Ice cream Social & Talent show

CCS school supplies collected

Supreme Bean Espresso bar established by  
UMYF

Birthday Potluck to celebrate everyone's birth-  
day, a Congregational Care event

Children's choir established

UM Men meet

Children's Garden established

Bean-a-fit to raise money for Beans Café

Goods & Services Auction

Trunk or Treat for UNICEF

Progressive dinner for Advent

Sunday with Santa for children

2006

Mission Trip to Mexico

Adult Mission Trip to Mississippi

Easter bags for CCS

2007

Mission trip to Homer UMC, youth and  
adults

Operated Supreme Bean Espresso

Playground relocated and expanded as part  
of an Eagle Scout Project

Alternative Christmas Market

Confirmation class with mentors

Fat Tuesday pancake fund raiser

Lenten Soup Suppers

Easter bags for CCS kids

Hoedown in Family Life Center

Easter sunrise service at church with UMYF  
serving breakfast

Joined Love, INC with talent survey

Terrie Schimmack becomes Choir Director

Ice Cream Social and talent show

VBS

Denman award to Kay Abrams

Mom & Me playtime

Habitat for Humanity work teams

Parking lot resealed

Nothing but Nets campaign

Blessing of the Animals

Hiking group organized  
 Backpacks and school supplies to CCS  
 CCS Easter baskets  
 Goods/Services Auction  
 Strathdee Concert  
 Darrel Henshaw replaces Thornberry  
 CCS family Christmas gifts/food  
 Quilt display for Epiphany  
 Love INC given office space

2008

Youth Mission trip to Mexico in June 2008  
 Prayer Shawls  
 Epiphany quilts in sanctuary  
 Betty Worthington named Conference  
 Outstanding Lay person of the year  
 Habitat for Humanity work teams  
 Odd jobbers replace Tribe of Levi  
 Scholarship for musical instruments to Middle  
 schoolers  
 Church begins recycling  
 P.E.T. (Personal Energy Transportation)  
 supported  
 Blood donation drive  
 Socks for Beans Café  
 UMYF Cinco de Mayo dinner  
 Children's Garden plantings for food pantry  
 Carlo Rapanut/family comes from Philippines  
 VBS  
 CCS backpacks  
 Safe Sanctuary program introduced  
 Ice Cream Social/Talent show  
 Disciple Bible Study  
 Betty Worthington joins E.R. Food pantry  
 Goods and Services Auction  
 Wrapping party for CCS family Christmas gifts  
 Youth Confirmation with mentors  
 Contribute to Love, INC Thanksgiving Blessing  
 baskets



Bruce Robert's Memorial Cross at Birchwood Camp

2009

Quilt display for Epiphany  
 Annual garage sale to benefit Love INC  
 Confirmation/mentor teams – 6  
 Craft group formed  
 Parish Nursing program initiated  
 Habitat for Humanity participants  
 VBS  
 Youth Book Club meets in summer  
 Young Adult group initiated  
 Wieners and Worship, mid-week in the  
 summer  
 CCS Backpacks/school supplies collected  
 Dinners for 9 continued  
 Community Pastor Appreciation Night,  
 sponsored by Love INC  
 Blessing of the Animals  
 Goods/Services Auction  
 Centering Prayer group continues  
 Congregational Care Committee hosts bake  
 sales and plant sales  
 Star AA group  
 Last Chance AA Group

Girl Scout Troop 188  
 Boy Scout Troop 28  
 4H  
 Host Alaska Volleyball Association  
 Host Alaska Ice Volleyball  
 Host Alaska Equine Rescue Society  
 Host Eklutna Tribal Council  
 Host Eagle River Mom's Club  
 Office Space is provided for Love INC of Eagle River  
 Christmas/Easter baskets were given to families through Chugiak Children's Services  
 Sock Hop and Bingo Social to benefit Beans Café  
 Sent Care Packages to Ugandan troops service in Iraq (Chaplain Steve Lambert)  
 Youth mission trip to Birchwood Camp to get it ready for the season  
 UMCC member Jennifer Sterling was selected to be on Team USA for the 2009 International Sled Dog Races in Quebec, Canada in January 2010 with her dogs from Sundog Racing Kennel.  
 Prayer Chain activated  
 Fair Trade coffee sale  
 Supreme Bean barista training  
 Altar oil candles dedicated  
 Held class on geocaching  
 Ice Cream Social and Talent Show  
 For over 25 years (from 2009) has offered Stephen Ministry to its congregation and Community  
 Helping Hands  
 Alternative (Fair Trade) Gift market  
 Provided carbon monoxide and smoke detector alarms to 33 local families in trailer courts  
 A reception was held for the remodeled Bill Lowe Library  
 Effort was made to digitalize the church history

2010

Roof was repaired, UMYF contributes money  
 UMYF continues operating Supreme Bean Espresso bar  
 6009 miles for Journey to Bethlehem  
 Annual Goods and Services Auction  
 Library established on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor outside narthex by Jan Wachsmuth  
 Enabled people to donate to church via PayPal  
 UMYF mission trip to Eagle  
 Had a float in the Bear Paw Parade  
 Habitat for Humanity

Food Bank  
 Love INC, support with money and office space  
 Beans Café, Bean-a-fit  
 Blessing of the Animals at Eagle River Town Square  
 Donated reference books to Aldersgate Divinity School in Baguio City, Philippines  
 Plant sale fundraiser  
 Held an appreciation potluck for Volunteer Fire Department  
 Held a Fellowship Bike Ride  
 Craft Group, prayer shawls blessed by congregation  
 Pocket shawls made for teens attending Spiritual Life Retreat  
 Epiphany quilt display  
 Online PayPal accepted for donations  
 UMYF Church Anniversary Dinner  
 UMCC overnight tent camping @ Birchwood  
 Emergency Evacuation plan formed  
 Alaska Gardening class  
 Sock Collection for Beans



Junior SS Class display of tabernacle  
 2 Parish Nurses certified  
 VBS – Egypt  
 MAD camp performance at UMCC  
 Berry Picking, a Congregational Care activity  
 Congregational snow machine outing

Thanksgiving Blessing contributions to Love INC

Beading Christmas ornaments

Parents' Day Out sponsored by UMYF

Family Life Center renamed the UMCC Community Center

Bean-A-Fit Fellowship/fund raiser for Beans Cafe

Lenten Soup Supper Fellowship

Spin and Fly Casting and Knot tying classes

Branded with a new logo

Eagle River Food Pantry, help and donations

Chugiak Children's Services school supplies

CCS wrapping party for family Christmas gifts/food

Blood Drive

2011

Karen Maskarinec & Richard Crabtree, 15 yrs. of baking communion bread!

Collect socks, food, paper gods for Beans Cafe

All member Birthday potluck to commemorate Church's birthday

Soup-er Bowl Sunday (Bean soup sale for Beans Cafe)

UMYF sponsored musical dinner show

Donna Collins recognized by Alaska conference as Webmaster, asked to teach class

Beading classes

Lenten Women's Retreat

"Be a Good Egg" project to promote healthy food and support local producers

Children's garden expanded to include adults

Quilting Group meets regularly and offers fellowship to other hand crafters

Vandalism causes extensive water damage

Garage Sale to support Love INC

VBS

New T-shirts designed

Participated in CHURCH IS A VERB Sunday

Dramatic sanctuary decorating of "Darkness to Light", Maundy Thursday to Easter

Chugiak Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department appreciation picnic

Traveling Padre (cardboard Carlo) like Flat Stanley, travels the country w/congregation

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) available for regular giving

Bear Paw Festival, gang of UMCC runners participate

Stairway from upper lot to playground built as an Eagle scout project

Crow Creek Pass hike

Goods & Services Auction



**THE WORLD  
METHODIST  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
(an affiliate of the World Methodist Council)

Participate in Love INC Thanksgiving blessing

Alternative Christmas Market

2012

Put out a new directory

Soup-er Bowl Sunday to benefit Beans Cafe

76 people passed requirement to be "Safe Sanctuary" certified

Outdoor Ministries – active !

Clare Cook joins Teen Mission team to Tanzania'

UMYF Mission trip to Bethel



**Historical Society**  
**The United Methodist  
Church**

Supreme Bean now totally funds the UMYF  
 Beading class continues  
 Victorian Tea to benefit Newborns in Need  
 Goods & Services Auction  
 CCS Easter Bags  
 Chugiak Volunteer Fire and Rescue appreciation  
 potluck  
 Garage Sale to fund Love INC  
 Congregation participates in CHURCH IS A  
 VERB  
 Building Loan refinanced with Northwest  
 Methodist Fund  
 Fund drive to replace sanctuary windows  
 Participated with Thanksgiving Blessing  
 sponsored by Love INC  
 New dishwasher installed in lower level kitchen  
 Alternative Christmas Market

2013

Recycle for a Reason, monthly collection and  
 sale of usable goods, trial begins  
 Confirmation with mentors  
 Financial Peace University  
 Kevin Ulrich begins offering engineering heat  
 solutions for a Mongolian Community  
 Stephen Ministers active  
 Soup-er Bowl Sunday  
 Centering Pray  
 Beading classes  
 Food pantry weekly support, volunteers and  
 donations  
 Construction of Arctic Entryway at front of  
 church  
 Guy Sale in conjunction with Recycle for a  
 Reason  
 Tot Time replacing “ Mom and Me” in gym  
 UMYF mission trip to Hope  
 Chugiak Volunteer Fire and Rescue annual  
 appreciation picnic  
 Congregation participated in CHURCH IS A  
 VERB Sunday

CCS Easter bags, family Christmas baskets  
 and backpacks (school supplies)  
 Resurrection Trail hike  
 Dinners for 9  
 Hosted Community Health Fair  
 AA meetings daily  
 Roof repair loan paid off  
 ShelterBoxUSA supported financially  
 Supported Love INC Thanksgiving Blessing  
 Alternative Christmas Market  
 Senior Christmas Tea for residents of the  
 Chugiak/Eagle River Senior Center  
 Support for Children’s Lunch Box  
 Stripped silicon and re-caulked parsonage  
 chinking  
 Goods & Service Auction



2014

AA daily meetings  
 Stephen Ministry  
 Participated in CHURCH IS A VERB  
 Goods & Service Auction  
 Support for Conference expansion with  
 New Day Ministries  
 Love INC Thanksgiving Blessing  
 Class on Plant based meals by Faith  
 Community Nurses  
 Alternative Christmas Market  
 Christmas offering donated to “No Malaria”  
 Formation of Praise Band

Recycle for a Reason  
 Epiphany speakers  
 Annual Bean-a-fit  
 Craft/Prayer Shawl Ministry  
 Large print bulletins  
 Beading/craft classes  
 Blood pressure screening by Parish Nurses  
 Easter Prayer vigil  
 CCS Easter baskets, back-to-school supplies & backpacks, family Christmas baskets  
 UMYF Easter breakfast for the congregation  
 Scout Sunday  
 Homework Club opened w/33 elementary kids  
 Refinished logs on parsonage  
 Repaired and replaced shingles on church  
 Fire Alarm monitoring system installed  
 Replaced lights w/LEDs  
 Rain gutters installed on Church  
 Host North Pole Football team

## 2015

Beam-a-fit (Soup-er Bowl Sunday)  
 Scout Sunday  
 Support for P.E.T. project  
 Encouraged Fred Meyer awards be assigned to UMCC  
 Sermons put online  
 Craft/Prayer Shawl work group  
 Message and meal, Sunday evenings  
 Lenten Soup suppers, Wednesday evenings  
 Centering Prayer group  
 Fair Trade Craft sale  
 UMYF Easter breakfast between services  
 Suggestion Box set up for building repairs and improvements  
 Ohio Teen VIM team  
     Painted parsonage deck  
     Painted playground tower  
     Constructed emergency exit pathways

Retaining wall replaced along driveway by parsonage  
 Congregation involved in CHURCH IS A VERB Sunday  
 UMYF operated the Supreme Bean Espresso Bar  
 Tot Time  
 AK Child & Family given polar fleece tied blankets  
 CCS Christmas, back-to-school, Easter support  
 Recycle for a Reason hosted Community square dance and cakewalk as a Thank You  
 Advent services on Wednesday evening  
 Homework Club

Christmas & Easter stories

Bike Rodeo & wiener toast at end of year

Re-upholstered chairs in entry lobby  
 Eagle Scout built stairway to mechanical room  
 Eagle Scout constructed community garden, Sam Hall  
 Parsonage storm doors replaced  
 New boiler installed at parsonage  
 Welcome center installed in lobby  
 Thermo-imaging done to pinpoint heat loss for church  
 Helmet kiosk, Eagle Project constructed by Elia Fleener  
 News steps to Mechanical room, Eagle Project, Michael Reber

## 2016

Quilt display in sanctuary for Epiphany  
 Confirmation program w/mentors  
 Collected Hats, gloves and socks for Beans Café  
 Supported Food Pantry with donations weekly  
 Praise band  
 Centering Prayer group

Hosted "Creating Generosity" for Conference  
 Lenten soup Suppers and worship  
 Ash Wednesday service  
 Teen Social dance instruction, weekly  
 Picture Directory finished  
 Community Garden opened  
 Summer youth book study  
 Chugiak Vol. Fire & Rescue appreciation picnic  
 Tot Time  
 Re-upholstered Sanctuary chairs  
 Campfire meal, stories and songs, Wednesday night  
 "Caring for the Caregiver", class  
 Homework Club  
 Garden shed constructed by Eagle Scout, Brian Wing

## 2017

Tot Time  
 CHURCH IS A VERB  
 CCS School supplies  
 Family Christmas gifts and dinners  
 Easter bags for kids  
 Support for P.E.T.  
 Lasagna Fund raiser  
 6 pm Sunday evening campfire service  
 Host Alaska Annual Conference  
 Online Sunday School registration  
 Love, INC Thanksgiving Blessing  
 Nativity pageant for Christmas Eve service  
 T-shirt pillows made for Alaska Child and Family  
 Monday night dinner and Bible Study  
 Quilt display for Epiphany  
 Support Food Pantry with volunteers and donations  
 Craft/Prayer Shawl group  
 Confirmation w/mentors  
 Lenten Soup suppers, message and coloring drawings of stations-of-the-cross

## 2018

Bean-a-fit  
 Re-upholstered chairs in office meeting area  
 Collected socks, hats, gloves for Beans Café  
 Tot Time  
 Community Health Fair  
 Monday night supper and Bible Study group  
 UMYF Easter Breakfast between services  
 Opened Facebook page  
 Picture Puzzle fund raiser  
 CCS School supplies  
 Family Christmas gifts and dinners  
 Easter bags for kids  
 Blankets for AK child and family  
 Homework Club  
 Guy Sale (in conjunction with Recycle for a Reason) to support Eagle Scout projects  
 Unique Boutique fund raiser  
 Online directory  
 EARTHQUAKE damage!  
 Repaired elevator shaft

## 2019

Stephen Ministries  
 CCS Easter, Christmas and back-to school donations  
 Food Pantry weekly support  
 Support of Beans Café with food, clothes and money from bean sales  
 Patched sheetrock damage from Earthquake  
 Blessed with 2 Oklahoma VIM teams and Ohio VIM youth team  
 Replaced parsonage deck  
 Prepped Connexes for primer  
 Painted parsonage, level 2 church hall ways and entryway, sanctuary  
 Grubbed weeds and saplings from around road sign  
 Quilts displayed for Epiphany

Financial Education workshop for community  
 Fred Meyer rewards donations encouraged  
 Centering Prayer  
 8 AM service reinstituted  
 Chugiak Volunteer Fire & Rescue appreciation picnic  
 Easter, Christmas support for CCS  
 Financial support given in lieu of back-to-school supplies  
 Painted risers in choir room  
 Painted choir room  
 Got new piano for choir  
 As-built done of church and parsonage area  
 Small Business Loan negotiated for Earthquake repair

2020

COVID -19 shut-down  
 Church goes online  
 New carpeting in sanctuary  
 CCS moved program to UMCC  
 Pews refinished  
 Narthex table refinished  
 Earthquake damaged portico repaired  
 Parking lot resealed  
 Front foundation sealed after major excavation  
 Apple trees moved  
 Sump pump installed  
 Community garden used by 2 new people  
 Pavilion cleaned and cleared of brush  
 Dumpster surround (rotted) removed  
 Painted gym and lower level hallways  
 Recycle for a Reason put on hold from March through December  
 Homework Club delivers books and treats for Trailer Park kids  
 AA meets outside for the summer  
 Replaced cracked window in sanctuary, narthex and classroom  
 Replaced upper parking lot light with LED bulb

Playground tower and swings removed (not code compliant)

Eagle Scout replaced rear entry (exterior) concrete pad to gym

Level 2 kitchen (Supreme Bean) walls and cabinets painted and updated

Prayer wall created by Oklahoma VIM team

Extra storage for Recycle for a Reason created between two Connexes

Small Business Administra. loan finalized

Church Mortgage refinanced with NWUM Foundation

Continued repairs as a result of the November 2019 earthquake

Held Town Hall meetings

Operated a Prayer Chain

Trained Stephen Ministers

Love INC

Recycle for a Reason (R4R) yard sales

Food Pantry

Had a partnership with CCS Early Learning that had moved away into their own building but came back to Chugiak summer 2020

Birchwood Camp

Bean's Café

300 cans of yams for the Great Thanksgiving Blessing project

Bible Study

Worship done by Livestreaming

Undated events: Perhaps with more research can these be pinned down.

1994 – 1995? Refinished beams in sanctuary

1994 – 1995? Painted exterior of building (gray, blue, maroon)

Added reflective flame to road sign 1996?

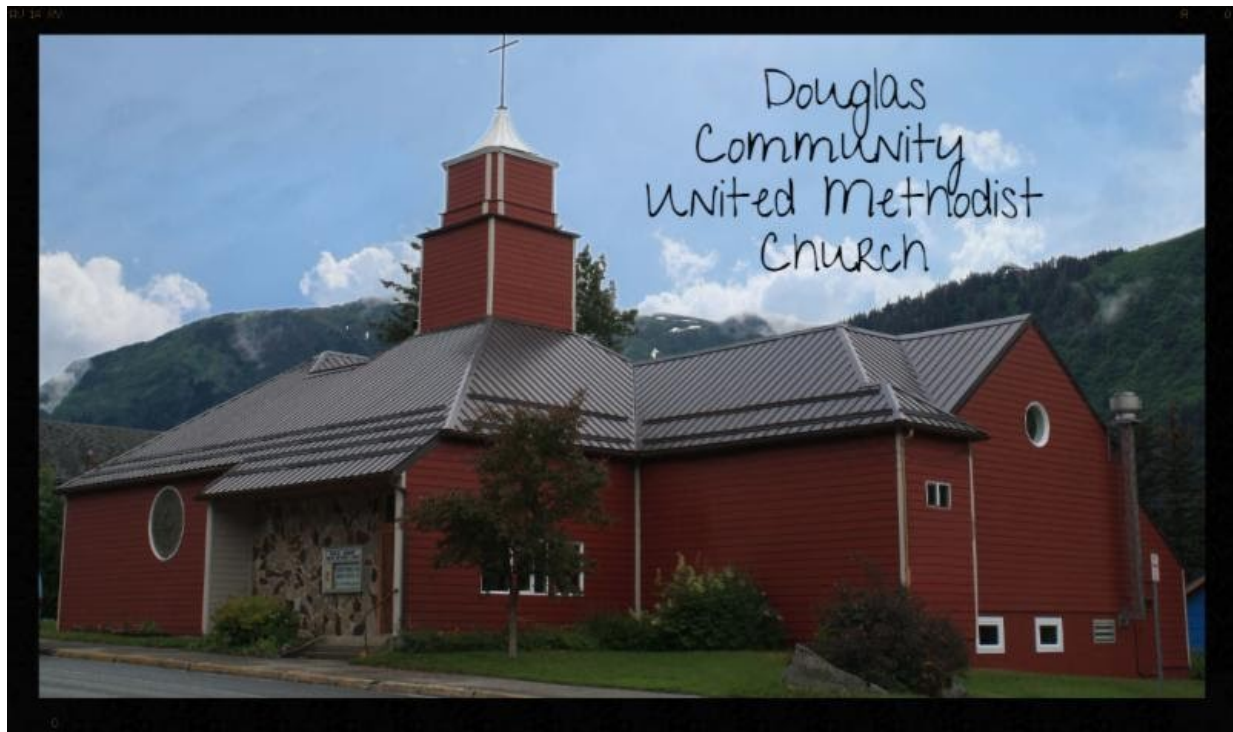
Purchased baby grand piano

Eagle Scout projects for church

Little library by playground

Stairway from back of church to pavilion repaired

Stained glass windows @ back of sanctuary



# Douglas Community

Douglas Island

Southeast

## Pastors:

Arthur P. Knight, 1985

John Page, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989

Norvell Robertson, 1990, 1991, 1992

Marsha Kimberley Poole, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999

C. Ronald Covey, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004

Imelda Ramos, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009

Cynthia Roberts, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014

Melissa Engel, 2015, 2016

Jason Cornish, 2017, 2018

Karen Dammann, 2019, 2020, 2021

Newsletter name "The Northern Circuit Rider"

On October 27, 1946 thirteen people signed the Charter for the Douglas Methodist Church (not United until 1968)

Identifier: The church in the heart of the community with the community at heart!

1979

International Christian Youth Exchange Program

Salmon Derby cookie sales

Eleanor Warren, missionary to Japan, spoke October 8<sup>th</sup>

Provided food at the Lions International Food Fair

1982

Camp Work Day

All Church Family Picnic

Worked with Senior Center

Chartered the *C'est Si Bon* boat to tour Snetisham Power installation and fish hatchery

A historical plaque was placed adjacent to the stained glass window on the Third Street side pointing out that the window, originally from St. Luke's Episcopal Church, was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hubbard in memory of their daughter, Rowena Lou, 1953-1961

1983

Prison Visitation  
Pastor delivered opening prayer in the Alaska House of Representatives

1986

Cookbook was produced

1987

Boy Scouts  
Cub Pack #10  
Cooperative Church Council  
Food Bank  
Hosted 2 Bishops and their spouses along with Thom Gallen of the National Board of Global Ministries and Dennis Holway to view United Methodism in the Juneau area.  
In late August a group of District Superintendents came to itinerate in the area.  
The dedication of the church education-community addition was held October 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Douglas member Bonnie Frey left to attend seminary training.

1988

Sweetheart Banquet  
Balloon Prayer released at Marine Park  
Dance Ensemble  
The "Blue House" and lot at 206 E Street was acquired. Initially used for church conference, office, group meetings, and Sunday Schools.

1989

Work with missionary Linda Leyfield in Pakistan  
Became involved in ballot measure about gambling  
Received 2 octave set of handbells  
Recycling

1990

Dream Wall put up in Fireside Room  
Lots of news about people published in newsletter

Glory Hall  
Bazaar annual fundraiser for mission  
4<sup>th</sup> of July annual community barbeque  
Working with Senior Center  
Lots of VIM work  
Building Study Survey results released  
Parsonage Paint Party

1991

Siding put on parsonage  
Food Pantry  
Van Ministry started, only on Douglas Island, transport to/from church  
Picture Wall put up  
Patchwork Class  
HeadStart on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> began operating a pre-school in Grant Hall  
Dealt with "Blue House" issues

1992

Beginning of the Filipino Ministry in June  
Prime Time Group  
Mother-Child Banquet  
Perennial plant sales

1993

Named the newsletter The Northern Circuit Rider  
On Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> by consensus the Quit Claim Deed was accepted and the church then had the control of all properties  
Church Clean Up Day was on September 11<sup>th</sup>

1995

Sent out a Nuclear Test Ban Alert  
Stephen Ministry Program  
Big Brother/Big Sister  
Single Support Group  
Mother's Day cruise and brunch on the M/V St. Rufina  
Used book exchange

1996

Year of Jubilee  
Lay Academy on January 9<sup>th</sup>  
New Kawai piano purchased Feb. 12

1997

Chrismons were made  
Ugly quilt making for homeless people  
A 6-month Filipino Ministry pilot project under consideration with Dr. Art Guillermo  
A gift of a new Rogers organ was received on September 12<sup>th</sup> 1998; a dedication service was held with organists' Laurie Clough, Sharon Cooper, Bonnie Fitzjarrald, Beverly Haywood, and J. Allan McKinnon  
Published a cookbook in April  
June the pastor and members rode a ferry to Pelican for worship



1998

October – the Douglas Youth Drama Association formed and met in Grant Hall  
Juneau's River of Life Bluegrass Band performed gospel music in worship Feb. 15  
Kaleidoscope Project  
Renovation work at the parsonage  
New directory out  
Kid Reach tutoring  
Socks for people at Glory Hall  
Douglas Iditarod fundraiser

1999

Tiger Cubs  
Brownies  
Family Film Night  
The Douglas Youth Drama Association performed "Archie & Pals" a one-act musical

2000

Eagle River Camp was in need of a van  
Cooperative Church Council sponsored annual Lenten Luncheons  
ChoirFest  
Country Market  
Community Tree Lighting at Waterwheel Plaza

2002

30-hour Famine  
UAF presented Jim Douglas the Emil Usibelli Distinguished Public Service Award  
Gastineau School Breakfast Program  
Operation Christmas Child shoebox mission

2003

Paula Savikko was named Teacher of the Year for the Juneau Douglas School District

2004

Filipino Ministry  
UMCOR  
Hosted VIM Teams  
Help at Pioneer Home  
Carol and Kevin Seckel were in a covenant relation with partners in Latvia

2006

UMM small group format called the "Four W's" namely Welcome Worship Word and Work  
Relay for Life

2007

"Musical Christmas" all church bazaar  
Bea Shepard and Claudia Kelsey received Lifetime Achievement Awards at the Juneau Chamber of Commerce "Under the Alaskan Sea" celebration October 27<sup>th</sup>  
Three cherubs were baptized March 25<sup>th</sup>:  
Danaya Caldwell, Jahfari Haywood, and Zayvion Haywood

2008

Operated a Food Pantry

2009

Siding was put on building by a VIM team  
John Sandor was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Juneau Chamber of Commerce



Later had a Covenant Relationship with Kevin and Carol Seckel (Germany)  
Hosted the Murphmusak Music School  
Sent money to the Magsaysay Child Development Program in the Philippines  
Claudia Kelsey was recognized by the 25<sup>th</sup> Alaska State Legislature for her 6 decades of service  
UMW participated in the Great Plunge into a freezing lake  
Famous for their annual church bazaar  
UMM collected aluminum cans for recycling to raise funds for the construction of the Eagle River Camp Chapel  
Served refreshments at the community Christmas Tree Lighting  
Provided worship and music at the local nursing home in Juneau every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month  
Active with the Filipino community with seniors, memorial services, weddings, baptisms, and visitations  
Breakfast Program at the Gastineau Elementary School  
Glory Hall  
Church Food Pantry  
Provides space for scouts, Perseverance Theater, Al-Anon, Overeaters Anonymous  
This was the 28<sup>th</sup> year helping the Senior Luncheon Program  
4<sup>th</sup> of July BBQ  
Pop Corn and Movie Nights Program  
August 11<sup>th</sup> Pastor Imelda Aquino Ramos married Robert Allen Woolf

2010

Glory Hall  
Food Bank  
School breakfasts for kids  
VIMs  
UMCOR  
Blue Buckets were passed for offerings every third Sunday  
There was support for the Mint Green Ribbon campaign for the Rid Alaska of Child Abuse program

2011

The Sitka Spruce that had been used for many years as the community Christmas Lighted tree needed to be taken down for safety and power line proximity  
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder  
UMW Annual All-Church Bazaar  
Uptown Backstage Theater on December 30, 2011  
Mad Hatter's Tea event  
Oatmeal Ladies served breakfast at Gastineau School

2012

Claudette Curtis awarded the Alaska First Lady's Volunteer of the Year Award  
Regional Program Councils were discontinued  
Bear Pack Scouts  
Celebrate Recovery  
Al-Anon

Parsonage was at 1407 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Douglas 99824

Epworth Hermitage: Alaska Cohort Academy for Missional Wisdom – preliminary assessment of viability as a new monasticism residence  
Had membership of 92  
Memorial Garden Project

2013

Guatemala Mission Trip  
Participated in the Juneau Cooperative Church Council  
Served meals at the Glory Hall

Mad Hatter's Tea Party and Silent Auction  
 4<sup>th</sup> of July Deep Pit Beef BBQ  
 Gastineau School Breakfast Program "Lunch is Served"  
 Douglas Food Pantry  
 Memorial Gardens  
 Team to Guatemala – sewing, PETs, housing, solar bulbs, stoves, water filters, medical and school supplies

2014

The DNA Youth Group (Douglas/Northern Light/Aldersgate) worked with Pioneer Home residents and the Glory Hall people  
 June 6-15<sup>th</sup> the DNA Volunteer in Mission trip helped at Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky  
 Held a plant sale  
 "Lunch is Served" program for seniors  
 Toy Give Away during Christmas time



**DOUGLAS  
 COMMUNITY**  
 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2015

The parsonage had a major renovation in June

2020

Al-Anon  
 Scouts  
 Senior Lunch  
 Received a matching gift challenge with a goal of \$5,000. The hope was to have 10 people to up their tithe with an additional \$100 each.  
 Food Bank  
 A Reconciling Congregation





# East Anchorage

Pastors:	1986
John J. Shaffer, 1985, 1986, 1987	Pea/gravel was spread on the parking lot
R. Kevin Seckel, 1988, 1989	1987
John R. Henry, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997	Celebrated the 20 <sup>th</sup> anniversary on June 14 <sup>th</sup>
Richard J. Smith, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001	1996
Susan Knight, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005	March – the newsletter named “The Light” was edited by Lonnie Brooks
John and Bonnie Campbell, 2006	1998
Jon and Leila Disburg, 2007, 2008	VBS was held August 3-7 <sup>th</sup> with a Storytime Tree
Jon Disburg, 2009, 2010, 2011	Pastor John Tindell started a fellowship group called Koinonia to discuss a book, have a snack and visit
Jennifer Smith, 2010, 2011	
Karen Dammenn, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 (closed)	1999
Newsletter names:	VBS Bock Party
The Lamp	Organ Fund reached the goal of \$15,000 which purchased an organ from Allen Organ Co. with an inaugural concert on Sept. 26 <sup>th</sup> by Janet Stiles; it was dedicated Nov. 7 <sup>th</sup> by Bishop Paup
The Light	CROP Walk
The Borealis Light	Habitat for Humanity
1976	Singspiration
Held 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration	

VIMs  
 Walk to Emmaus  
 Koinonia  
 Fresh Horizons for seniors  
 Chester Park Study and Fellowship  
 Clown Ministry  
 Prayer Chain  
 UNICEF  
 Bean's Café  
 Christmas caroling  
 East Anchorage UMC T-shirts/sweatshirts  
 available for purchase

2000

Eagle Scout award given to Grant Carey  
 Explored joining Interfaith Caregivers  
 Labels for Red Bird Mission  
 Brother Francis Shelter  
 Conducted the first Yom HaShoah (Holocaust  
 Memorial Day) service on April 30<sup>th</sup>  
 Father's Day BBQ  
 Hosted Anchorage School of Music summer  
 camp  
 Bibles given to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders and others  
 Cookbook completed

2001

Softball team  
 Blood Drive  
 UMM officially chartered  
 All-Church Picnic on Fort Richardson  
 All-Church Retreat at Hope

2002

Had softball team  
 Father's Day BBQ  
 Fat Tuesday Cajun Meal Celebration  
 Super Bowl Sub sandwiches  
 FRAN = Friend, Relative, Acquaintance,  
 Neighbor (people to invite to church)  
 Major building improvements happened  
 during the summer  
 40th Anniversary Sept. 14-15: A History of  
 Many Joys and Struggles as we Remember Our  
 Story

2004

Heifer Project  
 Galloping Gourmet  
 More than Warmth Quilt Tops  
 Latvia Mission Support

Safe Harbor Inc  
 Covenant House

2005

Became new home for Conference Office  
 Hosted a Hmong congregation for services  
 Easter baskets  
 Comfort bags  
 Box Tops to Red Bird Missionary Conference  
 Red Capped Chickadees Group  
 Softball Team  
 After School Tutoring  
 Welcomed the 65 members of the Christian  
 Methodist Church of the Redeemed to share  
 their facility

2008

Collected cancelled stamps as a project

2009

Got handicapped entrance with door openers  
 and handicap bathrooms  
 Hosted Hurricane Dave's Country Gospel  
 Jam for Kids Kitchen

2010

Church of the Redeemed shared the facility  
 Bean's Café  
 FISH  
 Worked on new lodge at Birchwood Camp  
 Habitat  
 Safe Harbor  
 Care Packages to deployed soldiers  
 AMVETS  
 Visited shut-ins  
 Hospice of Anchorage  
 Hosted Global Village Team  
 VBS  
 Collected school supplies for the school  
 HUGGS program  
 Gave help to Lake Otis, Taku, Port Heights,  
 and Chester Park schools  
 Gave money to El Porvenir Clean Water and  
 Sanitation project



Gave 50 prayer shawls to people in need  
 Gave money to the Native Community Leadership for Rural Alaska program  
 Set up financial books for Special Olympics Anchorage  
 Made 15 hats for the Providence Cancer Center  
 Wrote letters and visited women at Highland Prison  
 Taught ESL to 10 women each week  
 Hurricane Dave's Christmas Jam III annual benefit concert for Toys for Tots  
 Grant Carey rollerbladed in the annual Law Enforcement Run to benefit Special Olympics  
 Mardi Gras Cajun Pot Luck  
 Valentines and conversation heart candy was given to the veterans at the V.A. Clinic

2011

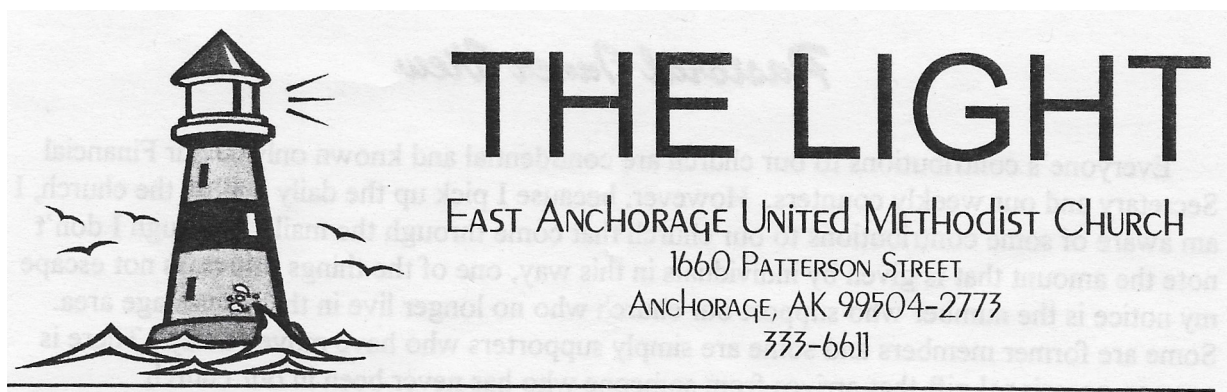
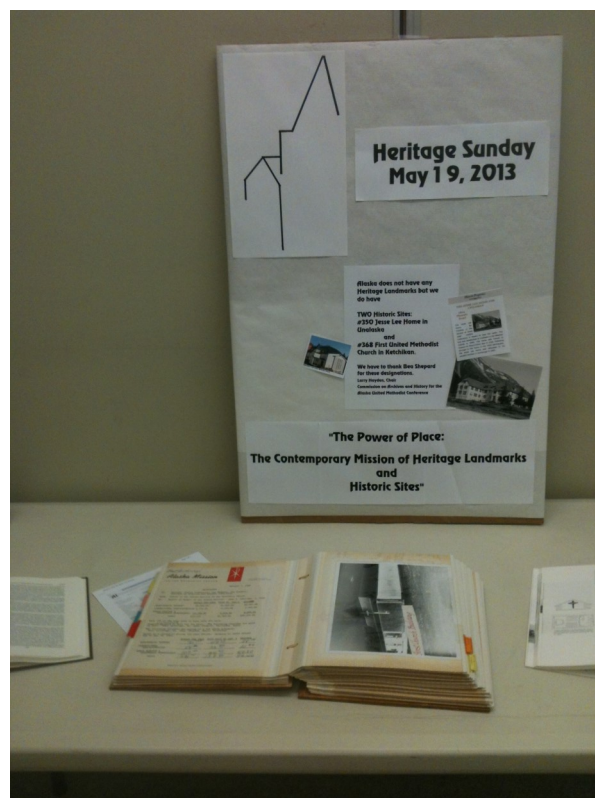
Food Bank  
 Mission Candle  
 Supported Red Bird Mission with labels and box tops  
 Pet Blessing  
 Blessing of the Backpacks  
 The Umpqua Singers from Roseburg, Oregon performed  
 Grant Carey took pledges for his Special Olympics Torch Run

2015

East became involved in a property boundary dispute with a neighbor which required hiring a surveyor; the land plat was recorded June 2016.

Held its annual yard sale on June 27<sup>th</sup>

2016 Discontinued





## Every Nation East Anchorage

Pastor:

Murray Crookes, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

2018

Began as Nunaka Valley Area UMC on July 1, 2018

Met in the original East Anchorage UMC facility at 1660 Patterson Street

2019

Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts share space with the church

The building is also used as a voting center

The Chester Valley Elementary School uses the parking lot and building as a safe location for the students in case of fires, earthquakes, or other emergency situations.

*Free Mom Hugs*, a local chapter of a movement of parents that support LGBTQ+ children, meets in the building.

Every Tuesday a meal is served known as *The New Journey* Ministry with a popular Bible Study and singing

Some services were shared with the Ola Toe Fuataina UM Samoan Fellowship

Outreach to a diverse community continues in the new church planting





# Fairbanks First

Newsletter name: The Ram's Horn

1968 or 1969

Pastors:

Richard K. Heacock, Jr., 1985, 1986, 1987

The bells were donated in memory of Helen Karlin Darlington, an Army nurse, by her sister

Thomas G. Taylor, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995

1986

Milo Thornberry, 1996, 1997, 1998

Great land NewsCache available by subscription

John and Bonnie Campbell, 2002, 2003

Rescue Mission

Richard Smith, 2004

Deaf Ministry

Thomas Telfer, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

Gifts for Inmates

David Horning, 2011, 2012

A Peace Pole was planted in the church yard with five representatives of the Japanese delegation singing a song of prayer for peace. The idea being that if people are reminded of their inherent wish for peace they will work harder to achieve it.

David Dyrenforth, 2013, 2014, 2015

Jim Hardenbrook, 2016

Robert Jones, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

Chartered September 14, 1952



Pastor Richard K. Heacock, Jr. and Grace Anne Heacock assist in planting of Peace Pole at Fairbanks church.

1988

The Bell Choir played at New Hope Methodist-Presbyterian Church on May 29<sup>th</sup> celebrating New Hopes' 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
Yoga lessons offered  
MLK Ecumenical service  
Food Bank  
Supported Interior Alaska Ecumenical Peace with Justice Council  
JUMP Day-Camp program  
GBGM approved loan application of \$124,704 to consolidate two other loans  
Library moved to Room 113  
International Food Festival and Craft Auction

1989

A covered, insulated stairway to south/west side of Vesper Hall was built  
Social Concerns Committee  
Bought 200 new hymnals

1990

Supported Roy Ylitallo at Thornton Memorial Church in Wales  
New directory out  
Gay 90's Fun-raiser  
Holocaust memorial service  
Wesley Bell Ringers from Christ United Methodist Church in Salt Lake City, gave a concert in the sanctuary July 1<sup>st</sup> with 33 musician playing 200 English handbells of 6 octaves with specialty bells, tone bars, chimes, and gongs  
Collected Betty Crocker coupons for silverware  
Worship service tapes were available for check-out

1991

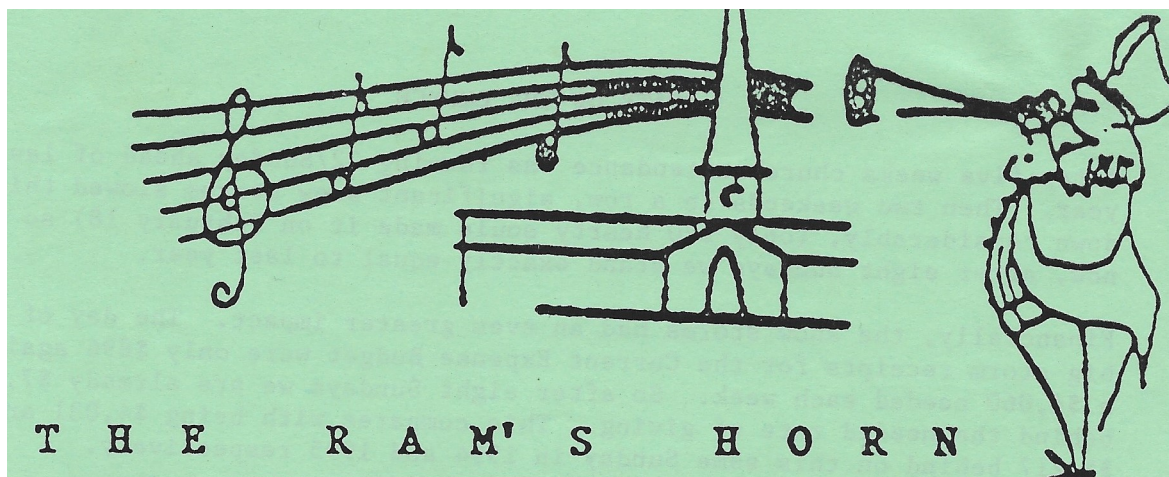
The consecration of the new gym, classroom and fellowship hall was held on May 9<sup>th</sup>  
Dinner with square dance held on April 26<sup>th</sup>  
Candles for Peace  
Progressive Dinner-Theater on September 28<sup>th</sup> with cast of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat  
Purchased a Kawai studio upright piano with black lacquer finish

1992

A youth voice and handbell choir group from McFarlin Memorial UMC in Norman, Oklahoma performed June 6-8<sup>th</sup> with 35 senior high and 12 sponsors  
Volleyball team  
Softball team  
14 youth took American Red Cross Babysitting class  
Guided horseback trail ride and outdoor barbeque took place at Wynfromere Farms  
Super Valu offered a 1% charitable rebate program  
Tanana Valley Conference of Churches  
Dinner for six  
FUMC hosted the Interior AIDS Association for a candlelight vigil and worship service

1993

Shoebox ministry  
FUMC T-shirt Sunday was March 28<sup>th</sup>  
Bishop's Attic Thrift Store  
Parsonage renovated and sold at 1020 Gilmore St



Teacher Appreciation Event  
Church debt was paid off

1994

Donation made to Chaplaincy at Denali Center  
& Pioneer Home  
Policy was to cancel evening meetings at minus  
35 degrees; Sunday School and Worship would  
never be canceled due to cold temperatures  
Marriage Celebration Retreat led by Beckett's  
Play Group  
Dalton, Georgia youth choir sang in worship  
June 12<sup>th</sup>  
Planting Day  
Midnight Sun Run  
After School Program (formerly Munchkins)  
New directory out  
Gifts for families of inmates  
Gift was made to purchase new blue/white choir  
robes  
Singing and bells at Fairbanks Correctional  
Center

1995

Luau Group  
Wesley Williams helped with program "The  
Gospel in Song"  
Mid-Winter Academy  
Game Night  
Genie Loser gave 2 octaves of choir chimes  
which was added to the current 12 chimes  
Brass flower container for altar bought in  
memory of Marian Triggs

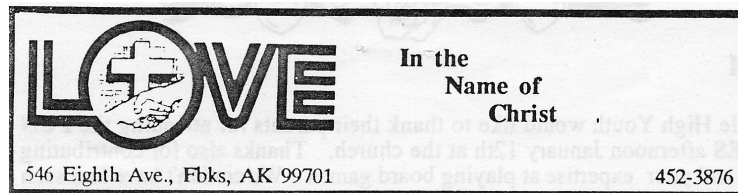
1996

Vertical Chair Life installed  
New carpet installed  
Young at Heart Group  
Golden Days Concession Fundraiser  
Sprinkler system upgraded  
Church had a library  
Bill and Shirley DeVries donated funds for a  
church sign on the corner of Second and Cowles  
Habitat for Humanity House  
Sweetheart Dinner  
Softball Team called the Wesley's Warriors  
English handbells were purchased in 1968 and  
were refurbished, cleaned, polished and adjust-  
ed in Renton, Washington this year

Faith and Values series developed by  
UMCommunications was broadcast on  
Cable Channel 20  
Walk to Emmaus formed in Fairbanks

1997

Love INC



Forum held on the Death Penalty  
New pictorial directory  
Circles of Care  
Christmas greenery fundraiser for youth mis-  
sion event  
Third graders received Bibles  
Care packages given to university students

1998

VIMs  
Jubilee Bells  
The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Com-  
merce presented FUMC with an Outstanding  
Achievement Award in recognition of its ef-  
forts in beautifying the community and for  
promoting by example the "Clean & Green"  
philosophy.  
Men's Breakfast monthly

1999

Quilting Group  
A Lending Closet  
Medicine Box prepared for UMCOR  
Blessing of the Animals  
Delegates from as many as twelve denomina-  
tions gathered in Fairbanks for the XIV Bien-  
nial Assembly of the Alaska Christian Confer-  
ence March 22-24. Several sessions and the  
Ecumenical Community Worship Service was  
held at FUMC.  
Beginning of Visitation and Family Ministries  
Offered the "Faith Home" 9-week study

2000

Cookbook organized  
CROP Walk

Four youth went to North Carolina for VIM work  
Financial Planning Seminar held October 21<sup>st</sup>

2001

Ice sculpturing  
All Church Talent Show  
VBS  
Theme Basket Auction and Salmon Bake  
Clothes for Kids  
Pie Sales  
Fellowship dinner

2002

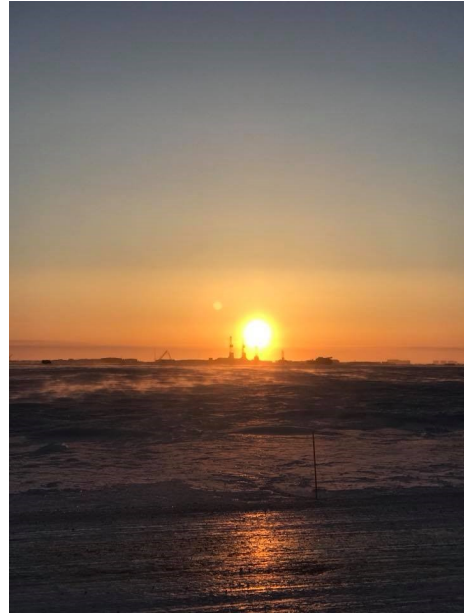
Got new picture directory  
Hosted Atlanta Boys Choir  
Talent show  
Plant sale  
Volleyball team won tournament  
Parents Night Out  
Rev. J. Philip Newell, Ph.D., a Church of Scotland minister, was a sponsored speaker at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church on Celtic Spirituality  
Pews were repaired  
Pink flamingo flocks went among homes to raise funds for Senior High Workcamp in Hawaii  
50<sup>th</sup> anniversary events  
Hosted community workshop by the Tanana Valley Conference of Churches to bring awareness about domestic violence  
Broadcast TV spots from UMComm on local stations for 10 days  
Adopted Barnette Elementary School for clothes donations, reading partners, serving breakfast once a week, greeting parents and kids on first day of classes, and help fill out paperwork

2003

Ruth Circle Book Club  
Craft Group  
Volleyball Tournament 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners

The first Nicaragua Medical Mission team left on March 29<sup>th</sup> and brought medical supplies, medicine and school supplies to the Nueva Vida community ([www.jhc-cdca.org](http://www.jhc-cdca.org))

Golf League Formed



Newsletter available on web  
Cookbook published  
Salmon Bake and Auction  
Health Ministry Team formed  
Praise Service started at 9:45 a.m.  
Phone cards for military persons  
VIM remodeling  
Sponsored the Northland Children's Choir  
Boy Scouts  
Cub Scouts  
Stone Soup Café  
Midnight Sun United Church used building  
Youth Ministries Endowment Fund  
Mary and Martha Circle  
Church League Basketball Team  
May 11<sup>th</sup> – Founders Day 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary event  
All church curling party 3/28/03  
Stuffed animals were collected to give to children at the Interior Center for Non-Violent Living in cooperation with the Host Lions Club

2004

Jerusalem marketplace  
Relay for Life Walk  
10,000 step program of Health Ministry (Iditarod)  
Sprouts  
New directory out

2005

Supported the Fairbanks Chaplaincy Association

Sledding Party	2010
Prayer Shawl Ministry	
Habitat	Youth went to Pioneer Home and helped residents carve pumpkins
Love Inc	
Easter Pancake Breakfast	
Care Packages for our students	
Salmon Bake, Theme Basket and Silent Auction annual event	2016
Focused monthly on "Hymn Notes"	The Sprouts raised \$2525 to fund PETS (Personal Energy Transportation Mobility Carts)
All Saints Day Banner	
Adopt a Family	
Boy Scouts Troop #10	
2006	2017
Ditty Bags to Center for Non-Violent Living	"Loving Families" housing homeless families in partnership with other Fairbanks area churches
Participated in the Tanana Valley Christian Conference	Joshua Community Project
Military Parents Night Out	
Walking Club	
All Church Bonfire	2019
New Picture Directory	VIMs
Fairbanks Rescue Mission	Rescue Mission Housing Project
Habitat for Humanity	VBS
PET Project	Church is a Verb
Blood Bank	
Supported the Anvik/Grayling Project	
Oh Jonah – A Musical for children – Jonah and the Big Fish	2020
Ruth Circle Book Club	Drive-in Worship until October 21
Parents Night Out	Worship via YouTube and Facebook
Dinner and a Movie Social Group	In November Pastor Bob chose to do a NewsCast for those not reading the newsletter
Young at Heart Potluck	
Walking program	
Military Parents Night Out	
Mission Market	
All Church Bonfire	
School Supplies Project	
First Annual Riverboat Discovery and Silent Auction Fundraiser to benefit Rescue Mission	
2007	
2008	
Pioneer Home	
S.O.A.P.	
United Campus Ministry	
One Homeless Night	
Letter to Deployed Troops	
Light of the Village	
Imagine No Malaria	
Godly Play with storytelling	
BBQs at pastor's home on Sunday evenings open to all	



During the 2020 CORONA-19 pandemic an attempt was made for drive-in worship

# Filipino Ministry



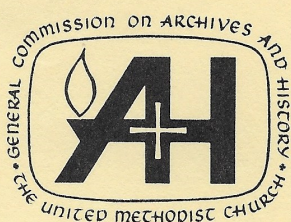
In 1986 the First Church Anchorage held a cultural foods banquet, serving 130 persons, which enabled them to pledge \$5,000 to Aldersgate College in the Philippines. A total of \$20,000 was pledged over a four year period to help provide furnishings for a new child development center. The dinner was sponsored by the Human Needs Committee and prepared by members and friends under the direction of Mel and Jasmine Gallardo.

Filipinos contributed to the early development of Southeast Alaska. They arrived to work in the salmon canning industry. The Douglas Community United Methodist Church through the leadership of Bea Shepard and Dr. Art and Cora Guillermo of the National Filipino American United Methodists, conducted a short survey of first generation Filipinos living in Douglas which revealed they wanted a Ilocano speaking religious leader to work with the congregation at Douglas Community UMC. At the time there were about 1,000 Filipinos who were mostly blue-collar workers and government employees.

In 1991 funds were sought to hire a Filipino church worker. A two-year ministry was started consisting of evangelism, participation in the activities of the Filipino community, Bible study, and worship. The church supported Dodjie Abad who was studying for the ministry in the Philippines. People from Douglas attended a meeting in Seattle of the National Filipino American United Methodists.

An Advance Special Number was obtained to continue the Ministry of Presence (9312364). Materials were provided in the Ilocano language on audiotapes. Storytelling was encouraged. Counseling was available. Home Bible study was encouraged. *Hymns From the Four Winds* was an Asian-American hymnbook that was introduced in 1983.

In 1993 the Alaska Filipino Ministry received a Christian Education grant from the National Federation of Asian American United Methodists. The project headed by Jose Abad Sr. provided scholarships for Filipino youth to attend Argetsinger Camp and involved visitation to parents of potential youth attendees.



## Asian American Methodist History Project

Art Guillermo, Ph.D. Communication  
General Editor



#### Pastors:

Rachel Ann Counts, Diaconal Minister, 1985

Donald LaFils, 1986, 1987

Daryl Young, Lay, 1988, 1989

Ronald R. Myers and David Ochoa, 1990, 1991

Kathleen Hoover (Local Pastor), 1992, 1993

John Garvin, 1994, 1995

Charles R. Frost III, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999

James Doeppkin, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012

Linda Jean Myers, 2013

Sandy Ward, 2014, 2015

David Hall, 2016, 2017, 2018

Nico Romeijn, 2019, 2020, 2021

1953

February 16 – Dedication service for building

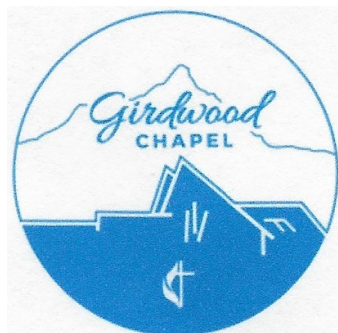
1991 – APU students were leading services

1996

After 40 years Girdwood received its first full time pastor and undertook building a new facility. The current building was 31' x 31' on a 1/8 acre piece of land and so a new parcel of land was sought.

1997

Girdwood was also serving a Roman Catholic congregation  
Chapel added another worship service for skiers and seekers on Saturdays at 6 p.m.



1998

Started a community choir on Wednesday evenings

2001

Had 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary event May 20<sup>th</sup> at Alyeska Day Lodge; another event on May 6<sup>th</sup>

Over the 50 years Girdwood had been linked with many churches and ministries on the Kenai Peninsula and Anchorage but it wasn't until 1996 that it became a "one-point charge" for an ordained clergyperson. The church building had been in three different locations in town. There were "Sunless Sunrise Services" on top of Mt. Alyeska.

2002

The Alaska Missionary Conference Board of Trustees authorized the sale of the Girdwood Chapel land for \$125,000 to Oakley Olson, Jr. and Donna Olson with the proceeds used to purchase a new 2.56 acre property for relocating church building; Thirty years ago the original 31' x 31' building was situated with 2/3rds placed over the property line and the adjacent owner wanted to expand.

2003

Purchased a 2.5 acre of land and were using the land as of May 27<sup>th</sup> since 67 people followed the building on a tractor truck as it was moved to the new location a few thousand feet to the west. The people carried stones from the old location and made a monument at the new one. The first Sunday service at the new site was on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

2004

A new church building was started to be built; fundraising was the main focus, followed by getting a VIM work team

2005

October 2 – Blessing of the Animals

2006

Mission Trip to Mississippi

2007

Advocated for recycling

2008

Building nearing final stages of completion with electrical, sewer and water hookups  
Siding expected to be put on soon  
Sent youth on a mission trip to Alabama  
Women's Wednesday Night Bible Study  
Food Pantry, community gardens, and a pick-up location for organic food delivery  
Provided rent and fuel assistance  
30-hour Famine Program

2009

Assisted a gentleman who was under Hospice care who wished to stay at home  
Adopted the theme "Love God. Love Others. Change the World"

2012

Soup Kitchen

2013

Food Pantry

Mona Blackburn donated a cabin and an acre of land with an assessed value of \$180,000

2015

September 25/26<sup>th</sup> held a Building Supplies Yard Sale with extra materials

2016

Thanksgiving meal for the community

2019

Chapel received a donated cabin intended to become a permanent home on church property. The foundation footings were poured July 13, 2020 and the cabin was to be placed on foundation July 16.

2020

Was home to the Community Garden

Prayer Warrior Team

Sunday Brunch

Senior Socials

The Chapel was available for renting

Continued to host the community food pantry

Whoever who has been pastor has long served as a first call for crisis response and counseling, chaplain for emergency responders and to help people in need.

Terry Sherwood was named Outstanding Lay Person of the Year for AUMC.



# Homer

Newsletter name in 2007: Unto You  
Then just "HUMC Newsletter"  
Now Homer's Happenings

Pastors:

Edmund B. Stanton, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989

Steve Lambert, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994

Thomas Van Hoose, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998

Thomas Taylor, 1999

Dan Lush, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004,  
2005, 2006

Don Strait, 2007

Richard Gilbert 2008

Charles Martindell, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011

Alfredo Agtarap (Interim) 2012

Lisa Talbott, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017,  
2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

1951  
First service was held in July

1952  
Chartered on February 3, 1952 with 25  
members

1958-1961  
The Church and parsonage was built

1976  
February 15, 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary event

1978-1979  
Sponsored a Vietnamese Family

1979  
June 10<sup>th</sup> – consecration service of the  
educational facility

1981  
November 8<sup>th</sup> – organ dedication and recital

1985  
The Homer Chamber of Commerce granted  
the Homer UMC its Beautification Award for  
the "golf green" lawn, flower beds, and wood-  
en church identification sign.

1986  
Rung in the New Year by ringing the church  
bell  
Hymn Sing

Boy Scout Troop 555  
 Cub Scout Pack 555  
 Funds were raised for a multi-level handicap chair lift access  
 Sanctuary was remodeled  
 Hometown pin up map

The VBS took offerings during the week to be sent to Silungai, Kenya to help build and equip its new church. This new congregation, initiated by Philip Imboywa, a student at Alaska Pacific University, was adopted the the Conference as an Advance Special Project.

1987

Delivered hot lunches for the Senior Center  
 The Christi Crux Chorale from Concordia College in Portland gave a concert in the sanctuary

1988

Blue van was sold  
 Blue jean June  
 Ice cream social and auction  
 4 regional program councils were created  
 Trailside Camps and Marantha Builders used the kitchen and building while doing work in the community

1989

Jubilation Bell Choir  
 April first was a 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration  
 Suffered the effects of the Exxon oil spill  
 All church progressive dinner  
 Alateen

1990

Homer Chamber of Commerce awarded the church the Church Beautification Award  
 Evergreen tree was planted in honor of former pastor Jim Thompson  
 Maynard Gross was given the Distinguished Scoutmaster Award

1991

40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and potluck  
 Summer solstice barbeque party held on the spit  
 Parsonage roof replaced

1993

Received the deed to the Wilson property which was next door  
 Walk to Emmaus  
 Homer Community Food Pantry  
 Mission trip to Mexico  
 Became a Self-supporting church  
 Parking lot was expanded on west side  
 VIMs and NOMADs

1994

Mary Miller donated 139 acres valued at \$193,000 near Olson Mountain as a future endowment; Tennessee Miller and Mary were married by Rev. Ed Stanton.  
 Mellow Mommies discussion group

1995

The United Methodist Cross and Flame symbol was built as a 6 foot sign and placed on the exterior of the church  
 Sold property Tax Parcel #171-101-20

1996

Handbell choir storage cabinet constructed  
 Rides to church were offered to those in need  
 Three May trees were planted at the edge of the church yard in memory of the Kent family: Floyd, Stacy, and sons Charles Wesley and Alfred Read.  
 Another tree was planted in memory of Mahlon Stoltzfus

1998

During the summer created a worship service Sunday evenings at the Rainbow Wok on the Spit.

2000

TOPS = Take off pounds sensibly  
 Violin concert to benefit Kitchen Fund  
 Seaside Singers  
 Girl Scout Troop 546

2001

Church Pictorial Directory out  
 Sent six boxes of winter clothing to  
 Chuvanskoye  
 Pastor Lush was commissioned at Turnagain  
 UMC February 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Audio visual system upgraded  
 The office computer was now able to be online  
 and capable for emails.  
 Belmont University held an "Erin Cline Day"  
 for academic excellence  
 VIMs to paint parsonage and church building  
 Twenty Something Group  
 Church sign relocated

2002

UMC joined the Church Uniting in Christ  
 Relationship  
 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary April 27/28<sup>th</sup>  
 Spirit Sisters hosted 5<sup>th</sup> annual shorebird  
 breakfast  
 Boomers Group  
 African Dinner  
 Exploratory Building Committee issued a  
 preliminary survey  
 Winners of the pastor's Essay Contest were Evi  
 Olson for First Place won \$500 scholarship  
 along with Mary Webb as second place winner  
 of \$150 scholarship  
 Harmony Ringers  
 Church sign had the St. Augustine Episcopal  
 Church name and worship time added  
 Mission trip to Costa Rica over Spring Break  
 March 14-23  
 Third graders received Bibles  
 Handicap accessible bathrooms installed

2003

VIM teams from Homer and Anchorage First  
 UMC went on mission trip to Costa Rica  
 Food Pantry  
 Scouts  
 Narcotics Anonymous  
 Health kits for children of Iraq  
 Church had a break-in and mostly food was  
 taken  
 Candle Light Prayer Vigil  
 Hooded sweatshirts were available for \$35  
 Habitat for Humanity building  
 Platinum Group

2004

Hosted Irish Music and Dance Group: An Croi'

Faith Flying High with Kites  
 Pie sales  
 People were encouraged to buy "Chatelaine"  
 design silverware from Safeway for kitchen

2005

Dedicated the blue spruce by the parsonage  
 in memory of the Rev. Revelle Roach  
 Helped with Shorebird Festival  
 Fellowship Picnic  
 Habitat  
 Arranged to rent space to the Russian  
 Orthodox Church of Alaska every other  
 weekend  
 Youth built a playhouse for preschoolers  
 Heifer  
 Family Pumpkin Carving Party  
 Haven House  
 Major renovations to kitchen, sanctuary,  
 and fellowship hall extension

2006

Gift bags to homeless youth  
 Joined Homer Chamber of Commerce  
 Put time capsule in new floor  
 Groundbreaking for new building on April  
 30, 2006  
 Made a DVD to promote fundraising for new  
 building  
 Performance by the Celebration Singers from  
 Tucker, Georgia  
 Received a tax assessment for the Ohlson  
 Mountain property of \$14,600  
 Hosted Moses Puppet Ministry  
 Nothing But Nets  
 Christmas Giving Tree

2007

Developed a cookbook  
 Adopt an Elder  
 Progressive Dinners  
 Heifer Project  
 Habitat  
 Directory Updated  
 Sing Unto The Lord: An Evening of Music  
 with Jim and Jean Strathdee  
 Hospice of Home Annual Neighbor-Helping-  
 Neighbor Campaign  
 Harvest Carnival for Halloween  
 Homes Open Across Homer (Building Future  
 Bridges)  
 Pennies for Peace

2008

Jubilation! Handbell Choir  
Fireside Visits at Parsonage  
Commercial kitchen was installed  
Sanctuary enlarged  
Added a glass solarium  
Stained glass windows installed

2019

A fundraiser was held during Forest Fair in July  
by charging \$10 for a parking space

2020

January 29<sup>th</sup> was extraordinary. Homer's first  
Project Homeless Connect was full of people and

connection and fun and love and care. All  
day long the church was full to the rafters  
with vendors, volunteers, guests, and the  
sounds of happy chatter as connections were  
made and bonds built.  
The event is over, but the work has just be-  
gun. We had an entire room stuffed full of  
free items, all donated by the community.

Tirzah Parsons was presented a special  
missions recognition Legacy Fund award  
for her many years of UMW service.

Ancestor stories were a focus of worship  
Blessing of the Animals  
There was a sermon series on Starting Over  
Community Food Pantry continues to serve.





# Jewel Lake Parish

Born out of the Tri-Anchor Parish beginning in February 1971 with the closure of Westminster Presbyterian Church, whose worship center they still use today. Charter day in May 1971 (Bea book page 49).

Newsletter Name = The Good News

Pastors:

David L. Dobler, 1985 (Presbyterian), 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994

Ralph Wild (Interim) 1993

Charles Kirsch (Interim) 1994

Dale Kelley (Interim) 1995

Janice Stamper, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

James and Lauren Kay Shock, 2001, 2002, 2003

Henry Murray, July interim 2003

Lauren Kay Shock, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009

Unassigned, 2010

Tom Holslag, 2011

Luke Jones, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

1983

Ground was broken for a 5,000 square foot Modular building built to include eight classrooms, office, pastor's study and a multi-purpose room.

1989

Brother Francis Shelter

Beans Café

FISH

4 flower bed locations needed attention

First annual hunger walk

Marriage encounter

Walk to Emmaus

Furnace was upgraded to a gas-heat arrangement

Mariners – a group of 8-12 who meet and eat in a member's home

1990

Participated with the Alaska Refugee Outreach

All Church Picnic  
Interdenominational Thanksgiving Service with  
St. Benedict's and Gloria Dei  
Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study

1991

Promoted the annual Governor's Prayer  
Breakfast  
Closed its recycling center  
Gloria Dei celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary on  
June 29<sup>th</sup>  
VBS  
Mission trip to Sitka  
The Kerygma Program  
JLP T-Shirts available for \$17.50  
All-Saints Day Dinner  
Christmas Wrapping service

1992

Alaska Presbytery sent 20 delegates to Youth  
Triennium at Purdue University  
KNO = Kids Night Out

1993

Adopt A Room (orderliness and cleanliness)  
Mission trip to Gambell  
Mission trip to Mexico  
VBS  
Pamela Joy Lowry Memorial Park dedication  
Jun 14<sup>th</sup> at Ascot and Northwood and Opal-  
Arlene  
The new Enterprise Fund was for housing  
Bean's Café  
Carol Wilson, missionary to northern India  
spoke October 10<sup>th</sup>  
Bazaar Bake sale  
Health Fair

1994

Recruited Caring Callers  
SERRV  
Starting in April on Sunday evenings the  
Eastern Catholic (Antiochene) Church in  
America used the JLP sanctuary  
Kathy Teitzel spoke about her time as a mis-  
sionary and Bible teacher to Russian Women  
Annual Church Picnic at Jewell Lake Park  
Youth Mission trip to Yakima Washington  
Altar Guild  
Promoted various Camps

Christian Education Building re-roofed  
Every home was given a 1995 Mission Year-  
book for Prayer and Study

1995

CROP Walk  
Alternative Giving Faire  
Fifty Fifty Club  
Heifer International  
4 A's  
Souper Bowl  
Picture directory out  
Women's annual Retreat  
Chose to be a "chartering partner" with Chi-  
nook Elementary School for a new Cub  
Scout Pack #140



1996

Had a sister church in Gambell  
Girl Scouts  
Palm Sunday Brunch in homes  
25<sup>th</sup> anniversary May 16, 1971-May 16, 1996  
Sanctuary mortgage paid off  
Christian Education building still owed  
\$16,000 mortgage  
14<sup>th</sup> annual bazaar

1997

Sanctuary roof replaced  
Eagle Scout Court of Honor for David  
Rayfield May 19<sup>th</sup>  
Endowment Fund available

Jewel Lake became the Resource Library for the  
 Presbytery of Yukon  
 4 A's Food Bank  
 Children living in a world with AIDS  
 Prayer chain  
 Habitat for Humanity  
 Promoted Promise Keepers  
 Collected Betty Crocker coupons and box-tops  
 to send silverware and kitchen ware to Gambell  
 and Savoonga  
 Presbytery of Yukon met at Jewel Lake October  
 10 and 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Supported Mary Conrad Center  
 Supported SERRV  
 Supported Anchorage Literacy Project  
 Supported Hospice  
 VBS  
 AA  
 FISH  
 Vesper services each Tuesday evening  
 Craft bazaar  
 Joined St. Benedict Catholic Church Outreach  
 Program and Gloria Dei Lutheran Church to  
 make Thanksgiving baskets

1998

Supported the Mary Magdalene Project  
 Walk to Emmaus  
 Annual Family Picnic  
 Family Camp at Birchwood  
 Directory out  
 VBS  
 Clare House

1999

100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Presbytery of Yukon

2005

Shipped 80 Health Kits to UMCOR Sager Brown  
 Collection Center in Louisiana

2008

Food Pantry  
 Supports of crisis benevolent fund  
 Partners with Sand Lake Elementary School  
 Supports a Presbyterian Church in Gambell  
 with VBS, funds  
 Funded a few PETS  
 Boy Scout Troop 129  
 AA  
 Campfire  
 Houses the toddler program of the Children's  
 World Montessori School

2009

Food Pantry  
 Benevolent fund for crisis situations  
 Clare House  
 Bag rice, beans and pasta for the Mother  
 Lawrence Ministry  
 Provided dental kits for missions  
 Hosted VIM teams  
 Held a neighborhood VBS

2013

May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> - held garage sale for charity

2019

Vacation Bible Fun outreach  
 Scouts  
 12 Step Program  
 Society for Creative Anachronism  
 Quilters  
 Share space with a Korean Presbyterian  
 congregation  
 Experienced burglaries in Shed  
 VBS  
 Mobile Food Pantry  
 Food Bank  
 Lutheran Social Services

2020

Held Interactive Bible Studies online  
 Quilters  
 Girl Scouts  
 Society for Creative Anachronism  
 Twelve Step Recovery program  
 HUGGS  
 Food Bank/Pantry  
 Clare House  
 Brother Francis Shelter  
 Trash pickup along roadside and bus stop



# Kenai

## Pastors:

Richard V. Pippin, 1985, 1986

Ruth McMillan, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990

Robert Simmons, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994

Matthias Krier, 1995

Robert “Bob” Quick, 1996

James A. Doepkin, 1997, 1998, 1999

Jon Walters, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006

Lucile Barton, 2007

Martha (Marti) Slater, 2008, 2009, 2010

Janice Carlton, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017

Bailey Brawner, 2018

April Hall, 2019, 2020, 2021

1954

The Kenai Methodist Church was Chartered on April 18th

1955

Started services

1957

September 22<sup>nd</sup> The Church Building and the Parsonage were consecrated

1969

Kenai Methodist Church changes its’ name to Church of the New Covenant reflecting the denominations it serves: Methodist, American Baptist, Disciples of Christ, Episcopal, Evangelical United Brethren, Presbyterian, Salvation Army, United Church of Christ, Congregational

1986

Newsletter was named “Good News”

A Box of Love

Known at the Church of the New Covenant until 1987

Church was used for a homeless shelter

Large wooden sanctuary cross was installed

1987

Became known as the United Methodist Church of the New Covenant until 2010

October – 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
 AA – Al-Anon  
 Child Birth Classes  
 Parsonage was rented out

1989

Establishment of the Grandma Thompson  
 Memorial Fund for the Nursery  
 ACOA  
 Young Parents Support Group  
 Food Closet  
 VIMs  
 92 New United Methodist Hymnals are donated  
 by members  
 Love INC  
 Progressive Dinner

1990

Alaska Dinner  
 UMW was very active  
 Blood Bank  
 Appreciation Dinner  
 Blue Jean Sunday with lunch and clean-up  
 Hymnals were donated to Wildwood Correctional  
 Center  
 4<sup>th</sup> of July Carnival booth of games and food sales  
 VBS  
 T & T Drive – Teddie Bears and Tennis shoes for  
 orphanage in Port au Prince, Haiti  
 Paperback books collected to send to troops in  
 Saudi Arabia  
 Circuit Rider went to each family home to collect  
 sealed pledges and visit  
 Wednesday Sharing and Craft Group  
 October had a break in  
 Heritage Dinner  
 Progressive Dinner  
 Sent 9 boxes of heavy clothing to Nome

1991

Easter Egg Hunt  
 Baptismal font dedicated March 3<sup>rd</sup> in memory of  
 Ed Hollier  
 Rice bags  
 Services with a lit Peace candle on alter  
 Sanctuary and parsonage are remodeled and new  
 metal roofs installed  
 Love INC  
 Many members employed with School District  
 Prayer Chain  
 Focused on “Hymn of the Month”



Kenai Peninsula Food Bank  
 1992-1997 Gabriel's Cherubs Daycare was  
 sponsored by the Church in the educational  
 wing

1995

SOS = Studies on Scripture

1997

Celebrated the church's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on  
 October 5, 1997

1998

Last Supper stained glass window crafted by  
 Glen Jackson was installed

2001

Handicapped accessible entry was installed  
 New cross and flame symbol over the en-  
 trance  
 Food Pantry started by Mike McDonald



2002

March 24<sup>th</sup> was the unveiling of the stained glass window which was commissioned to Joyce and Gene Getchell of Glass Menagerie Custom Designs by Esther Rhines in memory of her husband John. Some of the symbols include a fish, a boat, an anchor and a cross with a flame. Blues and green dominate. It is inspirational.

2006

Directory updated  
Food Pantry  
Relay For Life  
Church garage sale  
Mission Education Event  
Emmaus  
Warm clothes given to the Kenai Kenatize Head Start  
Hospice of the Central Peninsula  
The LeeShore Center  
Trivial Pursuit Game Night  
Heifer

2007

Heard about Belize by missionaries Ned and Beverly Walter  
Installed elevator  
Resurrection Women  
Provided 6 sewing machines t St. John Program for Honduras, etc.  
Mind Challenge  
Chime Choir

2008

College Care Boxes  
Alcoholics Anonymous (40<sup>th</sup> year)  
New Floor in the Fellowship Hall  
Rocking Chair placed in sanctuary  
New windows and ramp installed  
Emergency Preparedness Buckets  
Slippers were provided to people and soldiers in Iraq as part of Minnesota Nice Project  
Parcel Post Auction and Dessert  
Fleece blankets for ACS  
Have dinner with Firefighters  
Disperse free water at 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade  
Had an Endowment Fund  
Food Pantry remodeled

First Friday Dinner  
Received the new "Faith We Sing" songbooks for the pews

Strong Women Exercise Program  
Help at Friends of the Kenai Library Community  
Book Sale  
Heifer Project bought chickens, ducks, geese and  
two hives of bees  
Alzheimer's Support Group  
VBS  
Women's Shelter  
Major maintenance of building was undertaken

2009

Nothing But Nets  
Parcel Post Party to benefit ACS  
Food Pantry  
Hung a banner welcoming travelers and fishers  
with times of services

2010

Became the Kenai United Methodist Church on  
December 7<sup>th</sup>  
Parents and children's room was consecrated

2011

First Friday dinners  
Food delivered to the Kenai Fire Department on  
the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9-11  
Little Dresses for Africa  
Prayer shawls

2012

Back to School barbeque with backpack give  
away  
Neighborhood Thanksgiving dinner  
Angel Shop where Food Pantry kids can shop for  
caregivers  
Cookies for Kairos  
Parcel Post Party for missions

2014

June 22<sup>nd</sup> there was a "Blessing of the Hospitality  
House"  
Minister teaching English as a Second Language  
Hospitality House (The Church's parsonage is  
used to house patients receiving long term therapy  
at Central Peninsula Hospital)  
Biscuits and Gravy Fourth of July Breakfast  
(Fundraiser for Soldotna, North Star and Kenai  
United Methodist Food Pantries)  
Installed parking lot  
September the Next Best Thing Daycare, an in-  
dependent business, occupies the educational

wing  
2015

Concrete walk for the Hospitality House  
installed  
Cupula and Steeple repainted, soffits en-  
closed  
Storage shed purchased  
T-shirt Christmas pageant  
Distributed Christmas food boxes

2016

Once a month services at Claris Place  
Assisted Living  
Joint Ash Wednesday service with  
Soldotna and North Star UMCs  
Blue Grass Christmas party

2017

Adult Sunday School was being held af-  
ter a long hiatus  
Kenai and North Star UMCs worship to-  
gether every fifth Sunday  
Wednesday morning Men's breakfast  
Services at Claris Place Assisted Living  
increased to twice a month  
VIM team updated the church's electrical  
system  
Nativity stained glass window in memory  
of Virginia Poore installed

2018

VIM team helped with building mainte-  
nance and fence repair  
Live streaming sermons on Facebook  
Courageous Conversations

2019

Handmade loom hats for Kenai Alterna-  
tive School, Food Pantry patrons, Home-  
less veterans through the Elks, Cancer  
patients and Newborn Intensive Care at  
our local hospital  
Blessing of the Animals – With St. Fran-  
cis by the Sea Episcopal Church and Our  
Lady of the Angels Catholic Church  
Pulpit exchange with St. Francis by the  
Sea Episcopal Church  
Game Night  
"We Make the Road by Walking" Study

Group

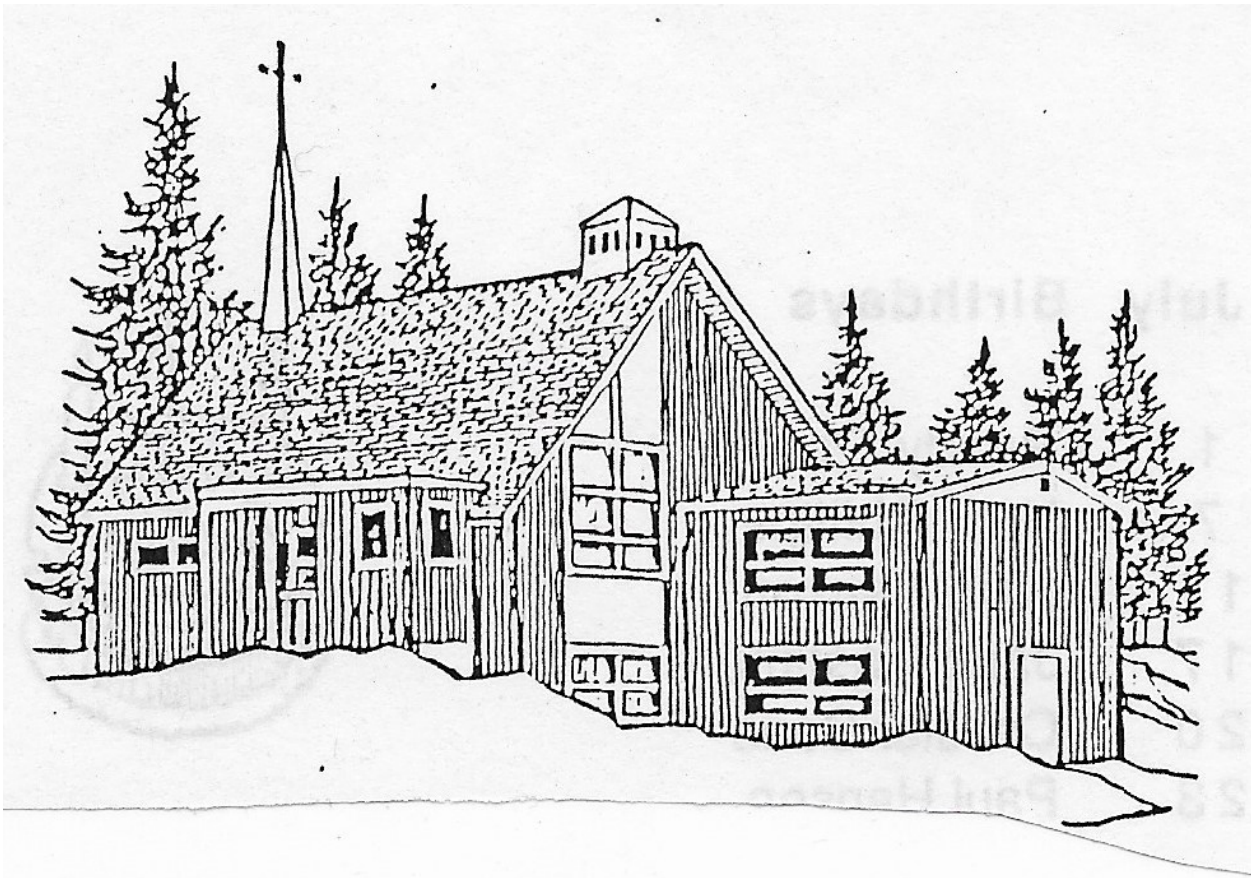
2020

Church building closed  
due to Coronavirus pan-  
demic

Church Council meetings  
were held via Zoom

Worship services were  
done via Facebook and  
Zoom

Our members are active in the community in a  
variety of ways including but not limited to  
Habitat for Humanity; Love, INC; School Break-  
fast Programs; Lee Shore Center for Battered  
Women; Community Care Center for At Risk  
Children; Peninsula Food Bank, Public Library,  
Kenai and Nikiski Senior Centers and more.



## General Conferences

1972 Atlanta, Georgia  
1976 Portland, Oregon  
1980 Indianapolis, Indiana  
1984 Baltimore, Maryland  
1988 St. Louis, Missouri  
1992 Louisville, Kentucky  
1996 Denver, Colorado

2000 Cleveland, Ohio  
2004 Portland, Oregon  
2008 Fort Worth, Texas  
2012 Tampa, Florida  
2016 Portland, Oregon  
2019 St. Louis Specially Called  
2020/2021 Minneapolis, Minnesota



# Ketchikan

## Pastors:

William G. Trudeau, 1985, 1986

Robert D. Bowers, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992

Daniel Tucker, 1993, 1994

Edmund Stanton, interim, 1995

Max Cramer, interim, 1996

Sandra Wise and J. Quinton Kimbrow, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999

Susan Knight, 1999, 2000, 2001

Jerry (Jeri) Lee Bishop, 2002, 2003

Anthony Ashworth, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007

Evelyn and Terrence Erbele, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017

Janice Carlton, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

## Newsletter names:

Erbele Etchings

Clipboard

FUMC Quarterly Mission Newsletter

Main Street News

1981

Methodist Men's Basketball Team

Families in Action Group

Prison Seminars by Chaplain

Fast-A-Thon for 30 hours

Coast Guard Officers Wife's Club

Consideration was underway to expand the church building with a wing over the parking lot, which started in 1983

1982

Clown Ministries with Sam the Clown

1983

Job Jar

Book Nook

Fellowship of Andrew

1985

Evelyn Valentine collected historical stuff for record book

Monday Night Church League Volleyball  
Sent \$11,182.58 to Luena Medical Depot in  
India

John's Island Workcamp  
Morning Circle  
Workcamp to Costa Rica  
Church League Basketball

1986

New Directory  
Roof replaced  
Marilyn Akin won the design for the Centennial  
of Methodism in Alaska and it was on the cover  
of the 1986 Journal  
Hosted Head Start, Parks & Rec, and La Leche  
meetings  
Established the Fellowship of Saint Andrew

1987

On December 27<sup>th</sup> the piano was dedicated in  
memory of Jean Meader

1988

Held a Mission Auction  
Spiritual Fitness Discovery Group  
The Mayday Heyday Church Chummage Sale  
The First Alaskan Walk to Emmaus  
Participated in an ecumenical vacation church  
school  
Financial Planning Seminar  
Cursillo Weekend sponsored by Spirit-of-the-  
Sea Cursillo  
Hosted the Chattanooga Boys Choir Concert  
Boy Scout Troop #1  
Girl Scouts  
Annual Church Picnic at Ward Cove  
Ethel Lange Craft Group  
Covenant Players  
Concert with David Marks and the Barefoot in-  
strumental group

1989

Stephan Ministry  
Japan Night  
W.I.S.H. – Women in Safe Homes  
B.A.S.H. – Best Advent Season Happening

1990

“One in the Spirit” Christian Singles Fellowship  
Church's 90<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary – locations had

been at Mountain Point, West End, Clover  
Pass and 400 Main Street  
Banners were created  
October 7<sup>th</sup> witnessed the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
tea reception  
Cooking Circle, Quilting Circle, Study/  
Mission Circle, Hiking Circle, Craft Circle,  
Gardening Circle  
Adventures in Healing and Wholeness Work-  
shop  
January was the month the Ketchikan UMC  
was to provide worship services to the  
Ketchikan Pioneer Home  
Seaman Center Support

1992

Ice Cream Socials  
Homecoming Sunday  
Participated in the Ketchikan/Kanayama  
Exchange Program  
Family of the Month recognition  
South Coast Inc. paved the parking lot

1993

Miracle of the Eggs Youth Play  
Altar Guild to deal with altar cloths, pulpit  
and lectern hangings

1996

Over 60's Group organized by the Cramers  
Installed a pitched roof on the church  
Modified a “steeple” on the bell

1999

Became a United Methodist Historic Site  
(Number 368) in August, recognizing its 100  
years of ministry thus being the oldest con-  
gregational Methodist ministry in the state of  
Alaska

The window wall had to be replaced and peo-  
ple were offered the chance to buy a window.  
There were 32 large and 16 small windows  
for a cost of \$40,000 to replace.

Decision was made to replace the parsonage  
and buy a new house on Summit Terrace  
Road

Casserole Crusade

2000

Provided Hospital Gift Shop Volunteers  
Celebrated the KUMC church centennial  
September 22-27, 2000  
Totem pole

Evelyn Valentine wrote "The Evolution of a Church – A Brief History of Ketchikan's First United Methodist Church, 1900-1996

New directory published

Commemorative plates and mugs were available for purchase; as was a package of 5 notes cards (which is in the history folder).  
Parsonage refurbished  
Bishop's Banquet and Pageant held September 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Dedication of 100 Year Marker  
September 24<sup>th</sup> Window Wall Memorial Consecration Dedication  
Newsletter was named "Main Street News"  
Alanon  
AA  
NA  
Over 60s Club  
Scout Spaghetti Dinner  
The Alaska Legislature honored the First United Methodist Church of Ketchikan for 100 years of service, dated April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2000 and signed by Prime Sponsor Robin Taylor

2001

Sweet Adelines used the building  
N.O.W. – Nurture Outreach Witness  
S.P.I.C.E. – Special Practice Invigorating Christian Experiences  
Directory and Phone Tree Updated  
Published an updated history: "The First Methodist Church Begins Its Second 50 Years of Service 1951 – 2001"

2002

Family Camp held at Settlers Cove  
P.A.T.H. – Park Avenue Temporary Housing

2003

Soup Kitchen  
Snowbird Monthly Scrapbook workshops to update photo albums

Sept. 24 saw the dedication of the Window Wall  
Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>—100<sup>th</sup> anniversary service and dedication of historical marker  
In November joined a group VIM team to Tonga to remodel the Methodist Tupou High School

2006

Love Inc  
Recycled ink jet cartridges  
Souper Bowl of Caring  
Parents Night Out  
Coffee Fellowship  
Christmas stockings to PATH (Park Avenue Temporary Housing)  
Blueberry Craft Circle  
Over 60s Lunch Group  
Food Pantry  
Chummage Sale  
VBS  
Ye Olde Blueberry Seet Shoppe and Bazaar  
Family Camp  
Gateway Center for Human Services Christmas Tree

2007

Donations to Life Alaska Donor Services  
Provide Ministry in the village of Kasaan  
Sept. 23 African Children's Choir concert  
October 24 Jim and Jean Strathdee concert

2008

First city homeless services started  
Harbor Inc. organized for homeless needs  
Talent Show

2009

Coached outdoor and indoor soccer for the Borough  
B.A.S.H. as an annual event  
Casserole Crusade  
Dream Work Group  
Christmas Party for clients of Gateway Center for Human Services  
The city's largest event is the annual Blueberry Festival which is held on the church parking lot and in the building, therefore sometimes known in the community as the "Blueberry Church"

Bell choir  
 Involved with the Ketchikan Ministerial Association  
 Supports "The Grind" – a community talent event  
 Hosts the food cupboard for Love, INC  
 Co-hosted events with the Lutherans, Presbyterians, and Episcopal leaders  
 Pigs on a Mission was used to help One Great Hour of Sharing  
 Pigs on a Mission total distribution to 5 programs was \$2,372.65  
 A&P receipts accrued \$591.97 in credit at A&P

2010

Fair Trade Project  
 Pigs on a Mission for Lithuania, Haiti, Guatemala, Bolivia  
 Pigs on a Mission collected \$374 to purchase school supplies for the Red Bird Mission School  
 Day Shelter opened  
 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (September 27, 1900) had 3 different church structures on one location; two additional outreach church locations incorporated back into one.  
 Scouts  
 Ice Cream Social  
 Window Wall Dedication  
 Had centennial plates and mugs; there was also a 50-year plate.  
 Managed a hostel  
 Traded in \$4,265 worth of A&P turkey cards for 7 turkeys

2011

Haircuts at Project Homeless Connect  
 Worked with Sister City Kaniyama Japan with student and teacher exchanges

2012

Annual Conference was done over Skype

2016

The UMC in Olivet, South Dakota sent two cases of new socks for the Ketchikan Day Shelter patrons

2019

Hostel is on the second floor  
 First City Homeless Shelter and Ketchikan



Warming Center located in basement  
 Sunrise Service  
 Blessing of the Fleet  
 Soup Kitchen  
 Sold blueberry pies at Blueberry Festival

2020

Pigs on a Mission fundraising  
 First City Homeless Shelter  
 Soup Kitchen  
 The Lord's Table on 5th Sunday  
 Love INC  
 UMCOR  
 Alaska Children's Service  
 Communications via FaceBook  
 Held a joint VBS  
 Worked with the Presbyterian churches in Ketchikan and Metlakatla

John J. Shaffer quoted: "In many ways, the Past is Prologue. It prepares us for today. We need not worship the past – we build on it. Don't condemn the present – live in it. Don't fear the future – believe in it."



#### Pastors:

James Stigall, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991

Duane Chase, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002

Vicki Horn, 2003, 2004, 2005

Peter Perry, 2007, 2008, 2009

Paul Caseman, 2010, 2011

James and Kay Shock, 2012

James Doepken, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

2005

Bought a United Methodist sign to put on bell tower after the tree was removed

2008

Put up a fence to try to solve property boundary dispute with a neighbor

Thursday nights were devoted to church life, with youth ministries and family-centered movie night and discuss theological values found in the movie

Piano lessons were given to community people  
An improved septic system was focus of fund-raising efforts

Celebrated the filling up of the guestbook started in 1969

UMW

2009

GBGM deeded the land and building to the congregation

Hosted a VBS team from Idabel, Oklahoma

2010

Significant repairs were done to the chapel





## Inside the Moose Pass United Methodist Church

Emma Merritt wrote to Bea in 1994 that she and Irene Lindquist made the two stained glass windows.



# Native Ministries (United Methodist Ministry for Native Americans and Alaska Native Ecumenical Center)

Walter Moffett, 1985, 1986, 1987  
Unassigned in 1988



## New Day Alaska

New Day Alaska, a Christian ecumenical mission begun in 2012, ended after three years of organization and ministerial work in Mountain View and Airport Heights. This small group reached out to people who might not be comfortable approaching churches due to poverty, language, or ethnicity.

The goal was to attract people to homes and community meeting places, to share cultural meals and music, Bible study, prayer and fellowship.

First Anchorage and Anchor Park UMCs provided administrative support to Kenyan Methodist pastor, Kirimi Ikiugu. He also volunteered at the Mountain View Boys and Girls Club and became Chaplain at APU. Meetings were publicized through flyers, posters, door-to-door calling, and information to community organizations.

New Day Alaska had a popular children's activity booth at the Mountain View Street Fair, and held a neighborhood barbeque and later a winter coat distribution at Anchor Park UMC.

Pastor Kirimi went home to Africa in June 2014 and the remaining committee members moved on to other priorities.





# New Hope Methodist Presbyterian Church

## North Pole

Received charter on May 7, 1978

Newsletter was called New Hope News

Pastors:

Keith B. Wise, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989,  
1990, 1991

Jack Russell, interim, 1992

Curtis Karns, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997,  
1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004,  
2005, 2006

Lois Hildenbrand, interim 2007

Karen Martin Tichenor, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011

Jim Christensen, 2012

Trent and Linda Baggett, 2013

Unassigned, 2014

Curtis Matz, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018,  
2019, 2020, 2021

1980

The first building consisted of two Atco  
trailers purchased from Alyeska Pipeline.  
The Service of Consecration was on April  
13, 1980

Nickname = New Hopians

1987

Finished the Adopt-A-Room Project which  
was installing new lighting, closet doors,  
windows, carpet, and painting the walls at  
Hospitality House, a facility for troubled  
teens.

1989

Bear Sunday  
New Hope T-shirt Day  
Progressive Dinner  
Spring Fling  
Family Canoe Outing  
Aluminum can drive  
Hot Dog Roast and Ice  
Cream Social



Fence – An Eagle Scout Project for Matthew Barchie; designed and built a fence in front of church property

Site preparation for a church building was started and on July 16, 1989 the documents from Jantz and Associates, contractor, was approved. Fundraising was initiated.

Annual Pie Auction

New Hope church mug sold for \$5 for building fund.

Prison Ministries

1990

Created “Faith Communities Against Domestic Violence”

1991

Walk to Emmaus

Tape Ministry mailed to rural/remote sites

Sonshine Aerobics class

Sunday Service at Denali Center Care Facility

Parents Time Out – child care cooperative

1992

Opening of new sanctuary February 28<sup>th</sup>

North Pole Winter Carnival food booth

Garage Sales

Tupperware Fundraiser

Church League Softball

Michael Peterson Youth Rally at Herring

Auditorium

VBS

Voted for preference about 3 kinds of chairs to purchase for sanctuary

Cans Film Festival at Goldstream Theater

1993

David Dobler was a candidate for moderator  
Alter table constructed by Darrell and Kathy

Behrendt

Alter cross made by Rev. Claude Klaver in memory of Joan Klaver

Alter cloth made by Pat Thurman

Endorsed the Alverna Covenant on the environment

Sound System installed – speakers, amplifier, microphones

Had work teams from Oklahoma, Ohio, New Jersey, Mississippi

Bell choir

Dinner for 8 Group

Christian Flag was purchased by Elizabeth SHEMELEY in memory of Norman SHEMELEY; an American flag was also purchased

Sent 2 boxes of extra copies of Sunday

School curriculum material and songbooks and craft supplies to Trapper Creek Fellowship.

1994

New Hope Heart Tree for Hospitality House  
Couples Retreat

Bylaws were changed to increase the number of trustees to 5 and the number of council members to 13

Wedding policy approved and brochures developed

Bell Choir

Chew and Chat as a relationship builder

3 people flew to Anaktuvik Pass to restore the Presbyterian Church with a new floor, a room to become a restroom, and a wall insulated.

New Hope building was dedicated October 2, 1994

New Hope Ringers and Kitchen Crew Band performed in the North Pole Parade

New church directory

PROMISE – an 18 member folk music and puppet play group from Ohio performed at the church

Christian Friendship Ministry

Heart Throb Alert – CPR training

Nursery remodel

1995

Hosted Spring Presbytery Meeting

Caring Visitation Ministry

Chili and Cornbread Challenge and Auction

Bail the pastor out of Santa's Clearing  
House for MDA



Love Inc.  
Sanctuary was completed

1996

New directory out  
Samaritan House Counseling Service  
Vacation Bible Ship  
Community  
Strawberry Festival  
Sunday School sent \$369.06 to Nome UMC  
New Hope Country Auction  
Dinner for Eight – a fellowship group  
Ongoing youth activities included 4H, Boy  
Scouts, Girl Scouts  
Souper Bowl Sunday for North Pole Joint  
Ministries  
Hosted Snow Camp  
Held a CPR class  
Offered a babysitting class  
Held a seminar – “The 7 Secrets of Effective  
Fathers” connected with the National Center  
for Fathering

1997

New Hope Ministry Fair  
Tanana Valley Conference Churches  
sponsored ecumenical Midwinter Christian  
Academy  
Christian 12-Step Group  
The Talking Place  
Part of North Pole Joint Ministries  
A Very Berry Festival

Van Moore Memorial Videomaking Contest  
1998

Star Sunday

20<sup>th</sup> anniversary held on May 3<sup>rd</sup>

Co-Ed Christian Softball team

All Presbyterian Picnic at Chena Lakes

(Korean, University Community, New Hope,  
and First Presbyterian Fairbanks)

“Morning Son-shine” was a 90-second devo-  
tional message radio broadcast at 6:55 a.m.  
each workday morning on KFAR with alter-  
nating times between New Hope pastor and  
St. Paul UMC pastor

Military chaplains served to fill vacant pul-  
pits and travel to Anaktuvik Pass and Delta  
Junction

Church Library organized

Rev. Mable Rasmussen received the National  
Presbyterian Restorative Justice Award

Disciple Program

Visiting Ministry

Gave candles to those who move away

4<sup>th</sup> annual Around the World potluck auction

Lay Speakers Training Course

Gave scholarships

Newcomers Lunch

1999

Dunamis Leadership Retreat

Centennial of the Presbytery of the Yukon in  
Barrow; formalized in Eagle on July 26, 1889  
Celebration was at the Alaskaland Civic  
Pavilion with special guest speaker Rev. Vic  
Alfsen who had served in Palmer and Fair-  
banks 1943-1958

Priorities were dealing with substance  
abuse, domestic violence, and appropriate  
use of firearms

June 5<sup>th</sup> performance at UAF of the Cathe-  
dral Quartet of the Cathedral of St. Nicholas,  
Murmansk, Russia

Supported the 3-month ministry of  
“Retrouvaille” designed to provide help and  
support to married couples, or separated or  
divorced people; sponsored by the Catholic  
Church

New Hope quilters assembled a queen size  
quilt for the Kiwanis Club auction and got  
\$350 for Habitat for Humanity project

New Hope Brass Choir formed  
 SERRV  
 Volleyball net and basketball hoop set up in church yard  
 A Harvest Gathering  
 Soda/juice machine was placed in Fellowship Kitchen to benefit youth mission projects  
 The Angel Tree is a Prison Ministry Project  
 LOGOS – a Wednesday after school program

## 2000

October 20 Hosted workshop “Nurturing a Caring Faith Community and Planning a Coordinated Community Response”  
 Another directory published  
 Jubilee Food Pantry was at St. Jude’s Episcopal Church  
 The Breakfast Place was housed at Santa’s Senior Center  
 New Mary’s Kitchen was housed at St. Nicholas Catholic Church

## 2001

Visible Hope Campaign  
 New tradition of giving a loaf of bread to new members  
 Service of Wholeness  
 New Hope Christmas Tree ornament available in blue mist and dark red

Rev, Soon Shin Choi from Seoul came to New Hope to learn English, learn about the United States Presbyterian church system, and reside in America long to move up the waiting list for Korean students so he can get a Doctor of Divinity degree at Fuller Theological Seminary. Years later he came back to Fairbanks and started his own church.

## 2002

New Hope VIM Team planned a trip to Anadyr, Chukotka in July for 10 days visiting hospitals, orphanages and the elderly; at the request of Rev. Jim Campbell the destination became Provideniya with Della Waghiyi.

Cottage Meetings were held in homes recalling the history of New Hope and recognizing God working through New Hope up to the present time.

## Vision Statement:

Tending the Garden to Share Spiritual Fruit with the World

The North Pole Joint Ministries consisted of 6 churches:

Freedom in Christ Church  
 Lord of Life Lutheran Church  
 New Hope Methodist Presbyterian Church  
 North Pole Christian Center  
 St. Jude’s Episcopal Church  
 St. Nick’s Catholic Church  
 One of their goals was to further Christian unity

## 2003

Provided sweat suits for rape victims for when they leave the exam room  
 Missionary Mary Catherine Kelly spoke of her experiences in China and Tonga and the work of the GBGM  
 Contemporary Worship Music Group  
 New Hope VIM team went to Kaktovik June 2-29  
 World Café’ debuted  
 A community forum was held May 17 on issues affecting Palestinian Christians by Rev. Dr. Fahed Abu-Akel, THE Moderator of the Presbytery (USA)  
 First annual Harvest Moose Festival – a benefit for New Hope Women’s “adopt-a-room” project with the Center for Non-violent Living

## 2004

Held first-ever Interior Walk to Emmaus, held at Bingle Camp  
 Yearly VBS  
 Part of the Tanana Valley Conference of Churches  
 Part of Presbyterian Hospitality House for foster care and homelessness  
 Had players on the North Pole Christian Softball League  
 Helped Fairbanks First Presbyterian celebrate 100 years of ministry  
 Brings awareness of the church through North Pole Summer Fest, Golden Days Festival, and Harvest Festival

Helps the Food Bank  
 Women went on a Denali Highway Adventure  
 Held semi-annual garage sales  
 Extra Effort Pledge, Loose Offerings  
 Helped Stone Soup Community Center

2005

Café Conversations as a relationship builder  
 Sold the organ and van  
 Thanksgiving Dinner and Auction  
 Produced "New Hope for Hungary Souls" cook-book  
 Asked for cell phone donations to recycle as fundraiser  
 Annual Thanksgiving Dinner and Auction  
 Curt Karns started work on Doctor of Ministry thesis  
 Offered Sunshine Aerobics and Quilting (called Sewers of New Hope)  
 Had a bell ministry  
 Raised funds for Peace with Justice  
 Helped with Habitat for Humanity  
 Had a Mission Outreach to a Russian Family in (Chukotka)  
 Participated in the annual Samaritan Counseling Charity Golf Scramble  
 Extra-Effort for Mission Campaign  
 Tradition of "Star Sunday" each January

2008

LOGOS mid-week youth program  
 Jubilee Center  
 School supplies to three elementary schools  
 Food Pantry

2017

Preschool program  
 Choir cantata at Pioneer Home

2019

Preschool  
 Quilters  
 Food Shelf  
 Church Garden Plot  
 Love Inc  
 Al-Anon  
 Scouts  
 School supplies  
 Holiday baskets  
 Partnership with Kaktovik Presbyterian Church

2020

AA

Al-Anon

North Pole Food Pantry

Fairbanks Food Bank

Adopt A School Program

School Supplies Program

Sack Lunch Program at North Pole High School

Love INC

Disaster Relief Efforts

Volunteers in Mission Teams

Quilts to Hospice Fairbanks

Our church offers a variety of ministries to which you are invited:

- Christian Education for all ages
- Worship Planning
- Service Outreach
- Community Peace and Justice
- Disaster Training and Assistance
- Congregational Care
- Witness Ministry





# Nome Community

## Pastors:

Nome (also Aywaan Bering Sea Larger Parish/  
Wales)

Deborah and John Pitney, 1985

William Brooks, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989

Unassigned, 1990

Maggie Martin McCarey-Laird, 1991, 1992

Robert D. Bowers, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996,  
1997, 1998

Lucile Barton, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003,  
2004, 2005

Susan Knight, 2006

Twelve months of 12 Interim Pastors, 2007

Julie Yoder and David Elmore, 2008, 2009,  
2010

Julie Yoder Elmore, 2011, 2012

Charles Asiagnataq deWitt Brower, 2013, 2014,  
2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020

Bertha Koweluk, 2020, 2021

The Nome Community Center, Inc. is a separate auxiliary of the Nome Community UMC. It was founded in 1910 as the Levinia Wallace Young Eskimo Mission of the Methodist Church. It works cooperatively with others in addressing local problems. It services people in the 44,000 square mile region of Norton Sound. Its current programs, services, and projects include: XYZ Senior Center; Young Teen Center; Native Youth Entrepreneurial Project The Salmon Berry Shop; Choice to be Drug Free Action Project; Nome Food Bank; Munaqsri Place, Java Hut, and the Interagency Child Advocates for Norton Sound.

Nome UMC is the Furthest Northwest United Methodist Church in America being only 135 miles east of the International Date Line and 140 miles south of the Arctic Circle. It is also the oldest Protestant church in Nome.

## Newsletter Names:

Flight Log  
Drumbeats  
Centerlines  
Tumiksraq

1986

February - John Pitney presented "A Proposal for Parish Team Concept" the team being Nome and Wales

1989

VIMs over all years did a tremendous amount of work on property and programs  
Governor Steve Cowper sought federal approval to allow travel between Alaska and Siberia  
Tuxedo Tim, a green frog-like creature, joined the Children's Choir  
Supported Linda Jane Layfield for her missionary work in Pakistan  
Joan Wilkins from Sequim, Washington arrived as first Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry  
Confirmation Retreat was held at Camp Dexter  
A "dial-a-story" telephone ministry was begun (443-2987 Because You're Very Special BYVS = 2987)  
16 stained glass windows were made by Bob and Carol Thompson of Illinois  
Communion Table was made by Lee R. McCutchen of New Orleans in memory of Helen S. Fagerstrom

1994

Part of Nome Ministerial Association  
New membership directory published  
Six churches were in a covenant relationship with CUMC (4 in Wisconsin, 1 Minnesota and 1 Indiana) which was an agreement to pay \$3 per member or \$1,000 annually toward the ministry of Rev. Bowers.

1995

Mulligan Stew Dinner  
Celebrated Eskimo Heritage Sunday  
Became an Inquiring Congregation of the Spiritual Discernment Network  
Big year for VIM work  
Hosted 20 members of the Eskimo Dancers from Barrow during the Inuit Circumpolar Conference

1996

Global Kid's Club on Wednesday afternoons  
The name of the Nome Community Center was Drumbeats  
February – The Nome Adult Day Center was operating as XYZ Senior Center since 1993 was renamed Munaqsri Senior Services (in Inupiaq means caring)

1997

New edition of the Wales Inipiaq Hymnbook released  
April 20<sup>th</sup> saw the fourth annual Eskimo Heritage and Awareness Sunday in church  
The church has a cabin 9 miles out of town (maybe west?)

1998

September 25-27<sup>th</sup> - Centennial Conference (1890 was the date of the chartering of the Pilgrim Congregational Church, but it started meeting in 1898 on the beach sand spit)  
Playground dedicated to the memory of Sam Kakik  
Community UMC and its Community Center were the Missional Priority for the AUMC

1999

The Church's Mulligan Stew is an Iditarod tradition



**An Iditarod team leaves Anchorage on their 1,049 mile adventure/race to Nome**

VBS is a blessing to the community's children and our Christian mission  
 Wisconsin VIM Team renovated the parsonage  
 March – The Java Hut was given a statewide “Spirit of Youth” Entrepreneurial Award by the Spirit of Youth Teen Advisory Council for making positive contributions to the community  
 Celebrated its centennial

2000

“Tumiksraq” was the new newsletter name suggested by Josie Bourdon and means “the path”  
 Made gifts of crosses made from beach glass, most sent to covenant churches and individuals who have an ongoing commitment to the Nome church  
 Nome was featured in an Advance Special video shown at General Conference  
 Layette Ministry – given to every baby born at Norton Sound Medical Center



2001

Honored elders with a dinner and sharing stories and experiences of the past; money from the Native American Comprehensive Plan grant was used to buy the turkeys  
 Thrift Shop Ministry was thriving  
 Welcomed a US-2 Young Adult Missionary (Julie Yoder)  
 Did Community Christmas Caroling at Quyanna Care, Mina Bachelder's house and went on

Nome Television's program “Hello Central.” Scholarship was given to high school student to pursue medical training  
 The Inupiaq Choir continues to sing in church, community functions, and funerals  
 The Friends of Chucotka coordinated by Nancy Mendenhall continues to send clothing, nets and craft items to the Russian Far East

2002

The parsonage is at 501 West Third Street  
 Church is located at 502 West Second Avenue at Avenue C

2003

Annual Honoring Elders Day. Guest speaker Ray Buckley

2004

Annual Helen Fagerstrom Bazaar  
 Continues to have some involvement in the Iditarod dog sled race by housing volunteers

2005

Nome congregation kept native language ministry alive  
 UMTV did a story about the choir and the Thrift Shop

2006

The Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries approved money to purchase a van, mostly for use in picking up Elders and for the pastor; it was to arrive by barge.

2008

Response Magazine did an April story on Nome and again November 2012

2009

Hosted VIM teams  
 Instituted Tuesday School  
 Opened a time capsule which had many items including a 1960 Book of Discipline

2014

Nome City Council opts against levying sales tax on churches, non-profits

UMCommunications produced a video about Pastor Charles Brower

2016

A fundraiser was held – A 1,049 minute walking event – Idita-Walk – to benefit the Community Center programs

2018

New World Outlook ran a story on the Nome community garden

2019

December 2 – officially changed name to Nome Community United Methodist Church



John Waghiyi ordination with Rev. Billy Still and Rev. Carol Seckel among others

## Wales/Nome

Pastor:

John Waghiyi (part-time local pastor)  
1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1992

The church at Wales has a history that goes back to at least 1893. It was a congregational church then but now is a Lutheran church. An early pastor was killed there and the village dedicated the church in his name, Thornton Memorial Church. Many of the Nome Methodist members had roots in Wales. Some of this history was written in the book "Have Gospel Tent, Will Travel."



John and Della Waghiyi;



Bethel Moravian Church



# North Star

## Nikiski—North Kenai

### Pastors:

William S. Still III, 1985

Carl Landerholm, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991

Scott Lewis-Moss, 1992

Thomas (Ted) E. Myers, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997

John R. Henry, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003

Laura Skiba, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

Stephen Eldred, 2011, 2012

Janice Carlton, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018

Bailey Brawner, 2019

April Hall, 2019, 2020, 2021

Name of Newsletter: North Star News

Our Mission is to be a caring church community focused on the Word.

Met in a trailer at the beginning

The Mission of North Star UMC is that together with our pastor, covenant to build and preserve the kind of community wherein we maintain responsibility for ourselves and each other, in Christ, to continue the growth of our faith and our commitments.

1985

The VIM team from Camas, Washington conducted the vacation church school Many in the parish suffered from the Swanson Fire

1989

Well of the Good Samaritan

The Care and Maintenance of a Good Marriage

Opportunity to attend the John Wesley

White Crusade  
Annual Father's Day Picnic and Softball Game

1996

Bell Tower was built in honor of Bill Brower

2005

Along with the Soldotna UMC offered a Disciple I class at Building 10 of the Wildwood Prison to 12 inmates

2006

People were invited to enjoy dinner at Charlotte's Restaurant in the Merit Inn each first Friday.

Youth Group fundraising in order to travel to New Orleans as a VIM team to clean up after Hurricane Katrina.

Easter Baskets were filled with goodies and taken to LeeShore kids.

The Men's Group prepare the Easter Breakfast each year

2007

More hymnals were needing to be purchased to accommodate all the new people

Plans were made to host a Winter Carnival  
Puppet Ministry and Handbell Choir were added to the services

HOGS = House of God Singers

Kairos Prison Ministry

The VIM Team from Brookville Evangelical UMC in Pennsylvania came to attach a new standing-seam metal roof on the church.

2008

Disciple 1, 2, and 3 offered

Youth praise band

The Amazing Bible Race

Participated in the last Breakfast Program at Nikiski North Star Elementary School after doing it 9 years and now taken over by the school district

Food Pantry on Thursdays

Noel Tree

Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes

Soup Kitchen Outreach

Parcel Post Party held in the Fall as a fundraiser for the 2009 Mexican Mission Trip

The Sunday School people went to see the mov-

ie "*The Chronicles of Narnia*" and spent the month then learning the spiritual truths contained in it and the study of *Prince Caspian*

Participated in National Scrapbooking Day in May

VIM teams came to clear some land, cut down some trees, build a playground, basketball court, and sand volleyball court and building a shed to store equipment.

2009

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on May 30

Youth Praise Band

2019

September 8<sup>th</sup> was the recognition of 50 years of ministry

2020

Managed a Food Pantry

Men's Breakfast at Carla's Café

Joined worship with Kenai UMC June 21st on YouTube

Communications done via Facebook

Began expanding for a Soup Kitchen





# Northern Light United Church

## Juneau

### Pastors:

R. Nelson Buswell, interim 1985

Lew Rooker, 1985 (Presbyterian), 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991

Steve Lambert, (associate) 1988, 1989

James Airey, 1992

Greg Lindsay, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002

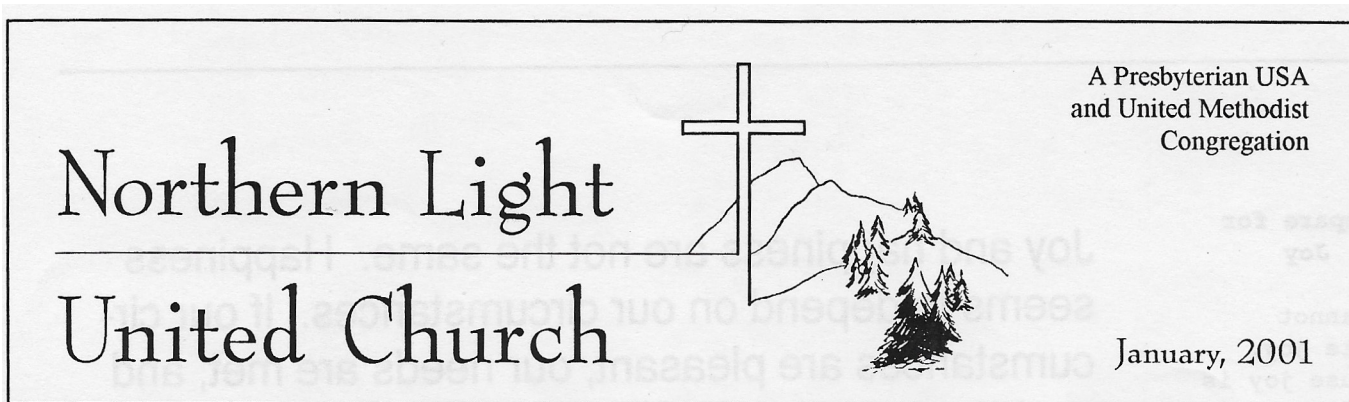
Donna Alora (Interim) 2003, 2004

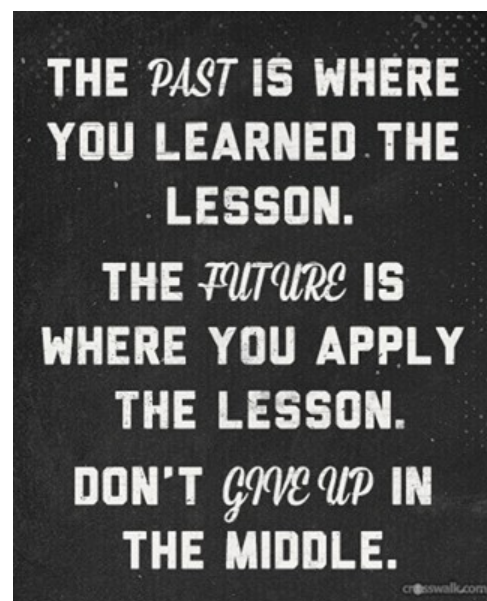
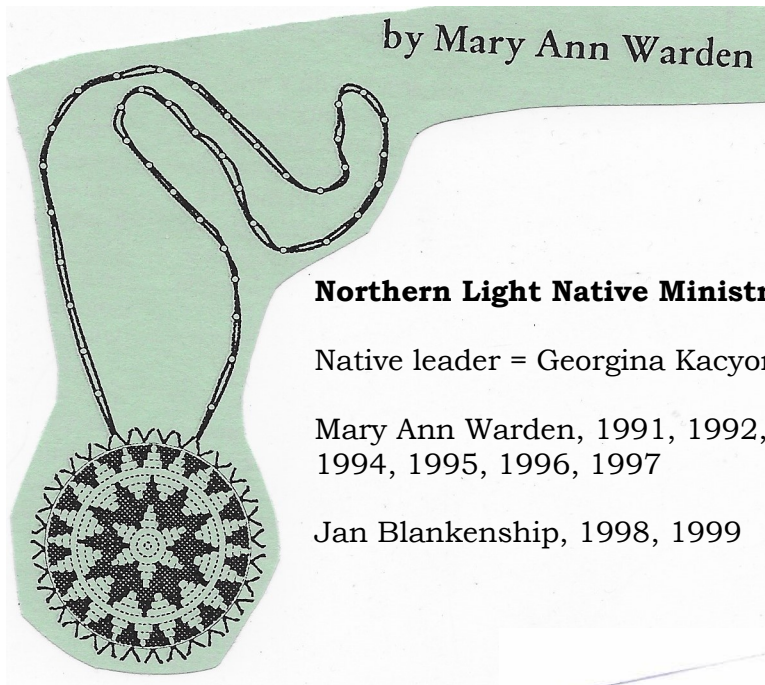
Jesse Perry, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008

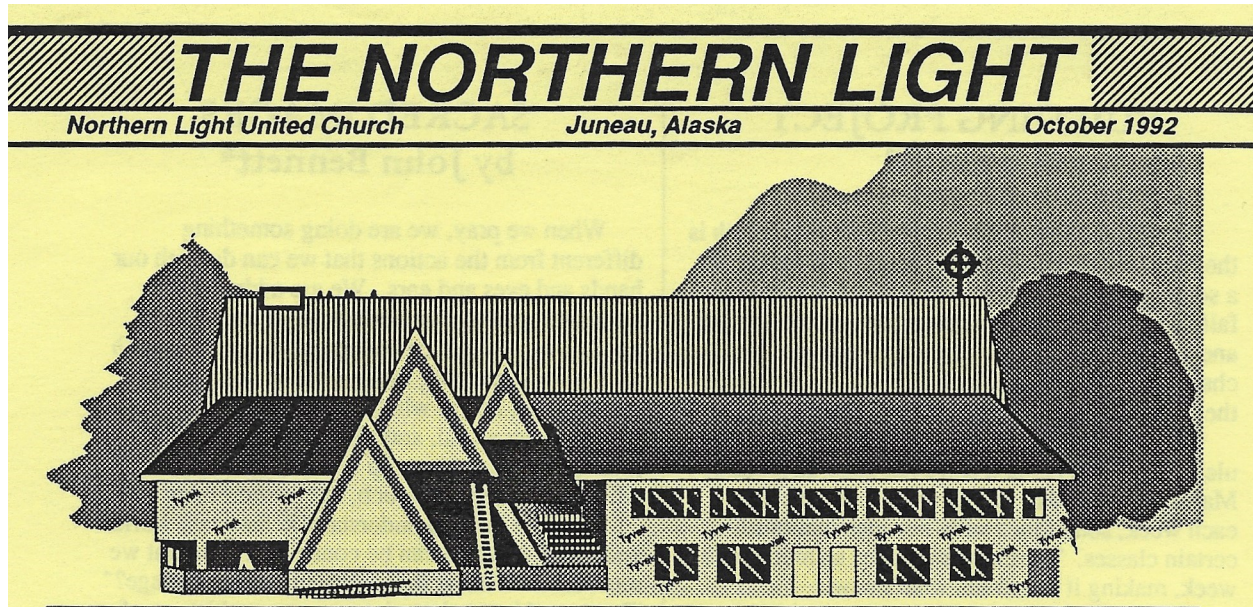
Kim Poole, interim 2009

Philip E. Campbell, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018

Faith McClennan, 2019, 2020, 2021







Original building was constructed in 1962 and significantly expanded around 1990. Continuous remodeling over the years.

1974

September 15, 1974 the two churches (Northern Light Presbyterian and United Methodist) voted to officially merge

The Mission of Northern Light United Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ, through God-centered worship and people-centered ministry.

1979

Bell Tower erected at entrance  
Old Methodist bell also put in place

1983

A reception and Premiere showing of the Kootznoowoo Heritage Foundation's half-hour documentary program on the bombardment of Angoon and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary Commemoration of that event October 1982 was held at Sealaska Plaza. Title of the film: Angoon, One Hundred Years Later.

New pew Bibles (NIV) were purchased  
As a result of a survey concerning the use of the American and Christian flags in the church sanctuary, the Church Council voted to regu-

larly display both flags in the church on each side of the worship area.  
The church was paying KINY radio to broadcast the message each Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.

In July a Planning Study report was done by Ackley Jensen Architects Inc.

1986

Marriage Enrichment Seminar

Joyful Noise Bell Ringers

New carpet laid

Bylaws revised

Loaf of bread given to first time visitors

ICYE International Christian Youth Exchange

The School of Religion was sponsored by the Cooperative Church Council

Housing was needed for the Rural Student Vocational Program for youth from outlying regions who come to Juneau for 2-week work periods

The OARS organization of Juneau (The Organization to Assist Refugees) committed to assist 12 persons in the community who had recently come to America from Southeast Asia

March – held an African potluck fundraiser for the Silungai, Kenya church

1987

Rev. Alice McDonald, a missionary to Japan, spoke

Annual Mission Bazaar  
 Communicating Couples Group  
 Yeshue 10-part film series  
 Developed yearbook  
 Camai Ringers  
 Process started to get handicap access to building (elevator)  
 April – Jim Griffin was named Federal Employee of the Year for 23 years in education positions with the Bureau of Indian Affairs  
 Dove Kull received and honorary Doctorate of Humanities for her work in social services and as an advocate for women, children and minority groups and the aging

1988

New Wine Film series/discussion  
 4-H Toy Drive  
 Mission trip to Hoonah  
 Heifer International  
 Librarian helpers were sought to organize and maintain library

1989

Native Gathering in Skagway April 26/27  
 Builders Club projects  
 “Call Girls” to connect with the sick and elderly  
 Mother-Daughter Luncheon  
 Pies for Father’s Day  
 Covenant Discipleship Group  
 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary picture directory  
 William Sloan Coffin spoke from the pulpit Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Elevator dedicated November 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Walter A. Soboleff Sr. cited as Citizen of the Year by the Alaska Federation of Natives  
 Sermon tapes were available upon request  
 Promotion to send Bibles to the USSR

1990

Community of Christian Women  
 Choir Fest  
 Nepal in the Fall program  
 Became a benefactor of the Western Jurisdiction Urban Network for money for Native Ministry  
 Tote bags out of blue jeans  
 Dinner to Honor our Senior Citizens  
 Deacon’s Fund for ministries of compassion  
 All church pool party  
 Sweetheart Banquet  
 Reprint was made of the 1925 “Good Cooking” cookbook

1991

Rummage for Savoonga  
 Youth mission trip to Homer

1992

A.W.A.R.E. Ski-A-Thon fundraiser  
 25 oak chairs with blue upholstery were dedicated January 19<sup>th</sup> in memory of Jessie Hanlon Gray  
 Fellowship Hall photo board updated  
 Mariners Group formed and renamed Northern Lightship  
 SEAVIMs – Southeast Alaska Volunteers in Mission  
 Member of Cooperative Church Council  
 Building expansion was underway to add 4920 square feet



VBS with Chapel by the Lake  
 Juneau Ministerial Association  
 The 1992 Thursday Lenten Luncheon Series  
 Theme was: Gratitude

1993

Sewing Circle  
 Native Ministries Outreach Bazaar  
 Third Annual Choir Fest  
 Youth Convocation over Christmas Break  
 Prison Outreach Ministries Christmas Package Program  
 Logo contest to identify Presbytery of Alaska  
 Cliff Swap Memorial Fund established to provide furnishings for the music room and program

Northern Lightfooters Running Group  
 Paraments on the lectern and pulpit were made  
 by Mary Kurt-Mason  
 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary September 15  
 Juneau Singles Group Formed  
 Suggested recipes were offered for the Glory  
 Home Cookbook  
 The Ruth and Jack Popejoy Fund  
 The Ethel Montgomery Memorial Fund  
 Southeast Alaska Food Bank  
 Community Hymn Fest  
 Building was consecrated October 10  
 Crabfeed II  
 New keyboard purchased – Rodger C-100

1994

Education and office additions completed  
 Stephen Ministry  
 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary reflection  
 Mission trip to Mexico  
 Juneau Korean Church began meeting at NLUC  
 led by Pastor Ahn  
 New hymnals and keyboard were dedicated July  
 3, 1994  
 Bread for the World Gathering

1995

New directory out  
 Pelican mission trip  
 Prayer chain  
 New button blanket banners made at women's  
 retreat

1996

6-week seminar – Developing Peace Within the  
 Family  
 Foodland A & P rebates of 1% of receipt totals  
 Lay Academy  
 Northern Lights Café  
 Juice and soda machine was acquired from  
 Pepsi-Cola Co. with profits to benefit youth ac-  
 tivities and mission  
 KidREACH tutoring  
 The Knock-Abouts in concert  
 5-octave piano donated by Amy Lou Barney in  
 memory of Liz Warwick  
 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Glory Hall Fundraiser Cruise

1997

Trick or Treat for the Foodbank  
 Annual Thanksgiving meal at Eagle River Camp



Mission trip to Rio Grande Valley  
 One Great Hour of Sharing  
 Family canoe trip in Mitchell Bay  
 4 girls from 2 families were elected officers  
 of the International Order of the Rainbow for  
 Girls  
 River of Light Bluegrass Band  
 October 19<sup>th</sup> – celebrated Children's Sab-  
 bath with resources from The Children's  
 Defense Fund

1998

Second graders received Bibles  
 Northern Lightweights softball team  
 Participated in annual miles for meals 2  
 mile walk/5k run  
 ChoirFest '98  
 Books for Paraguay  
 Hosted Forum on Subsistence  
 Created a Mission Project Fund account  
 Member Elliott Lipson died in February and  
 a cabin he helped build at Rainbow Glacier  
 Camp was named for him.  
 The Tlingit Gospel Singers continued as a  
 ministry of the Native Ministries Program  
 along with the Native Ministries Consortium  
 Summer School

1999

Mom's Group  
 ChoirFest  
 Dances of Universal Peace  
 Senior High mission trip to Glide UMC in  
 San Francisco  
 Housing First  
 King Island Christmas performance  
 Alaska Christian Ministers Association  
 A spiral bound history book was assembled  
 for the 25<sup>th</sup> Silver Anniversary celebration.  
 No date. No page numbers. Includes remi-  
 niscences by many people and notes of NLUC  
 history from official documents 1974

A worship bulletin for the silver anniversary was used on Sunday September 26, 1999

2000

Harvest Fest  
Glory Hall  
Souper Bowl of Caring  
Yakima Indian Reservation Youth Mission Trip  
Caroling at St. Ann's nursing home  
Tlingit Gospel Singers reorganized  
Teen mentoring program  
Weigh Down workshop

2001

Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes  
ACOA  
The Zen of Fly-tying class  
Labyrinth retreat at Shrine of St. Therese  
Celebration Singers from Athens, Georgia performed around Juneau in June  
Northern Light Junior Theater started with J. Althea, Director  
Life Ring Circle of Women  
The Juneau Lyric Opera presented the Mid-summer Vocal Festival Concert with selections from Rachmaninoff Vespers and other works on August 13<sup>th</sup>. This was a concert in memory of those who died September 11, 2001 and for those who mourn.

2002

Softball  
People for Peace Walk in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade  
Annual Church picnic at Sandy Beach with food and games  
Bike Ministry  
Thin Within faith based weight loss program  
The Betty Green House across the street from the church was gifted to the church

2003

August 3 – 8<sup>th</sup> – Eleven youth joined with the YouthWorks organization for a Christian Work Camp in San Diego

2004

Mailboxes were assigned to committees in the Fellowship Hall  
Cans were recycled  
Fundraising for a new organ

Roof was cleaned of moss and sealants added

Kitchen was remodeled

Hosted the Yukon-Alaska Presbytery meeting committee

Celebration Sunday September 12, 2004 for 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of merger; Mike Miller wrote a short history for the event

Evening services featuring music of the Taize tradition were offered

A commissioned anthem by Allan Robert Petker was premiered during 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary "Light of Christ"

2005

Welcomed the Tlingit Gospel Singers as part of the weekly worship services

Produced a Christmas Pageant

Promoted Rainbow Glacier Camp, as well as ERSEUMCamp

Raised money for People for Peace and Justice

Men met over a breakfast each Friday

AMACHI was a Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Program that was supported

Prison Ministries at Lemon Creek Correctional Center

Held neighborhood meetings

Volunteered at the Glory Hall

Supported Meals on Wheels

Held annual mission bazaar each November

Purchased a Rodgers Trillium 967 organ for \$80,000.00

2006

FASD – Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Prison Ministry Recycling

Redesigning main stain glass

The Presbyterian Church (USA) has 3 organizations to help people: Disaster Assistance, Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People

20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of prayer chain at NLUC

Northern Light hosted the Rev. Paul

Ssemwanga from Uganda, Africa as part of the Presbyterian Peacemaker Program with an emphasis on AIDS/HIV awareness

2007

Painting was done inside the building

Prison Ministry volunteers assembled gift bags for inmates at Lemon Creek Correctional Center

*Death Musique: An Aesthetic Requiem*, written by Rory Stitt, performed at NLUC November 9<sup>th</sup>  
Promoted Nothing But Nets to fight malaria  
Urged Congressional Farm Bill reformation  
Held a Pentecost offering for Children at Risk, Youth & Young Adults

2008

Men In Christ Group formed  
Deacons Program of Neighbors Helping Neighbors with social visits, simple home repairs, take shopping, light cleaning, take/share a meal, and drive to appointments  
Help at Hoonah  
Photo directory produced  
Supported Letter Carriers Food Drive  
April 15<sup>th</sup> the General Moderator of the PC (USA) General Assembly, Rev. Joan Gray, spoke at Northern Lights  
The Tlingit Gospel Singers performed at Folk-Fest2008 on April 8<sup>th</sup>

2009

Hosted the Georgia Festival Chorus  
Ink Cartridge Recycling was started to benefit PET  
All Church Picnic  
October 24<sup>th</sup> performances at the Northern Light Music Festival featuring Susuki Strings, Alaska Youth Choir, Juneau Pride Chorus, Northern Light Junior Theater, Bryan Johnson & Sharon Hatch, Ursa Major Strings, John Schuman and Jacque Farnsworth, and Earth-en Vessel  
The Audio Loop System was installed  
Fireside Chats were offered by Pastor Kim Poole

2010

Mission Sierra Service Project  
The Satellite III Induction Loop Audio System was purchased  
Tanzanian Library  
Hosted Holy Trinity Episcopal Church for Wednesday night dinners until their church home was fully rebuilt  
Rented the manse  
VBS  
MITI – Moms in Touch International  
International Peacemaker George Abdalla was hosted September 24-29 and spoke about being a Palestinian Christian in Israel/Palestine

Stewardship Campaign was “Building on the Past, A Time for New Beginnings”  
Operation Christmas Child  
August 22<sup>nd</sup> a decision was made to sell three of the 12<sup>th</sup> Street houses and properties  
Supported the Amachi Mentoring Program  
Supported Meals on Wheels  
Advocated for Ratification of the NewSTART Treaty (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) after nuclear disarmament lobbyist David Culp spoke May 16<sup>th</sup> at UAS Egan Lecture Hall

Juneau Bach Society performed December 18/19<sup>th</sup>  
The Cultural Homestay International sought families to host high school exchange students  
The Clean and Green Team ministries put kits together and delivered to homes  
Funds were raised to help Haiti recover from the January 12th earthquake

2011

Card Ministry  
Brad Sherrill from Georgia performed  
PROPHETS based on the Old Testament  
Prophets  
Juneau People for Peace and Justice  
Guo Xia concert  
Haven House  
Little Daisies  
Song for the Journey  
Vets for Peace  
Glory Hall  
Sold the 411 Twelfth Street property  
Girl Scouts  
Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators  
Voices of Afghanistan  
Sewing Party to make tote bags out of blue jeans  
Shared space with Korean Worship  
Adult Children of Alcoholics  
Participated in Elizabeth Peratrovich Day events  
New sanctuary window installed summer of 2011, replaced with clear windows for the stained glass that was later turned into crosses and sold  
Fleece blankets made for Alaska Children’s Services  
Raised \$291.30 for playground in Haiti  
Mortgage was paid off

NLUC musicians played in the annual Folk Festival  
 YES = Youth Exchange and Study  
 Women's Life Ring Group  
 Love INC began a new ministry: Jobs for Life  
 Supported the Hospice and Home Care of Juneau raffle fundraiser  
 Mark Damish presented a concert of American Music  
 August 28<sup>th</sup> was the first the "Bring A Friend" Sunday series  
 Karen Lipson collected shoe boxes filled with school supplies, hygiene items, toys, candy, etc. for Operation Christmas Child  
 Mele Kalikimaka = Sigoowu Kiswas = Merry Christmas  
 The Christmas Eve offering went to the Presbyterian Christmas Joy Fund which supports racial and ethnic Presbyterian related schools and colleges as well as providing assistance for retired and active church workers, their spouses and families who have had a limited income while faithful serving the church.  
 Christmas bags were filled for the 225 residents of the Lemon Creek Correctional Center  
 The Juneau Lyric Opera presented the 9<sup>th</sup> Mid-Summer Vocal Festival performance featuring movements from Rachmaninoff's *All-Night Vigil*, Rutter's *Requiem* and other selections on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
 Live broadcasting of the Sunday service over the internet had been perfected over the past several months (from March).

[www.livestream.com/nlucchurchjuneau](http://www.livestream.com/nlucchurchjuneau)

## 2012

Supported the Northern Light Youth Shelter for Yakooosge Daakahidi High School students  
 Instituted Rideshare to get to the communities three UM churches who couldn't drive  
 International Peacemaker Program  
 Holiday Mission Bazaar  
 Recycling  
 Holiday Mission Bazaar  
 Operation Christmas Child  
 Restrooms were renovated  
 Library was renovated with over 1,000 catalogued books  
 Live Streaming of services began  
 Overeaters Anonymous  
 Baldwin upright piano was put out for sale  
 Brownie Troop  
 Alleluia Children's Choir

Mission trip to Hoonah to work at Senior Center  
 Opened a Youth Shelter in the Fellowship Hall  
 The Native Ministry Committee organized a Native Foods Dinner at Wild Flower Court  
 Held a "flats" Neighborhood Christmas Party  
 Tlingit Gospel Singers  
 Hosted the Community Night of Hope and Healing  
 Heifer International Living Gift Market  
 Community of Christian Women  
 Host families connected to Juneau People for Peace and Justice  
 Hosting of an exchange student  
 Native and Youth Ministries  
 Sold the upright Baldwin piano  
 Help with Project Homeless Connect  
 Seminarian Internship  
 End of Summer Cookout  
 Glory Hall  
 Youth Shelter  
 Bring a Friend Sunday  
 Has a history of commitment to hospitality and community service  
 Choirs includes: Chancel, Tlingit Gospel Singers, Song for the Journey, Alleluia  
 Neighborhood Cookout  
 Christmas Shoebox Ministry  
 Project Homeless Connect  
 Interfaith Brown Bag Lunch discussions  
 MOM's Group  
 PET Project support by recycling empty printer ink cartridges  
 A & P Groceries meant Alaskan and Proud, not Atlantic & Pacific like on the East Coast

## 2013

Allyn Steele became first intern for Youth Ministry at Northern Light, Aldersgate and Douglas  
 Native Foods Dinner provided at Wild Flowers Court  
 Young Adult Fellowship organized  
 Hosted International Peacemakers  
 Hosted Community Night of Hope and Healing  
 Services continued to be livestreamed on the web  
 Collected items for Project Homeless Connect at Centennial Hall  
 The DNA held a PET Rodeo January and raised \$700 to underwrite two pediatric

wheel chairs to be given to needy people in Guatemala

2014

Held a Mental Health First Aid Training Workshop October 25<sup>th</sup>  
WORD, a Christ centered retreat for men took place April 24-27<sup>th</sup>  
The executive presbyter of the newly created Northwest Coast Presbytery, Corey Schlosser Hall spoke July 11-13<sup>th</sup> and brought awareness to the Church Council on various topics  
The roof fund matching grant of \$25,000 was met

2015

Provided lunch for children at the Geneva Woods housing complex in Douglas since school is not in session July/August

2016

Family Promise  
Bread for the World anti-hunger advocacy  
Children's weekend food bags  
Housing First  
Forum led by Jason Welle, Community and Congregational Engagement Special with Church World Service  
Youth Group went on mission trip to Costa Rica

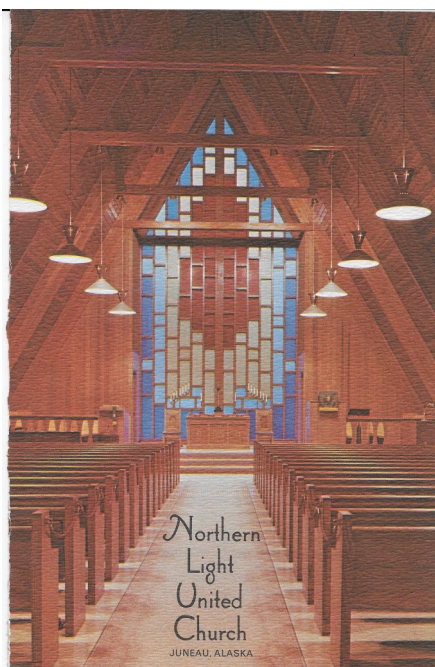
2020

Adopted the Northern Light United Church Permanent Endowment Program Charter which created two funds.

Located in downtown Juneau, the church serves as a community center and bustles with activity seven days a week. In addition to church activities, the building houses the Juneau Cooperative Preschool and the Juneau Cooperative Nursery. It is also the hosts for Juneau People for Peace and Justice, the Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp 70, girl scouts troops, a cub scout den, 12 step meetings and various other community group gatherings. Blessed with wonderful acoustics, the church sanctuary is also the venue for Mudrooms, and many community musical events.



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# PALMER

•United Methodist Church•

## **Palmer United Methodist Church/ Fellowship History (Originally known as the Palmer Campus of Christ First UMC)**

Pastors:

Linda Jean Myers, 1990

Les Ludlam (Local Pastor), 1990, 1991, 1992

Unassigned, 1993

Mark Conrad, sharing a circuit with Christ First Wasilla

Bruce Case, 2001

Karen Martin Tichenor, 2005, 2006, 2007

Tori and Robert Hicks, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

Erin Day, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020

Dan Wilcox, 2020, 2021

Shared a newsletter with the Christ First Wasilla church with the name “The Messenger”

Their purpose was to provide a United Methodist presence in the eastern end of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

### **1986**

Started meeting at Trinity Lutheran Church

### **1989**

October—moved into a separate space in Colony Plaza

### **1990**

The first worship service was held on March 4, 1990 led by Les Ludlow

They were meeting in the Trinity Lutheran Church for a combined Sunday School at the Colony Plaza “the Barn” at 9:45 followed by separate services at 11:00.

The Wilford family from St. John donated an electric organ and alter cross.

The Korean Methodist Church donated a piano.

### **1991**

Farewell potluck for Rev. Reeves and Geri  
Received support from St. John UMC through the Parcel Post Party

### **2000**

Rev. Mark Conrad had a vision to increase Christ First UMC located in Wasilla, Alaska, by opening a satellite campus in the neighboring town of Palmer.

Rev. Conrad and Bill Scharrer had attended a seminar in Kansas City about starting new or satellite churches. The plan was to find 10 interested people who would each find another 10 interested people until you have 100 members. These small units of 10 people would meet in homes, and only after



100 solid members had joined the church, would a “church/meeting place” be established. There was a program to start up new churches whereby an established church would work with a new pastor for three years. The pastor’s expenses were covered by the Greater body of the UMC through a Missions grant.

## **2001**

In summer of 2001 Rev. Bruce Case, along with wife Jen and their son Tripp, were sent to Alaska to minister to the Palmer group. The first church meetings were held on week-day evenings at a house in Palmer that the UMC had rented for the Case family. The group broke apart into small worship groups which met in about 8-10 different homes with leaders in place, Pastor Case divided his time between these. Then the church met at the Trinity Lutheran Barn for a couple of months.

## **2002**

In September of 2002, in order to facilitate Sunday morning services the “Palmer Campus” held meetings in the Palmer Middle School Gym, they met there for one year, then moved to a rented space in the MTA meeting rooms, when this was no longer working, the group moved to the Borough Gym where they held meetings for another year.

## **2004**

In 2004 Rev. Mark Conrad left the Wasilla church, he was re-assigned in the lower 48. Rev Bruce Case then became the pastor of both churches; the Palmer church/campus meeting time changed to 9:00 a.m. on Sundays so that Pastor Bruce could serve both the Palmer and Wasilla congregations.

During this time the Palmer group was given a monetary gift by a local business owner to buy land and build a church building. We were unsuccessful in this effort.

A change in policy at the Mat-Su Borough initiated the move of the Palmer location to the Sims Building across from the Valley Hotel.

## **2005**

In June 2005 Rev. Bruce Case and his family were re assigned to a church in Mississippi. On July 1st 2005 Rev. Karen Martin Tichenor became the new pastor of both the Wasilla Church and the Palmer Campus of Christ First UMC  
Located into the Sims Building across from the Valley Hotel

## **2006**

Palmer campus voted to become its own entity, further voting on the name change to “Palmer United Methodist Church”, (though it is a Fellowship not a chartered church) the name change became official on January 1, 2007.

## **2007**

In Sept. of 2007 the Palmer church/fellowship due to increased rent costs relocated to a shared space in St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church at 323 N. Alaska St., and changed service times to 5:00 p.m.

## **2008-2009**

Later in the year for the convenience of service time another move was made into the Hillstrom Building.  
Held a Block Party to become more visible  
Food baskets distributed at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter  
Supported Valley Food Pantry  
Received a half-time pastor where before Palmer had had quarter time coverage.

In the summer of 2008 Christ First United Methodist Church voted to take on a full time pastor and Palmer was to receive a half time pastor. This meant that Pastor Karen Martin Tichenor could no longer serve either Palmer or Wasilla, as she had been serving a dual appointment.

On July 1, 2008 Revs. Robert and Tori Hicks and their children Adam, Cyrus, Kelsey. Sierra and Isaac arrived, the Hicks’ worked as a pastoral couple serving both churches until June 30, 2017.



In Oct. 2008 the Palmer church voted to go back to a morning service. To make this possible Palmer UMC relocated to the Hillstrom building at 528 E. Fireweed in Palmer and began meeting at 10:00 a.m. this made it impossible for both Pastors Robert and Tori to be in service so in March of 2009 both churches voted to change their meeting times, Palmer voted to move to 9:30 a.m. and Wasilla voted to move to 11:30 a.m.

## 2010

In April 2010 an offer was extended to Palmer UMC by Stan Guthrie owner of the Country Cutts building in Palmer to occupy the lower level of that building. The church accepted and began renovations of the space, the church painted, carpeted, brought the doors up to fire code, had new signs made for inside and outside the building. The Church took occupancy on July 1, 2010 and held their first service there on July 4, 2010.

## 2010-2015

During the years from 2010 -2015, Palmer UMC/Fellowship annually packed 8-10 Easter and Christmas Dinner boxes that were given to Alaska Family Services for families in need in the Palmer Community. The church also donated non-perishable items to the Palmer Food Pantry, and helped the Saxon Youth Shelter with monthly donations of food, clothing, and household supplies for homeless youth in the Mat-Su Valley, until that facility closed.

## 2015-2017

Upholstered 50 seat base cushions and backs for PET mobility carts  
The Church donated items to the MyHouse Youth Shelter and the Palmer Food Pantry on a month to month basis as well as helping with projects for the P.E.T. mobility cart program. In June of 2017 Pastors Robert and Tori Hicks accepted a posting to Wesley UMC in Winona, Minnesota and left Alaska.

## 2017

On July 1, 2017 Pastor Erin Day from St John UMC in Anchorage was appointed to serve Palmer UMC/Fellowship - her first service at PUMC was July 2, 2017.

## 2019

In fall of 2019 PUMC started a mission project of packing weekend lunch bags for three local schools as of Spring 2020 PUMC had packed 781 of these bags.

## 2020

March of 2020 brought COVID-19 to the world and caused all churches to suspend meeting in person so PUMC went to virtual meetings via ZOOM conferencing - during which time individual members of PUMC sewed cloth masks and looked for other ways to help our local medical personnel, and our community, as well as ways to continue to serve the schools/students who had been recipients of the weekend lunch bag ministry -

Leftover Halloween candy was mailed to [soldiersangles.org](http://soldiersangles.org)

Collaborated with the Palmer Lions to supply the Little Free Library in Bugge Park thanks to Walt Hays and Title Wave Books.

Helped with the Palmer High School lunch program

Hosted Zoom Bible Studies

The Valley Interfaith Action (.org) was created to address quality of life issues in the Mat - Su Borough by providing forums for discussion, researching alternative solutions, and working for institutional change.

# Parks Highway Parish

Parks Highway Parish (Trapper Creek [until Nov. 1993], Willow, Wasilla [until 1989] )

Charles A. Nowlen, Jr., 1985, 1986, 1987

Linda Jean Myers, 1988

Ronald Myers, 1989

James A. Campbell, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995

## **P.L.U.M.E. (Presbyterian, Lutheran, United Method- ist, Episcopal)**

Rev. Dr. Robert Hicks, Executive Director

2015

The mission of the Mat-Su PLUME Outreach was to plant missional communities and to launch new cooperative ministry ventures from our partnerships with the Presbyterian USA, ELCA Lutheran, United Methodist, and Episcopal denominations in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley.

In 2014 PLUME was active in ongoing group formations in Sutton, Trapper Creek, and Primrose Retirement Center in Wasilla. PLUME sponsored a series of gatherings for folks invested in Latino culture. Hazel Davidson received a ELCA grant to work with PLUME amidst this population.

The PLUME Board looked at forming a learning center in the Valley dedicated to training and deploying missional community planters and missional innovators for work within the context of our conventional church structures. Initial plans were to construct a technologically enhanced classroom and resource center and to have lay-clergy to begin a two-year course of study.

All the work of the Mat-Su PLUME outreach is done with participation from the PLUME member Mat-Su churches, pastors, and judicatory executives.

2016

The Valley Christian Conference voted to transition into the Congregation Based Community Organizing interfaith cooperative and became a significant ministry option for PLUME churches and its Academy for Discipleship Formation and Leadership Development. The Academy included spiritual enrichment, and lay leadership training.



# Saint John

## South Anchorage

### Pastors:

Dr. Wayne Weld-Martin, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989

John Page, 1990, 1991

James Fellers, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998

Howard Devore

David Beckett, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008

John Atwood (Interim)

John Dodson, 2009

Peter Perry, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

John H. Campbell, 2014

Andy Bartel, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

### Associate Pastors:

Priscilla (Dee Dee) Clark

Rose McLean

Sue Hamilton

Randy McCurdy

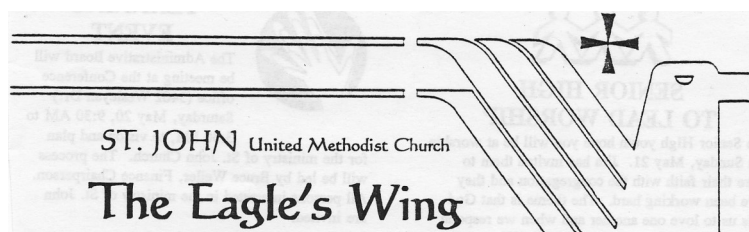
Diana Hearn

Jo Ann Schaad-Patterson

Jenny Becket Smith

Nico Romeijn-Stout

Newsletter Name – The Eagle Wing



Parsonage address in 1992 was 9051 Cathedral, 99507

October 26, 1958 – constituting conference – 16 charter members; Rabbit Creek Fellowship; had been part of Church of the Beloved Disciple; moved to its current location in 1964

Chartered on October 14, 1962 (not the Fellowship but as St. John) with 26 members

The name “St. John” was selected to perpetuate the memory of John Cox, a layman, who was instrumental, along with Bob Smay, in starting the church.

1968

Aluminum cross erected by Grand Rapids, Michigan VIM team

1981

The Mooseketeers Core Group worked on snow sculpturing in the church yard on January 10<sup>th</sup>

1986

David Fison made the cornucopia to be placed on the altar  
There were the DeEtte Circle, Suzanna Circle and Evening Circles

1987

The 25<sup>th</sup> Silver Anniversary Celebration was held on October 17/18<sup>th</sup>

1989

St. John sent breakfast food to the Chief Zzeh Gittlit School in Old Crow, Yukon Territory  
Kid's Choir-Chime group organized  
Produce Project  
Hospice “Light-up-a-Life” support  
New hymnals dedicated October 1<sup>st</sup>

Spice & Nice Ice Auto Rally  
Friendship Circle

A dog musher made a visit to New Horizons preschool

Third annual co-ed volleyball tournament

April 30<sup>th</sup> performance by the Anchorage Talent Education Association with violin and cello using the Suzuki method

Opportunity Fair

Korean Garage Sale May 28<sup>th</sup>

Children gave \$109 to Jesse Lee Home for sports equipment

1990

Heavenly Angels Children's Choir  
Recognition for Perfect Attendance

New directory out

Second annual White Elephant and Dessert party

Muskadon Square Dance

STEP = Systematic Training for Effective Parenting

One Great Hour of Sharing

Church Women United

Time Capsule dedicated April 1<sup>st</sup>

Plant sales with 50-50 split with UMYF and Rotary

VIM team assisted the Wasilla UMC in disassembling the St. John UMC Youth Building and took it to Wasilla for reassemble

1991

The sanctuary eternal light on the wall on the right side of the altar area was installed in memory of Karin Palinski

Mission project of sending children's clothes and shoes for Cameroon Africa

Korean Bible Study on Wednesday nights

Healing/Prayer Ministry team

Rummage sale

Spring Festival of the Family

HELP bags



St. John  
United Methodist Church

April 24<sup>th</sup> was the Great Pizza Takeover of Round Table Pizza to benefit the ACS Family Enhancement Program  
The parsonage on O'Malley Road was sold November 15<sup>th</sup> for \$74,000

1992

David Lowes Watson spoke March 21<sup>st</sup>  
Hooper Bay home burned; had benefitted from St. John mission help  
People of Hooper Bay expressed their gratitude for all the Christmas boxes  
St. John had a Family Picture Gallery  
No softball team this summer due to lack of interest  
June 7, 1992 was henceforth known as "Old Fashioned Sunday" and was also proclaimed to be David K. Fison Sunday  
Plum Pudding Festival  
30<sup>th</sup> anniversary event on October 25  
Patchwork Boutique Bazaar

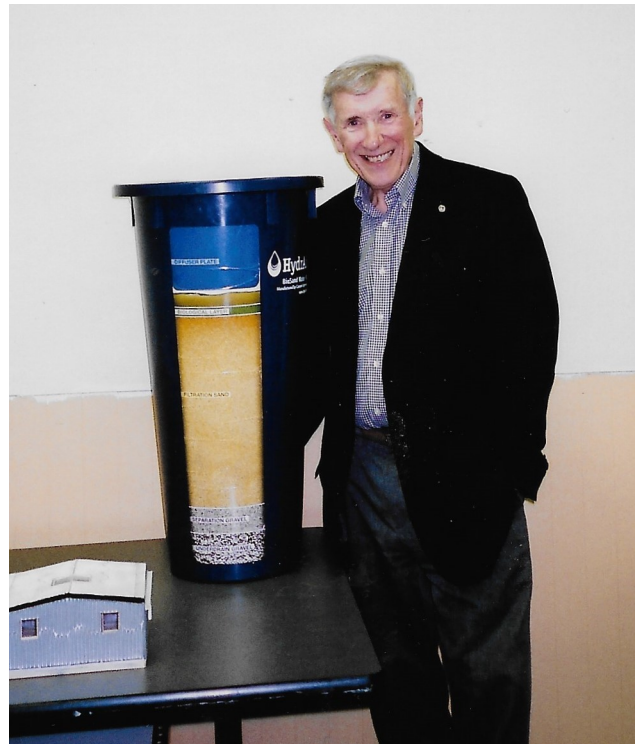
1993

Break-in and burglary occurred with minor damage (twice)  
Godspell musical performed in sanctuary October 17<sup>th</sup>  
Memorial Quilt and plaque hung in memory of DeEtte Goff  
UNICEF support  
Tuckerfield Exhibit in foyer of Bayshore Wing  
Hooper Bay Mitten and Hat Tree  
Moms-in-Touch International  
Christmas card bulletin board  
An auction to benefit St. Mary's and FISH  
Lay Speaker Training Retreat  
New Building Wing Open House with consecration on August 19<sup>th</sup>  
Picture directory out  
Farmer's Market  
Parking lot paved

1994

Education addition completed  
Agape Circle  
St. John has one of the largest scouting programs in Alaska: Boy Scout Troop 210; Nanuk Lodge; Order of the Arrow; Girl Scout Troop 661; Cub Scout Pack 123; Tiger Cub Group  
Hosted the first UMMen Foundation National Golf Classic

Quilting Bee  
All church Caribbean carnival  
Library established  
Youth mission trip to St. Louis on flood reconstruction and VBS  
Hospice auction  
Cookies for college  
Joyful Noise Choir  
Crescent Lake Backpacking Trip  
Lew Dickinson persuaded Chugach Electric to put in a street light at O'Malley entrance  
Father Fellers' Philosophy  
Goods and Services Auction  
Growing, Caring, Sharing Campaign  
Khia doll sales  
Some art work by Bill Dennerlein was hung in Bayshore Wing  
Hosted a Candidate Fair for Alaska candidates



Retired UM Pastor Walt Hays has been a tireless advocate for many programs to benefit many people including water access, lighting, sewing machines, and countless other endeavors. Long time supporter of the St. John UMM. Walt is a real giant in the Alaska Methodist Conference!

1995

Box of items collected for the Philippine Volcano Victims  
Another Time & Talent Inventory was solicited  
Teacher Recognition  
Adopt-A-Spot – a place on the property to take care of  
New directory assembled  
Rice Bowl Project  
Boy Scout Memorabilia auction  
Fred Goff made coat racks now located in the Bayshore coat closet  
Basketball League  
Unscheduled fire drill test

1996

Church quilt assembled and presented to the congregation on March 24<sup>th</sup>  
Mailbox was damaged by vandals  
25 boys and 2 teachers visited Anchorage for 2 weeks from Kwansei Gakvin High School in Japan  
Whitney Women's Chorale from Boise, Idaho sang August 4<sup>th</sup>  
New roofing was put over Triangle Room, Choir Room and Narthex  
Parking lot project of patching and sealing and re-stripping  
New bell choir organized  
Rodney Hirchert Memorial Fund established



1997

A 15-hour "Intensive Journal Writing Workshop" was led by Ira Progo of Stillpoint Foundation  
First Girl's Chrysalis Flight Nov. 8-12th  
Auction '97 - Celebrating the Saints with Mayor Rick Mystrom as auctioneer  
Parenting Class offered  
Coats for Kids collection  
Sarah's Circle founded in 1996 at the Holy Spirit Retreat House women's retreat  
BYOB = Bring Your Own Bible  
Valentine Dance Chocolate Extravaganza to benefit Habitat  
Updated directory out  
Iowa Hand Bell Choir joined local ringers at public festival concert at St. John on June 27<sup>th</sup>

1998

Paper bin was removed and people were directed to recycle in other places  
Parking lot paved in June by Alaska Operating Engineers/Employers Training Trust workers  
Got a new directory  
ENCOREplus at the YWCA  
Eagle's Nest Boutique  
Held a fundraiser for final phase of roofing project  
Father's Day project of purchasing blankets through Church World Service for refugees  
Sought host families for PAX = Program for Academic Exchange  
Interior Painting Party August 29<sup>th</sup>  
Weigh Down Workshop program series  
Baby Bulletin Board  
Name Tags for Everyone  
Sarah's Circle  
First Boy's Chrysalis Flight Feb. 13-16<sup>th</sup>  
Developed a website  
Bean-A-Fit  
Resurrection Trail Hike August 10-14<sup>th</sup>  
Confirmation  
United Methodist Scholarship awarded  
Memorial paraments acquired  
Collected baby food and items  
Covenant Players performed  
Recycling bins removed from parking lot  
The Kaleidoscope Project  
Volunteers at Covenant House  
Promoted Senior Companions at the M. T. Caverly Senior Center

Center for Families Diaper Drive  
Provided supplies to Birchwood Camp

1999

Horse drawn hayride on Halloween  
Singspiration  
Chance for people to go on a Holy Land tour

2000

40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on September 14-15<sup>th</sup>  
Hat and mitten tree to help Turnagain Elementary School  
League of Women Voters used TUMC for a school board candidate forum  
Choir performed "Faure Requiem"  
Bless the Children was the theme on the new New Testament glass window in sanctuary  
September 30<sup>th</sup> the Montana Logging and Ballet Company performed at Wendy Williamson Auditorium on UAA campus – (a group Rachel Leider-Simeon once sang with)  
Supported "First Book Anchorage" at Barnes & Noble Bookfair  
Some became tutors for Anchorage Literacy Project  
Campbell Soup labels collected to benefit Wesley Community Center in Phoenix, Arizona  
New Horizons published a cookbook  
Kid's Kitchen  
College Care packages  
Benefitted by the Party & Crafts 5% program  
Harvest of Blessings dinner/auction  
Volleyball  
Transition Fund established  
Te Deum Bell Choir  
St. Matthew's wing remodeled  
The Charles Wesley Singers youth choir from Damascus, Maryland performed  
Book of Memorials kept in display case in the Narthex  
Back-to-School Potato Bake  
Men's Sharing Group  
InfoServ use was promoted  
Office and classroom remodeled  
Magic Dragon Fund

2001

Fundraising for new organ  
Volleyball team organized  
Mission to Mexico  
Muskadons Group  
Parents Morning Out

Boy Scout Troop 210  
Christmas Wreath Sales  
Angels for Preemies – sewing  
Quilting Group  
LGBT Outreach  
Earth Stewardship  
Youth sold Northern Lights Entertainment  
Discount Books  
Mother Daughter Book Club  
Supported Intermission Crisis Nursery  
54 new wood sanctuary chairs were purchased  
Rice bags to fight hunger project  
UMCOR  
Primetimers  
Plant Sale  
St. John Day at Birchwood Camp on May 20<sup>th</sup>

Softball team  
Clare House  
Chili cook-off  
New directories out in the Fall  
April 10<sup>th</sup> the Easter Totem Pole was raised in the yard  
Rodgers organ was purchased for \$45,000  
Svetlana Tyejok spoke May 27<sup>th</sup> about the Russian Humanitarian Aid ministry  
Title Wave Books gave St. John credit for used books turned in  
Father's Day Ties & Tools  
Mission Team to Mexico  
Lower 48 Brochure Project  
PACE = Progressive, Adult, Christian, Education

2002

40<sup>th</sup> anniversary Sept, 14-15<sup>th</sup>  
Sold tote bags and water bottles for the anniversary  
Small group opportunities:  
Companion in Christ; Disciple I, II, III; Adult Sunday School; Stephen Minister Training; Monday Morning Women; Quilting Queens; Angels for preemies  
New church directory  
Fireside Room renovated  
Developing a cookbook  
VBS/Day Camp  
"Dinners for Nine" Group  
Healing and Prayer Ministry Team  
Adult mission trip to Queretaro, Mexico  
Pictures taken for Directory  
Christmas Caroling

Used book sales  
 16<sup>th</sup> annual St. John UMC Parcel Post Party  
 Hosted VIM teams  
 Square Foot Club took pledges for multipurpose building  
 Dinner/auction  
 Marriage Retreat  
 Supported the Bruce Robert Campership Fund  
 New Horizons Day Care  
 DivorceCare Group  
 September 11<sup>th</sup> observances

Family Camp at Eklutna  
 Spiritual Life Covenant Group  
 St. John Ringers  
 Habitat for Humanity  
 Blood drive  
 Head Start/Kid's Corps Inc.  
 Clare House  
 Annual Hot Dog Cook-out and Ice Cream Social  
 Flag Day at ACS  
 83 people participated in the Alaska Run for Women  
 STAR = Standing Together Against Rape  
 Sold 13 acres of recreational property near village of Slana for \$33,000  
 6-week Journaling class  
 Spiritual Life Covenant Group formed  
 12<sup>th</sup> annual Candlelight Vigil for Homeless Kids at Covenant House Town Square

## 2003

Over a hundred VIMs built the All Saints Wing  
 CROP Walk = Christian Rural Overseas Program  
 PACE = Progressive Adult Christian Education  
 Bud Welch spoke on February 11<sup>th</sup> about abolishing the death penalty  
 Pan-Methodist Gathering June 1<sup>st</sup> at First Anchorage UMC and PAC  
 Sent a letter to the Alaska Legislature objecting to gambling  
 Baskets for auction  
 Supported missions to Cameroon

## 2004

Hooper Bay Mitten Tree  
 Family Recreation Night  
 Parents of Teens P.O.T.  
 Prayer Shawl Ministry  
 Singspiration  
 Noon basketball  
 Book Group

Joined the Green Star program  
 Wildmen Talking Circle  
 PET = Personal Energy Transportation

## 2005

Hosted the Stephen Ministers program  
 Blood Bank  
 Team of 6 St. John VIM members went to Punta Gorda Florida to help recover from Hurricane Charley  
 Held a St. John Goods and Services Auction  
 Asthma Walk  
 St. John Camping at Eklutna Campground  
 The women's social group Red Hat Society was renamed the Sassy Saints and people over 50 years old wear red hats and purple outfits while those under 50 wear pink hats and lavender outfits.  
 Pianist John Nilsen, with recordings on the Magic Wing record label, played during the services on June 5.  
 An e-mail auction was held for an Arctic Safari to the Kuparuk Oilfield area  
 Oktober Auction Fest  
 Rice Bags  
 Faith Sharing Group

## 2006

Sold first aid kits  
 Organized a Special Needs Task Force  
 Mission Trip to Homer UMC  
 Empty Nest Group  
 Held a used book sale  
 Mission trip was made to Matamoros, Mexico  
 There was St. John apparel for sale  
 The Labyrinth was ready to use  
 Emergency Preparedness Task Force  
 Held a Faithbooking class  
 Liturgical Dance Workshop

Nothing But Nets  
 Mother/Daughter Tea  
 Parcel Post Party  
 Clare House meal  
 Birchwood Camp  
 Special Needs Task Force  
 UMM Breakfast  
 Congregational Care Ministry Team  
 Emergency Task Force  
 CPR Class  
 M&M mini-Methodists  
 F.I.S.H.  
 UMW Fashion Salon

Parish Nurses  
Sent sewing machines to Mexico

2007

The Global Board of Discipleship designated  
St. John a Romans 12 Project  
Rummage Sales  
Wild Man Hiking Group  
All Church Fire Drill was planned  
Togiak Mitten Tree  
PET  
Nothing but Nets  
Went on Mission trip to Cameroon, Africa  
Support for Cameroon Mission  
8 week ballroom dancing lesson series at Fred  
Astaire Dance Studios 9190 Old Seward High-  
way Suite 11  
Used book sales  
Bake sales  
Hobby Fair  
Supported the Alaska MS Center Carnation  
Campaign  
Craft Fair  
Rice bags for UNICEF  
Beans from Above Ministry  
Quilters group  
Hosted a Softball 7&3 Team  
Parish Nurses took blood pressure screenings  
Held a Parcel Post Party  
A portable outdoor labyrinth tarp was available  
on the East Parking lot  
Sassy Saints sold their cookbooks

2008

The Sanctuary Choir with Freda Wardlaw-  
Bailey and a string ensemble performed  
Vivaldi's "Gloria"  
Walt Hays wrote about the history of the cross  
in the yard; built in the summer of 1968 by  
VIM students from Trinity UMC in Grand Rap-  
ids, Michigan  
Boy and Girl Scouts  
F.I.S.H. and the Festival of FISH  
Habitat for Humanity  
Mary Magdalene  
Birchwood Camp  
AWAIC  
Salvation Army  
Big Brothers/Big Sisters  
Clare House  
Love, Inc. (In the Name of Christ)

Providence Hospital  
Community Victory garden/flower beds built  
by east entrance

Pilot Station Mitten Tree

Salute to Veterans  
Point Hope Mitten Tree  
Blessing of the Motorcycle Riders  
Basketball  
Softball  
An update to the 2003 building inventory was  
attempted both digital and hardcopy  
Earth Stewardship promoted  
Blessing of the Motorcycle Riders  
Labyrinth  
PFD Tithing program  
Bike to Church Sunday  
Ascent Alaska Ecumenical Outreach Ministry  
Marriage Workshop  
End of Year Love Offering

Supported Cameroon  
Financial Peace University  
Biblemania  
PETs

Performed energy audit of the building  
22<sup>nd</sup> year providing the Sunday evening meal  
on the first Sunday of each month for Clare  
House  
Teacher recognition  
Recycle cell phones  
Group went to Barrow to paint exterior of  
Presbyterian Church  
Alaska Interfaith Power & Light

2009

Samaritans Purse Shoebox Ministry  
The Boy Scout Troop 210 had been at St.  
John for 35 years and had graduated 84 Ea-  
gle Scouts.  
Journey to Bethlehem  
Friendship Ministry Group for teens with  
special needs  
Took 41 plus sewing machines to Honduras  
Flute Choir  
Welcoming Guidance Team  
UMCOR  
Wednesday Night Suppers and Choir practice  
Parcel Post Party  
New Horizons Preschool  
Financial Peace University  
Kwethluk Mitten Tree  
The Potato Bake was a Back to School Project

MAD Camp  
 Book Discussion Group  
 4 panels of seasonal art "Spiritual Odyssey"  
 done by Kathleen Plunkett are hanging in  
 north end of the Fellowship Hall  
 Chili cook off and Bean A Fit  
 Used book sale  
 Held a "Contemplative Retreat" near Hatcher  
 Pass  
*Beans from Above* youth espresso ministry  
 reopened with new logo

H.U.G.G.S. winter clothing drive  
 Divorce Care support group  
 Youth led Coffee Ministry  
 Tool Swap  
 Football tailgate parties  
 Softball and Volleyball Teams  
 Sold the parsonage  
 Earth Stewardship Ministry Team  
 Victory Garden boxes were built by Charlie  
 Brower  
 Strong Women class  
 Walk to Bethlehem  
 Burden Sharing Time  
 New women's sweatshirts and sweatpants  
 were collected for assault victims at the shelter  
 in Barrow

## 2010

Strong Women Exercise Class  
 5/5 Co-Ed Rec Softball Team  
 The Reconciling Team took a new name – the  
 LGBT Outreach Team, and became an affiliate  
 of the Reconciling Ministries Network  
 Chronic Illness Support Group  
 Recycled eyeglasses with the Lions Interna-  
 tional  
 Had an Alaska Run For Women team  
 Sewed tunics for Mission Trip to Cameroon  
 The outdoors Christmas Totem was erected on  
 June 6, 2010. It was painted in Tsiimshian  
 (this is how it was written in news article) col-  
 ors by David Fison. Mold and casting was done  
 by Plascam of Anchorage.  
 Chrismon Tree  
 Kotlik Mitten Tree  
 The time capsule was located

New communion ware was first used June 13,  
 2010 and was a gift of Pastor John and was 4  
 pottery chalices and 2 patens made of pottery  
 by Kris Bliss

Healthy cooking class  
 St. John had an extension ministry at  
 Elmendorf  
 KIVA = a micro-lending non-profit, was  
 promoted  
 Girl Scout Troop 740  
 Walk to Bethlehem program  
 Established the John Wesley Society Account  
 for donations through wills

## 2011

New wing is called the All Saints Wing  
 New Horizons Preschool  
 PET  
 Ink recycle  
 Organized a Cameroon Task Force  
 George Hollett built cabinets and shelves for  
 storage in the choir room using funds from  
 the Betty Gartner Memorial Fund  
 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary cookbook published  
 Souper Bowl  
 Cardio for Cameroon  
 Rebates available from Amazon shopping

Red Hat Society  
 Scouts built 40 seats for PET units  
 49 blankets were given to Brother Francis  
 Shelter  
 Rose McLean retired after 24 years with St.  
 John  
 81 sewing machines were collected for village  
 women and sewing cooperatives in Central  
 America  
 Newcomers Welcome Event  
 Blessing of the Animals  
 Prayer Shawl Ministry  
 One Great Hour of Sharing  
 Hosted an Ecumenical Gathering of Presby-  
 terian, ELCA Lutheran, United Methodist  
 and Episcopal clergy on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>

## 2012

Homecoming event  
 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
 Dinner Groups/Dinner for Nine  
 Softball  
 Monday Morning Women  
 Play Group  
 Annual Chili/Cornbread cook-off  
 F.I.S.H. Annual Charity Golf Tournament  
 Mitten Tree for Alakanuk  
 Financial Peace University

Ray and Marvel Ochoa built a large dollhouse and gave it away to a 5 year old  
Organized a "Street Team"  
Daisy Girl Scout Troop started  
UMM restored Lonesome Louie totem pole at Jesse Lee Home  
VIMs  
Dance Ministry organized  
Adopt-A-Flower Bed  
Church mortgage refinanced

## 2013

Church is a Verb  
PFLAG (Parents Family and Friends of Lesbians And Gays)  
Had a summer intern

## 2014

Blessing of the Animals  
Parents Night Out  
Cookie Jar contributions  
Love Inc  
Craft Fair  
An Evening of Jazz annual auction and Dinner November 8<sup>th</sup>  
Second Mile Giving  
Bill Floerchinger was honored by the St. John United Methodist Men for 8 years promoting the PET project

## 2015

Held monthly meetings to prepare for upcoming LGBT events and to revitalize PFLAG

## 2016

October 23<sup>rd</sup> a Cello & Piano Recital was held by Freya and James Wardlaw-Bailey

## 2017

Helped partner school Spring Hill Elementary through Kids Hope USA  
Mission teams members went to Cameroon, Guatemala, South Africa, Fairbanks, and Unalakleet  
Continued its Kids Hope partnership with Spring Hill Elementary School where mentors spent one hour each week with a student

## 2018

There was a burning of the mortgage ceremony in October and the church was debt-free

## 2019

Outreach Missions were with: College Kick-Start Packages; Tennis Shoe Campaign; and Project Dignity  
June 23<sup>rd</sup> there was Drag Queen Story Time at the 11:00 a.m. service  
January 18<sup>th</sup> the Youth held a Mission Immersion event  
The Alaska Conference United Methodist Men presented Rose McLean with the Susanna Wesley Award  
Participated, along with First Anchorage UMC, in the Anchorage Emergency Cold Weather Shelter program  
Kenny and Leslie Gerondale purchased the two acres east of the east parking lot in honor of Linda and Orlo Heim for future use

## 2020

Flower Garden  
Prayer Shawl  
Wednesday Night Suppers  
Meal Train  
Seed balls by Earth Stewards  
Days for Girls  
Help with City-wide Road Cleanup  
Habitat for Humanity support  
Birchwood Volunteer Day  
F.I.S.H.

Scouts in Troop 210 sold Christmas wreaths  
Food Bank Thanksgiving Blessing  
Bible Study  
Classes for scouts to earn religious awards  
YouTube services  
St. John was the drop off location for the United Way's Diaper Drive  
Members of the Anti-Racism Book Club and Council members had a commentary published in the Anchorage Daily News about U.S. House Resolution 40.



# Saint Paul

## College/Fairbanks

### Pastors:

Paul S. Wilcox 1985, 1986

Tom Taylor (Interim Jan-June) 1987

John R. Henry, 1988, 1989

Delbert Wasser, 1990, 1991, 1992

Michael Munn, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

John and Bonnie Campbell, 2001

2006 (discontinued, sold to St. James Episcopal)  
Address:  
1744 Farmers Loop, Fairbanks, Alaska 99708



Also P O Box 83725 College, AK 99708

Lot size of just over 3 acres; relocated utility ROW between lots 4 and 5 and west and south lot lines of Lot 4

Parsonage and office was in rented space on Wolverine Lane

(907) 479-7998

Newsletter name in 1990 was "The Messenger"  
1984

April 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. was formation day



when 37 Fairbanks members transferred memberships; it was chartered with 51 members

1986

April 13<sup>th</sup> as part of the worship service, a presentation and dedication of a wood carving of St. Paul was observed on the second anniversary of the St. Paul chartering. It was started by Whitey Pierson of Mt. Vernon, Ohio because his son and family were involved with the organizing church. The one piece walnut art measures 20 x 24 inches and about 2 inches thick. It was entered in an Ohio art show and won first place.

Received letter of thanks from Polly and Fred Ingold (missionaries to Indonesia)  
Sweetheart Dinner



Michael Pierson, son of the artist, shows wood carving of St. Paul, carved for St. Paul U.M. Church.

### **St. Paul Church Receives Wood Carving of St. Paul**

Bible Study  
Confirmations  
Love INC

Outgrew their facility at the Evangelical Free Church after 2 years, starting on April 6 was meeting at the Christ Lutheran Church at corner of Farmers Loop Road and Inlakuk Avenue On June 1<sup>st</sup> approved acquisition of land; decision was made on September 28<sup>th</sup> to buy the Miklautsch property at 4 mile Farmers Loop Road

Decided to take the Sunday afternoon service at Denali Center on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday every 3 months; other churches chose other times on a rotation basis

Family Photos taken

Prison Ministry

Frist Progressive Dinner

Food Bank

Water had to be trucked in at a cost of 7 cents per gallon

Auer Hall

Purchased myrtlewood communion service, offering plates, and candlesticks for \$700; previously had used borrowed items the first 2 years

Summer Solstice Picnic

Cookies to Campus

Library established

VIM team from Pennsylvania helped build the church from the start

1987

Parsonage was an apartment at Sophies Plaza

New directory out

Second annual Eat and Run on March 24<sup>th</sup>

Supported the Rescue Mission

Brothers of Taize

Sports Trophy/team support recognition

Sunday

Sundae Sunday

KJNP Sunday August 30<sup>th</sup> (King James North Pole radio/TV)

Architect Peter Vout completed first preliminary site plans for a church building

Buildings' driveway was in place; soil tests were underway

Rev. Lennel Cleaver of the AME church gave the message and the AME choir sang  
United Campus Ministry UAF sold Betty Ledbetter's art prints of a Native boy (\$20) and Native girl (\$25)

Endorsed "The Houston Declaration"

Rev. Cynthia Raski from Benton, Pennsylvania was volunteer pastor during January through March

1988 – Parsonage was purchased for \$95,000 at 4391 Dartmouth Drive through Mt.

McKinley Bank on June 30<sup>th</sup>

VBS

UMM/UMW

Purchased 100 new hymnals

There was a lot of interaction with students at the University of Alaska Fairbanks  
Telephone Tree  
Application for a loan of \$25,000 from GBGM was approved for reimbursement of land purchase, but in 1990 it was cancelled and lien removed; but in 1990 the Conference forwarded check number 313216 from GBGM of which \$20,000 would go into building fund and \$5,000 to general fund for architectural fees

1990

Established a Caring Corps (description in April 15<sup>th</sup> newsletter)  
Roadside litter pickup  
After a contest to name the newsletter – the winner was Nan Beaty – who chose “The Messenger”; the Ad Council approved it on April 9<sup>th</sup>; first use was for the August 1<sup>st</sup> edition; Tori Morrison used her calligraphy skills to write it for the masthead  
Heritage Potluck with a dish from your ancestors’ country; regional clothing optional  
Re-activated Prayer Chain

Passed a resolution April 9<sup>th</sup> advocating withdrawal by the Conference of IMPACT and encouraged individuals to join if so desired  
St. Paul chose Evans Memorial UMC in Lewis Run, Pennsylvania as their Covenant Church  
Architect Chuck Morgan at Design Alaska present some preliminary sketches of the building; the utility line would need to be moved and the lot line between the 2 parcels would need to be vacated

N.O.T.E. = New Officer Training Event  
Department of Transportation negotiated a price for a sliver of church property so Farmers Loop Road could be realigned and widened. A check for \$6149 was received.  
Sign was placed on building identifying it as the place for St. Paul UMC  
Individual prorated apportionments were selectively withheld by a few members who chose to protest various disbursements  
Recycled aluminum cans  
Northern Regional Planning Council met at St. Paul September 28/29<sup>th</sup>  
Church building was used as a polling place  
Two more covenant relationships were confirmed with First UMC in Latrobe, Pennsylvania and Clarks Mill UMC at Clarks Mill, PA  
Superintendent Carol Seckel called a special

church conference Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> with Bishop Dew to discuss apportionments and the future of St. Paul  
Love INC  
Spring Fling emphasizing hobbies to get through the winter  
“Around the Parish” notes about people  
Focus on a member/family each month

1991

Considered outreach to outlying villages  
VIMs  
3+ acre lot size and all paid for  
Gift of Baldwin organ thanks to Francis Wainwright

1992

Sweetheart Dinner  
Personalities of the Bible monthly focus  
The American Baptist Church bought the building St. Paul was currently leasing; the council was to negotiate arrangements to share space; lease expired August 31<sup>st</sup>; will be joint services for awhile

1993

Christ UMC in Franklin, PA entered into a covenant relationship  
Walk to Emmaus  
Clean Up Day  
June 8<sup>th</sup> voted to proceed with building with a pledge drive; groundbreaking was on August 8<sup>th</sup>  
All 31 trusses were in place; roof put on by Apex Roofing  
First event in the building was popcorn and cookies with Christmas hymn sing and advent logs with 35 people as the “Proposed Methodist Church”; after chartering it was known as St. Paul United Methodist Church.  
Chocolate Cook Book published and sold

1994

A petition to the Council of Bishops expressing support for maintaining the current wording in “The Discipline” regarding homosexual ordination, weddings and enforcement  
Most of year the church was under volunteer construction by many people and VIMs  
Marriage Celebration Retreat

St. Paul T-Shirts available for VIMs and other helpers  
 Had 51 members  
 Started to move from building construction to Kingdom building  
 Pledges were accepted for new piano keys at \$57 per key  
 Church historian was Emily Wennen  
 December 17<sup>th</sup> celebrated 12th birthday of Saint Paul UMC and the dedication of new building, debt fee (another entry had 11<sup>th</sup> birthday and on 18<sup>th</sup> with worship)

1995

The Baptist church changed the name to Cornerstone Community Church  
 Bought radio spot announcements with positive messages of hope  
 Saving change in special boxes called "Bits for Building"  
 The church building was paid for in full  
 Aluminum cans were saved in a "Yes We Can" campaign

1996

New tradition started of presenting the wooden bowl used during the baptism to those being baptized which they took home; they are also presented with a toddler's picture Bible and a Noah's Ark blanket made by a church member.  
 Advent Log Party  
 Annual Thanksgiving Dinner  
 Christmas Pageant/Candle Light Service  
 July – Mike and Karen Munn coordinated a VBS at Lake Creek Lodge on the Yetna River

1997

Sent support to Trapper Creek Ministry  
 New directory passed out in church  
 Purchased 12 blue hymnals (identified as being more "politically correct")

Chattanooga Boys Choir gave concert in the sanctuary

1998

20 new chairs arrived with the same fabric as previous ones

Spent \$150 to advertise the church in the military base newspaper  
 June membership was at an all-time high of 71  
 Sent Bibles to Zaire

2002

Vote was approved to discontinue St. Paul UMC; trial set for June 2004 regarding property

2006

The St. Paul church building was sold for \$150,000 to St. James Temple AMEZ church; the parsonage was rented until 2007 when it was sold for \$209,468.82 (Dartmouth House).





# Saint Peter the Fisherman

## Ninilchik

### Pastors:

Bob Waterhouse, (Lay Pastor), 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988

Susan Holstein, 1988, 1989

Unassigned, 1990, 1991

Joan Wilkins (Local Pastor), 1992, 1993

Max Cramer (Interim Retired Elder) 1994

Waldemar Bobrowski, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999

Mark Born, 2000, 2001, 2002

Julie Wasser, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014

Darla Bradley, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

1987

New sign placed outside the building

1992 Mission and Goal Statement:

Be Christ to others; to bring the reality of Jesus Christ into others' lives; to help others come into salvation; and disciple them as we grow together in grace toward greater truth, knowledge, understanding, and a more personal relationship with Jesus.

1999

Participated in the Kenai Regional Program Council Y2K Yes 2 Kids workshop

October 24<sup>th</sup> – missionary moment with Reidun Refsdal of Norway, working in medicine field in India

April – participated in the Weigh Down Workshop

Missionary moment with Larry and Phyllis Asher working in education and medicine in Nepal

2005

Had a liability for an oil spill on the property after a 1990 heating oil leak needed remediation

2008

Walk to Emmaus

Kairos

Remodeled the building to be handicap accessible with a ramp and upstairs bathroom

The parsonage was provided to house the Russian Orthodox priest and family

Very actively involved ecumenically in the community

2018

A pulled-pork dinner fundraiser was held September 22 to benefit food for students

2019

Blessing of the fishes

Alcoholics Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous

Sent home food supplies each Friday to combat hunger

The sanctuary is a sanctuary to many in the non-churched community

Weddings, funerals for anyone

Visits to community shut-ins and sick

2020

Community outreach during the pandemic



# Samoan Groups

## Anchorage

### **Samoan First at Turnagain**

Chartered May 30, 2004 with 104 members

Sailitai Maga, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008,  
2009, 2010, 2011, 2012

Unassigned 2013

Steve Maga, the son of Sailitai,

It all started with a two-week vacation in Alaska in 1993 when Sailitai Maga visited friends in Anchorage and Fairbanks. Eight years later, Maga became part of a unique ministry linking the Samoan culture with an established United Methodist congregation.

Maga was a certified lay speaker and member of the California Pacific Annual Conference. He moved his family from American Samoa to Hawaii in 1971 and his home church became the Waianae UMC in Honolulu.

After talking with Rev/Superintendent Bill Still he was advised to talk to local clergy and ended up connecting with Rev. Dennis Holway. He indicated an interest in the Course of Study at Claremont School of Theology and after 5 summers graduated in the summer of 2000. The Fellowship did both together and separate activities for a while and assimilation worked well.

The Fellowship hosted the Western Jurisdiction Samoan Caucus in the fall of 1999 and Maga was instrumental in establishing an Anchorage area V.I.P. (Voices of Island People.) He had a vision of someday putting on the property a multi-purpose Polynesian Cultural Center.

The Pacific Islander Ministry Plan was approved by the 2012 United Methodist General Conference. The Plan has been focusing on leadership development for all ages; ministry with the poor; health; congregational development; language resources; and church as community.

The Anchorage Press weekly newspaper ran a story about the Samoans in Anchorage published June 13, 2002, page 10 and 11. So 18 years ago there were an estimated 1500 Samoans living in Anchorage. In a 2004 report the number had risen to 10,000. Not all are Methodist/



Wesleyans but many felt at home in the Methodist tradition and developed their own Fellowships. They enjoy the slower pace of Alaska which is like on the islands. The Samoans tend to be a festive culture and hold many *fa'alavelaves* which tend to be a lot of work preparing for it. A Samoan Association was formed as was a rugby team. They are also good at football, basketball and wrestling. Sailitai indicated that life here has advantages over the islands and he hopes to keep the *fa'a* communal system. They like the independence offered in America.

On December 20, 2009 pastor Maga's house caught fire and burned down. Recovery ensued with the help of the Methodist community.



## Turnagain Samoan Fellowship

Sailitai Maga, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003  
Unassigned

A few years ago a Samoan Fellowship was organized at Turnagain United Methodist Church and they have become a strong force in the worship services there. The charter was presented by Bishop Paup to Sailitai Maga on May 30, 2004. The Conch Shell was blown. The Western Jurisdiction has many Pacific Island worshipers and Anchorage is fortunate to be home to over 2000 from such a wonderful culture. They co-exist with the Samoan Methodist Independent Conference.



## **Samoan First at Mountain View**

Pastor:

Faatafa U. Fulumu  
Steven Maga, 2005

The Fetu Ao United Methodist Church was incorporated March 11, 2010.

In 2005 a loan was obtained from the United Methodist Development Fund to the Samoan Fellowship and was later defaulted upon. The Alaska Conference made arrangements for refinancing but the decision was made to sell the building and move the congregation to Anchorage First Church on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue where they remain today.

The blessing of the First Samoan UMC Building was held on Sunday July 31, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. at 4501 Mountain View Drive.

July 30, 2005 Polynesians celebrated the first Samoan Flag Day on the Delaney Park Strip with a reading of the Deed of Cession from Great Britain and witness a parade. The American flag, the Alaska, flag were joined with the flags from American Samoa, Western Samoa, and Tonga. It commemorates the raising of the American flag in Samoa on April 17, 1900 on Tutuila Island by representatives of the U.S. Navy.

Many other churches have included Samoan families in their services. St. Anthony Parish has a strong Samoan contingent who are highlighted the last Sunday of each month when they sing in the Samoan language, a reading is done in Samoan, and the liturgy takes on a uniquely Samoan cultural flavor. They hosted a Multicultural night in 2008.

The second Sunday in October is dedicated to celebrating Samoan children around the world. Each year on “White Sunday” children and women dress entirely in brand-new white formal clothes and take over church services, offering an epic program of songs, Bible recitations, speeches and skits performed mostly in the Samoan language, which can last four or five hours. This event is celebrated in at least a dozen Samoan churches in Anchorage, such as the Church of the New Testament.

Sometime in 2013 the pews that had come from Turnagain were offered free to anyone

In August 2005 we witnessed the blessing of the First Samoan United Methodist Church Building at 4501 Mountain View Drive. And the first Samoan Flag Day celebration in Anchorage was held July 30, 2005. Other states have held Samoan Flag Days but this was the first for Anchorage, the fastest growing population area for Pacific Islanders. The Flag Day commemorates the raising of the American Flag in Samoa on April 17, 1900 on Tutuila Island by representatives of the United States Navy.

Faletufuga-Asiata said “Church is pretty much our family. You just get that tight-knit feeling.”

They have brought the joy and spirituality of the Wesleyan theology to the Anchorage community. We now celebrate with you.

# Anchorage First Samoan UMC

## **Samoan First at First Anchorage**

Pastor:

Selusi Tuiolomotu, 2018, 2019, 2020

2014

October 12<sup>th</sup> was White Sunday

November 2 prepared and served a full turkey dinner for anyone at First Anchorage UMC

2015

First Samoan hosted the Samoan-American Caucus of the United Methodist Church of the Western Jurisdiction July 24-26<sup>th</sup>

2017

June 26, hosted a meal and a performance at Anchorage First UMC with the Western Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and the Historical Society of the United Methodist Church during their annual meeting this year being at Alaska Pacific University.

2020

October 1st the church was discontinued.



**First Samoan United Methodist Consecration Service May 28, 2006**





# **Ola Toe Fuataina Samoan Fellowship**

## **East Anchorage**

Pastor:

Fa'atafa Fulumu'a, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

Recognized on June 3, 2016 when the East Anchorage UMC discontinued. Started with around 70 members and around 25 constituent members and all services are in the Samoan language.

*Ola Toe Fuataina* means “New Beginning” or “Newness Life”

Visits hospitals, nursing homes

Visits church families who are unable to attend services in person

Were having services in St. Christopher Church in Anchorage on Sunday morning

Songs are very important in the Samoan culture; practice is held Saturday evenings

The Youth adopted the highway on Fireweed and 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue for cleanup.

Annual Christmas Ball

Pastor Tafa graduated from Claremont School of Theology and became this groups licensed local pastor in July 2014

Samoan Fellowship officially joined East Anchorage UMC on July 10, 2010 with about a dozen families

Observed a White Sunday on October 10<sup>th</sup> with baptisms celebrated and new members received



# Seward Memorial

## Pastors:

James Stigall, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991

Duane Chase, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002

Vicki Horn, 2003, 2004, 2005

Richard Smith, interim, 2005, 2006

Peter Perry, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009

Paul Caseman, 2010, 2011, 2012

James Doepken, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

Newsletter called "Winds of the Spirit"

Motto: The House That Love Built

The 1995 mission statement was:

"Because God loves us and calls us to love one another, we commit ourselves to: gather regularly and seek opportunities for growth nurture, and outreach."

Parsonage in 2008 could have been at 338 First Avenue

1989

Sought Alaskanecdotes

Prison supply

Experienced a major impact from Exxon oil spill

Encouraged to vote NO on ballot to extend bar hours

Memorial funds for Joy Wemark were used to purchase an altar cover and brass flower stands for the chancel

1990

Deck on the parsonage replaced

Vacation Church School

Favorite hymns survey was taken

Each newsletter had a section "To the Lower 48"

Songspiration

Postcards with a photo of the church building sold for 25 cents

Jean Budding, previously a missionary in Africa and now working at the Wesleyan Nursing Home was guest speaker November 18<sup>th</sup>

1991

Pledges were taken for pew pads

Rummage sale

Mother's Day Tea and Doll Display at Senior Center

Vinyl siding was placed on church and parsonage

1992

February 2 was designated Richard Champion Sunday recognizing all the things he did for the church

Food Bank

The UMW sponsored the St. Jude's Ranch for Children through the "Proofs-of-Purchase" program

Kenai Regional Program Council sponsored a rereat in Hope "For the Empowerment of Christian Leaders"

1993

Prayer Chain

Held a joint Lenten service with Lutheran and Episcopalian churches

Supported United Methodist World Service Fund

Family Ministries

Handbell Choir

Attended the Wesley Rehabilitation and Care Centers Community Open House

Used Hope Retreat Center for a "Cooperative Thanksgiving"

Sent Campbell's Soup labels to the Utica Neighborhood Center

Provided coats for Armenian refugees

Walk to Emmaus

Held a "Celebrating Marriage" Retreat

Participated in sports like volleyball, walleyball

Advocated seeing the ABC television show "The Red Booth" produced by the United Methodist Church

Bible Study

Member of the Ministerial Associate of Seward

Held rummage sales

Held cottage meetings in homes

Helped church in Zambia

1994

A Music and Worship Committee was formed

Child Caregiving Team formed

Seward Ministerial Association

Christmas eve the church burned down

1995

While church was being rebuilt from the December 26<sup>th</sup> fire, worship was held in the High School auditorium

Dedication of new church building was held April 14<sup>th</sup>

6 months after the groundbreaking ceremony the first congregational worship service was held on the last Sunday in October followed by cornbread and chili

Continued to share space with the Lutherans Seaman's Mission offerings to crews on the many ships in port

Weekly food basket to Food Bank

Annual pie sales during 4<sup>th</sup> of July event

Had a close relationship with the Lutheran church

Campbell soup labels fundraiser

Birthday bingo

March 24<sup>th</sup> the Knock-Abouts gave a concert



### **Seward Memorial historical display area**

Collected no longer needed prescription eye-wear which was destined for third world countries

1996

Puppet Ministry

Annual Progressive Dinner

AVTEC used the building for custodial training

Established a covenant relationship with a missionary couple in Zaire, Glenn and Roberta Hupprich, former residents of Seward. Because of unrest they need to relocate to Zambia in 1997

Winter clothing was collected and sent to Nome UMC Thrift Store

Purchase of teddy bears for distribution and to support the local fire, police and emergency staff

Donated over 192 T-shirts to Larry Acton's VIM project in Mexico and seed money for 10 small homes  
 April 4<sup>th</sup> was the new building dedication with a fellowship buffet

1997

Seeds of Faith Preschool started in the Fall with a one year experiment working with a maximum of twelve children  
 Sent money for Anchorages' Habitat House  
 Youth Bell Choir formed  
 Global Gathering III held in Kansas City, Missouri; Rev. Chase preached at a covenant church

1998

WAG support for Willow, Anvik, Grayling  
 AAAA  
 Kaleidoscope  
 Food Bank  
 4<sup>th</sup> of July Pie Sales  
 Hand Bell Choir

2005

Pastor Doeppkin injured in bike accident  
 Celebrated 100 years of ministry in Seward 1905 – 2005  
 A centennial booklet was produced, as was a magnet  
 A float was put into 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade; a group picture was taken October 9<sup>th</sup>; and new items were placed in a time capsule in the cornerstone  
 A memorial tree was planted on property during the centennial of August 13-14  
 Food Bank  
 CROP Walk  
 UMCOR  
 Operation Christmas Child  
 Had a worship band  
 Bread Basket Welcoming Ministry  
 Comfort Prayer Quilt Ministry  
 Outside of Church was painted  
 Friendship Sunday  
 Yard Sales  
 Easter Community Sunrise Service at SeaLife Center  
 Prayer Shawl Ministry  
 Pie Sales

2006

4<sup>th</sup> of July Pie Sales  
 All Church Progressive Dinner  
 Nothing But Nets

2007

PETs  
 Quilting  
 Seaman's Mission Food Bank  
 Puppet Ministry  
 Part of Seward Ministerial Association  
 Hands Together Ministry of medical and social services in Mexico  
 Kairos Prison Ministry



CROP Walk April 29<sup>th</sup>  
 The Handbell Choir and Praise Band were joined by a new Vocal Choir  
 Contributions of food and money were given to the He Will Provide agency and the Seaman's Mission  
 Funds were collected for the Seward Community Playground with picket purchases with church name on them  
 Hosted monthly program "God Goes to the Movies"  
 Worship services at Wesley Rehabilitation Center was reinstated.

2008

Praise Band – Cisum Yloh  
 Annual Rummage Sale  
 Seeds of Faith Preschool  
 Part of a community church choir  
 Handbell ministry  
 Youth praise band  
 Anne Hatch Sunday  
 Hosted the Professional Church Workers retreat in February  
 CROP Walk

God in the Movies family home discussions  
Created an AVTEC campus Christian Fellowship  
VIMs

Cookie Ministry started with batches at Civil Air  
Patrol, Bear Creek Fire Dept., Northstar Clinic,  
the Chamber of Commerce, the Ambulance  
Corps, and to teachers at each of the Seward  
schools

Quilt & Crafts Auction and Sale on July 4<sup>th</sup>  
Newsletter usually had a column called: The  
Back Page Devotional

Bless of the Fleet May 17<sup>th</sup>

Birthday gifts were given to Wesley Nursing  
Home residents

2009

Made a quilt with blocks representing 7 UMC  
churches on Kenai Peninsula which hangs in  
the sanctuary

Girl Scouts

Women's Reading Group

Offered worship services to the Providence

Wesley Care Center Sunday afternoons

The Campus Christian Fellowship met at  
AVTEC Sunday evenings

Member of Chamber of Commerce

Member of Seward Ministerial Association

Blessing of the Fleet

Worked at making Seward/Moose Pass an  
Aurora Congregation

New carpet was installed in fellowship hall,  
hallway, nursery, and office

*God Goes to the Movies* conversations

Helped with the opening and support of the  
Providence Alaska Seward Mountain Haven  
Green House® Facility for 40 long-term resi-  
dents

Participates in an ecumenical Sunday school  
program with Lutheran and Episcopal children  
Youth Praise Band

2sdays Program

Delivers cookies to those considered un-  
derappreciated

CROP Walk

A pastor's emergency assistance fund was  
established

VIMs

Developed church-to-church relationships  
with congregations in Arizona, California,  
New York and Pennsylvania

2010

Sixth annual Seward area CROP Walk  
(Communities Responding to Overcome Pov-  
erty)

Original Eastern Star piano got needed atten-  
tion

2011

14<sup>th</sup> year of Seeds of Faith Preschool

Miles Knotek from the Moose Pass Congrega-  
tion won Mt. Marathon Junior Race

Socks, mittens and gloves on tree for givea-  
way

Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes

VIM teams

2018

Developed a Church Family Wall

Helped Food Pantry

Had Pigs on a Mission

2019

Participated in national donation drive for  
Socktober; distributed over 500 pairs of  
socks in the eastern Kenai Peninsula





# Sitka

## Pastors

Carol Ann Seckel, 1985

John E. Washburn and Cheryl, 1986, 1987, 1988

Joe and Mary Davis – interim, summer 1988  
June to August

Dr. W. Harold and Valeria Loyd, interims Feb.  
– April 1989

John J. Shaffer and Barbara Dadd Shaffer,  
1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994

Charles L. Young and Gerry, 1995, 1996,  
1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

Joe S. Hubbard, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004

Allen T. and Linda Baggett, 2005, 2006,  
2007, 2008

Luther Oconer, 2009, 2010, 2011

Ferdinand Llenado, 2012, 2013, 2014

Sandra Hammett, 2015

Bennie Grace Nabua, 2016, 2017, 2018,  
2019, 2020, 2021



Alma Hartman  
attended but  
missed group  
photo

On April 18, 1965, (Easter) twenty-nine persons became charter members  
Constituting Day was October 24, 1965

Old address: 1104 Edgecumbe Drive  
303 Kimsham  
Parsonage was at 1409 Halibut Point Road  
1965  
Started meeting in the Masonic Temple

1975  
April 20<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner

1980

Welcomed refugees La Tuyet Mai and her 5 children to Sitka to a trailer with household items and clothing  
Had a Clown Ministry workshop  
Participated in a Ministerial Association

1981

Bill Brooks became the first from Sitka UMC to be accepted as a candidate for ministry at Iliff  
December 13 was the dedication of sanctuary organ

1982

Performed David & Goliath Intergenerational Musical  
Day Care went into their own building, had opened on August 20, 1979

1983

3-D organized for a 12 week session (Diet, Discipline, and Discipleship)  
For a month played "Firebreaks – A War – Peace" Game  
Conducted a Youth-Parents Ethics Seminar  
All Church Fish Fry at Halibut Point  
Jim and Jean Strathdee Concert held on August 23  
Trick or Treat for UNICEF  
Day at Sea Event at Crescent Harbor/Pirates Cove  
Sent goodies and reading material to the Five Finger Island Lighthouse Coast Guard people

1984

Made 100 paper cranes – orizuru – for Advent  
Alaska Day sold cinnamon rolls and held the

Great Alaska Crab Feed

1985

The Social Concerns, Missions and Ecumenical Affairs groups were merged into a single committee: "Outreach"

1986

New playground was a hit with the neighborhood  
Friendship Circle UMW  
Car Wash  
Watchnight Party on New Year's Eve

1987

New Directory was available  
Attended the annual Southeast United Methodist Winter Convocation for Senior High students  
Got Support from Hames Sea Mart with 1% of receipts  
4<sup>th</sup> of July UMC Booth for pictures taken against an Alaskan backdrop  
Cleared land for new sanctuary, foundation started on May 26<sup>th</sup>  
Friendship Circle  
VBS

1988

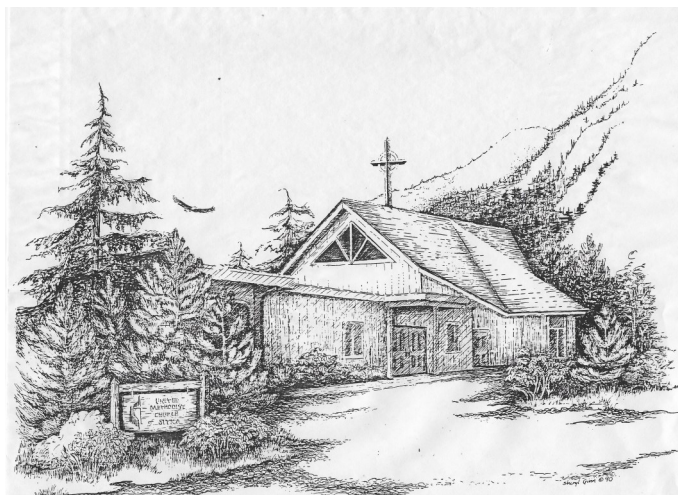
The new sanctuary building was consecrated February 12<sup>th</sup>; many rose to their feet to share warm words of admiration and praise. Aldersgate presented songbooks to the Sitka congregation composed of Strathdee music and several hymns written by Aldersgate members.  
Then each part of the new sanctuary was presented and dedicated.  
Crane was used to place 8' steel cross in place through hole in roof  
Shared a Seder dinner with the Sitka Lutheran Church  
Hosted community Thanksgiving Service  
Hosts a Head Start program administered by Tlingit Haida Council in Juneau  
In the summer the church hosts the community operated Sitka Youth Hostel in the lower level

1989

Parsonage work was completed  
Choir got new robes  
100 Good News Bibles bought by Marian Ann Plitt  
Canoe Camp on Admiralty Island  
Banner created by Sheryl Ginn and Jammie Wileman

1990

Camp was with backpacks on Cottonwood Trail in Kluane National Park  
Participated in OXFAM America day of fasting  
Hosted Covenant Players  
Hosted four exchange students from AFS International: Honduras, Latvia, Yugoslavia, and Belgium  
"The Bridge" newsletter masthead designed by Jeanette Hartman Rogers  
Provided food, diapers, and infant formula for Salvation Army  
New hymnals were presented in memory of chosen people  
Met with the Presbyterian Synod at Sheldon Jackson College  
Explored "The Care Cottage" concept – a proposed home for unwed teenage mothers  
Recycling  
Hosted VIMs  
Coins for Mission  
Helped the Sitka Lutheran Church Celebrate their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration  
April 14-15 was celebration of 25 years  
450 copies of an art print by Sheryl Ginn was sold for \$10 each to help with construction of sanctuary



Final mortgage payment was made for the parsonage in February

1991

Team of walkers for March of Dimes  
Southeast Camp was on the Chilkoot Trail – a backpacking adventure in Gold Rush National Park  
Covenant with a couple in Nepal  
Six class sessions were held on: ANCSA: Caught in the Act  
Prepared the "Living Memorial Garden" in front of church

1992

Part of Camp was a Yukon River float trip from Eagle to Circle  
John Shaffer planted a tree donated by the Alaska Pulp Mill below the parsonage

1993

Hosted a Hunger Banquet as part of the Fast for a World Harvest campaign  
Pulp Mill closed

1994

Alaska Day – sold sticky buns and salmon  
Took advantage of the Kodak Power of Purchasing program  
Shared services with Church of the Nazarene, Lutheran, St. Peters Episcopal, and Salvation Army  
Ministerial Association  
Had covenant relationship with Nome/Bowers, First UMC in Rantone, Illinois; Wesley UMC in Springfield, Illinois; and Blue Mound UMC in Blue Mound, Illinois.  
Appealed the decision of the National Program Division to deny church request for a grant to purchase the alley vacated by the City and Borough  
Established a Library  
Name of the newsletter became "The Bridge" – see 1990 entry  
Work teams were recruited by the United Methodist Church Regional Construction Services  
Kitchen hot water heater was installed on 9/30/94



1995

New directories were available

1996

Methodist Murder Mystery Maven events  
For Alaska Day had Parade Booth and Dinner at Senior Center

Old Time Movie Night

Tuesday Sharing and Prayer Group

Became a Reconciling Congregation

1997

Heifer International

Supported the ANB/ANS Convention

Pledges were solicited by youth for a 30-hour famine for world hunger relief sponsored by World Vision

Youth took part in the 30-hour Famine

1998

The Sitka Cooperative Church Council is made up of the Catholic, Episcopal, Lutheran, Presbyterian and Methodist churches organized to coordinate activities which are better done together than separately.

Easter '98 – burned the mortgage on the sanctuary built 10 years ago

In December the parsonage had a small fire

2008

Taize' services

Financial Peace University

Helped with the community nativity display

Power Lab VBS with the Vim Team for Ada, Oklahoma

Shoobox ministry to help the Salvation Army Involved through the Ministerial Association

Financial Peace University

Established a Good Samaritan Fund

2019

Lunch programs of soup and sandwiches are shared with the Salvation Army and St. Gregory's Roman Catholic Church during the weekdays and on Sunday the Sitka church does the Manna Lunch.

VBS

Choir and Bells Ministry

Contemplative Reading of Scriptures in the morning

Bible Study in the evening



Rev. John J. Shaffer was one of many giants in the Alaska United Methodist Conference



# Soldotna

## Pastors

Ken Hepner 1982 - 1991

Jim and Margaret Airey – interim 1991  
Dave Beckett 1991 - 1999

Kenneth Hepner, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988,  
1989, 1990, 1991

David G. Beckett, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995,  
1996, 1997, 1998

Bob Quick – interim – 1999 - died 2013

Dale R. Kelley, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003,  
2004

Richard Whetsell, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008,  
2009, 2010

Lauren Kay Shock, interim 2011, 2012

Karen Martin Tichenor, 2012, 2013, 2014,  
2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

1968

December 15, chartered with 69 members; history book has 12/25 Christmas???

1978

Dennis Holway considered having a community garden  
Maintained a church library  
Peninsula Mom's Fellowship  
UMW

The organ was paid in full by February 1978  
Participated with 8 other church ministers in a chaplaincy program at Central Peninsula Hospital

1989

Spring Fling Extravaganza Auction

1990

Spring cleanup after Mt. Redoubt eruption  
Sound system for hearing impaired sought  
Discussion underway on remodel of OLD sanctuary (probably the Tustemena section)  
Food Pantry  
Progressive Dinners  
AA Group  
Brownies and Girl Scouts  
Lamaze classes  
Church of Religious Science used building  
Effort was made to sell the parsonage on Sterling Highway (not sold until Fall 2019)

Love INC  
 Christmas gifts to the residents of Seward's  
 Wesleyan Home  
 Money for Guatemala Children  
 Supported Apples for Schools with receipt col-  
 lections  
 Photo Directory updated  
 Parent's Day Out  
 CPR Classes  
 Habitat for Humanity  
 Craft Group  
 Cancelled Stamp Project

1991  
 Habitat for Humanity

1994

Jennie Coasts US-2 Volunteer  
 Peace pole is placed by entryway  
 Chime Choir

1995

The November-December 1995 issue of New  
 World Outlook profiled SUMC with an article  
 entitled "Soldotna: A Church Committed to  
 Mission."

1997  
 Initiated a Lay Academy

1998

Healing Touch Ministry  
 Used a Job Jar for people to use  
 Received a piece of property in Iris Heights  
 subdivision and was offered for sale  
 December 13, 1998 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary worship  
 service bulletin  
 \$5 anniversary pens were available to help  
 send youth on mission trip to Ohio  
 Anniversary Afghans were available for \$50

1999

Mission trip to Columbus Ohio inner city kids  
 Lay Academy – a group of short term classes/  
 courses which meets on a regular basis for  
 education, Christian or otherwise.  
 The Knockabouts gave a gospel concert  
 Food Bank  
 Love Inc.  
 Cloth of Many Colors Peace Project

2000

Books to Belize  
 Chime Choir  
 The Acolyte Supply Stand was built by Rev.  
 Henry Murray  
 Sent a VIM team to North Carolina to help  
 recover from Hurricane Floyd  
 Sewed 150 robes for children in a village in  
 Senegal  
 Blessing of the Animals



2001

Participated in the AMC VIM team to Kenans-  
 ville, North Carolina for home repairs  
 Sold pecans from Georgia  
 Spring Fling Farmer's Formal

2002

The basement of the Soldotna Church of God  
 church flooded and the UMC offered its space  
 for their Wednesday night Sunday School  
 Kids Choir  
 UMCOR Health Kit Packing Party  
 Office computers, etc. were stolen  
 First annual Harvest Dinner

2003

Sponsored Cub Scout Troop 669  
 Butterfly Tree

2004

SUMC, North Star UMC and United Church of the New Covenant joined together for an Ash Wednesday service  
Storage Shed built by Tennessee VIM team  
Bright children's comfort quilts were hung on the walls during a service focusing on women and children. Women from the Kenai Church of the Covenant made them for the Women's Resource and Crisis Center and when a child leaves the Center they can take it with them

2005

Progressive Dinner  
UMW created quilt blocks to send to children in Afghanistan

2006

Offered mission programs at Kenai Alternative High School  
Love, Inc (In the Name of Christ)  
Had a "Harvest Dinner" by Nurture Team  
Supported Fair Trade  
Heifer International  
Started to use hearing assistance equipment  
Replaced overhead projector in sanctuary with computer projector  
Men's Group Breakfast  
Earth Day Celebration  
Placed teams in the Relay for Life  
Cub Scouts  
Walk to Emmaus  
Spring Cleaning  
Summer Mission Market  
Website was being developed  
Mission trip to Anvik/Grayling  
Family Fun Fest  
Grief Recovery Group  
All Church picnic near Sterling at Christian Retreat Center  
Managed the bulletin and photo boards at entrance  
Food Bank  
Kairos at Wildwood  
Missionary Rev. Sandra K. Olewine spoke on Middle East issues

2007

Held a Summer Hummer Auction Fundraiser  
Support PET (Personal Energy Transportation)

Provided used sewing machines for self-help project  
Life Love Loss Grief Support Group  
Nothing But Nets  
Mission Trip to Gulfport, Mississippi to help recover from Hurricane Katrina  
Food Bank  
Summer Hummer Food Entertainment Auction  
Wildwood Correctional Complex Kairos for Men  
Hiland Mountain Kairos for Women  
Bags by Santa  
Love INC (In the Name of Christ)  
VBS  
Auctions  
Ten Thousand Village sales  
7<sup>th</sup> year providing a hot breakfast for the Kenai Alternative High School

2008

Held a 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary event on July 20<sup>th</sup>  
Gave Rides for Senior citizens  
Game Night  
Celebrate our Senior Women  
Alpha Class  
Mission Education Events/Mission u  
Volunteers went to Greensburg, Kansas to help UMC recover from 2007 tornado  
Supported VIMs who fixed leaks from the roof  
Live Big was started as an after school program for children  
The Joy of Self Discovery class was popular  
Mad Hatter High Tea  
Ten Thousand Villages sale  
First Annual Walk to Emmaus  
Kairos Prison Ministry

2009

"Strengthening Families" was a program sponsored by the Community Action Coalition  
Held the Annual Mad Hatter Tea

2010

Monday night knitting club  
The birthday cake program at Soldotna High School was started  
The church web site and Facebook page were started  
A mission trip was taken to aid those affected by the Katrina hurricane

VIM teams did maintenance and VBS

2011

The paper newsletter ended in May and will now be sent through e-mail henceforth  
The Capital Campaign Fund was started  
The parsonage was remodeled

2012

Members volunteer at the Central Peninsula Hospital  
A new shed, new shelving and coat rack, and expanded playground are added  
No One Dies Alone (NODA)  
Under the Kitchen Table food ministry  
The Food Pantry was started in September by Troy Castimore

2013

SUMC T-shirts were available for sale  
Imagine No More Malaria  
Became part of the Beta Vitality Pilot Program for 2 years

2014

Church cookbook was completed  
Community Garden continues to flourish  
Homeless Connect

2016

Pastor Chaplain at hospital and Heritage Place

2017

Food Bank  
Wednesday Night Dinners for the community  
Pigs on a Mission

2018

August 19, 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary worship service  
Table Talk with Pastor Karen at Kaladi Brothers Coffee shop  
AA Freedom Group  
Boy Scouts  
Food Pantry

2020

Wednesday Take Out Dinners  
Livestream services

Bible Study by Zoom

Pastor kept a blog on webpage  
Has a history page on webpage  
Cub Scouts

Newsletter called: "Soldotna Spirit"

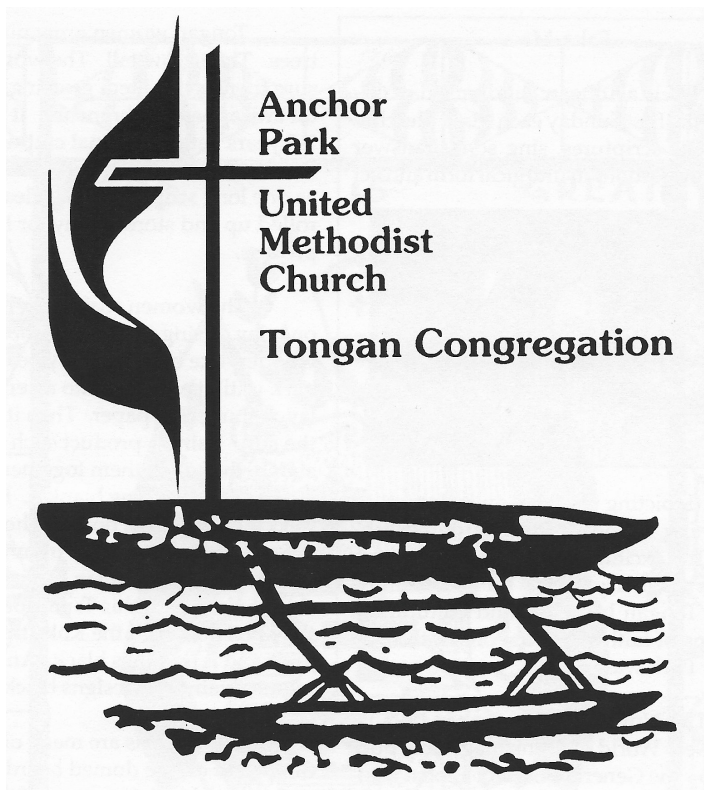
Worship was on Facebook

Wednesday Night Dinner was continued with drive-up/take out

Food Pantry was working with the Food Bank distribution

Bible studies were done via Zoom





#### Pastors:

Halatoa Saulala, 1986 -- 1995

Lupe Saafi, 1996 – 2018

Latu Tu'uholoaki, 2019, 2020, 2021

Around 1970 Pacific Islanders came to study at Alaska Methodist University. Some students returned to Tonga and Samoa and other islands but many decided to stay. Family members of these residents then came to visit and decided to participate in the economic advantages of the oil pipeline boom from 1974-1979.

Halatoa Saulala came to Alaska in 1975 and worked with Rev. Leroy Davis at Anchor Park to start the fellowship. Many years later he moved to serve at the San Brudo Tongan United Methodist Church.

In 1978 the Polynesian Fellowship was organized at Anchor Park United Methodist Church and over the years many dozens of Polynesian people, mostly Tongans, have participated in the co-mingled church.

There is a Pacific Conference of Churches and a Caucus is held yearly. One was held at Anchor Park between August 1-4, 2001. The days are filled with worship services, Bible study, small group discussions, choir competition, dancing groups, silent dramas, plus much fellowship.

Many boxes of books were sent to Tonga schools and churches.

Faka-Me is a Tongan children's day celebrated the first Sunday each May, the first one at Anchor Park was in 1988.



Tongans from across The United Methodist Church give the invocation during the worship at the 2008 United Methodist General Conference in Fort Worth, Texas, where the Pacific-Islander study was overwhelmingly approved.

PHOTO: JOHN C. GOODWIN/UMNS

The November/December 1995 issue of *New World Outlook* magazine featured an article *A Tongan Christmas in Alaska*, as told by Lupe Saafi.

A new United Methodist Global Songbook was put together for the 1996 General Conference. Some Tongan hymns were included in this global resource.

Other churches were created for the Tongans in Anchorage including the January 14, 2009 incorporation of the Siasi Uesiliana Tauataina O Tonga in Alaska (S.U.T.T.) (Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga in Alaska) with Melekakala Tenifa Naufahu as leader.

Talakai Finau organized a Praise Band

In 1997 Eddie Kelemen, District Superintendent in the Rocky Mountain Conference, met with the Tongans to help them with visioning and goals to their dreams.

Another church was the Wesleyan Missionary Church incorporated July 30, 2010 with Sione Finau as leader.



Banner from Kingdom of Tonga



King Tupou IV of Tonga (seated) with Princess Salote Pilolevu Tuita, member of the Presidium of the World Methodist Council. (Standing) The Rev. H. Eddie Fox, Director of the New World Mission program and the Rev. V. H. Mo'ungaloa, President of the Free Wesleyan Church in Tonga



# Trapper Creek Fellowship

## Pastors:

Jack Christian was pastor 1981-1985 along with Jim Campbell and

Reeves Havens, Jr. and

Charles A. Nowlin at the conclusion of the Parks Highway Parish program

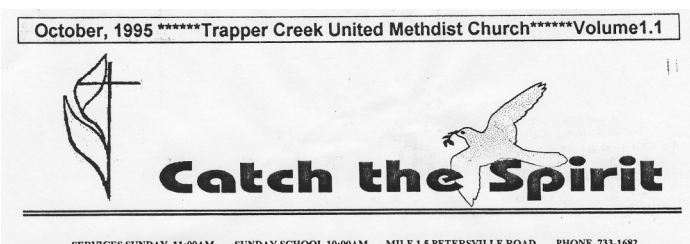
Julie A. Sheffer (Local Lay Pastor) 1993, 1994, 1995

Mark Christian, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999

Julie Wasser, 2000, 2001, 2002

Ron Martinson from the ELCS, 2003 (end of AMC association as it was transferred to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Alaska Synod)

Newsletter Name: Catch the Spirit



Located at Mile 1.5 on the Petersville Road west of Talkeetna

A review of the book "Have Gospel, Will Travel" tells the story of the Trapper Creek Fellowship when it began as part of the Parks Highway Parish in July 1981. The pastor from Christ First UMC in Wasilla provided the services the families requested until 1985 when Mel Vostry drove from Anchorage to help out. (Page 54). In April of 1985 a student from Alaska Pacific University, Don LaFils, took over for Mel. (Page 124). It was never formally chartered by the United Methodist Church.

Lee Ann Butler bought 10-acre tract on July 21, 1982 for \$29,000.

Four women's seminars were held

Pastor Hal Sheffer was a pilot for the Susitna Valley Flying Circuit to Yetna Station, Shell Hills, Lake Creek, Skwentna

Singspirations were popular

Church was part of a Share Group who took road kill moose to area families

Church provided a "Free Box" as a clothes exchange spot.



1984

Bishop McConnell recognized that the Methodists had not been able to provide the kinds of ministry which they and the conference desired.

The Palmer Lutheran Church and the Wasilla Presbyterian Church offered to do services when the Methodists could not.

Denvy Saxowsky really tried to get pastoral care with alternatives such as a part-time pastor, itinerant speakers, a union church, etc. but to no avail.

Conference Superintendent the Rev. Carl Ann Seckel wrote on February 16, 1989 to Curt and Darlene Matz in Big Lake that "The United Methodist presence in the community has provided the base for a mainline Protestant presence in the area."

1993

Part of the building was leased on an annual basis to the Trapper Creek Library Association. Pastor Julie Sheffer arrived in Alaska on September 13, 1993 with her husband Hal who was a retired United Methodist Church pastor.

1994

New roof was put on the first structure

The Chair of the Church Council was Randi Wing who was also the song leader; Secretary was Kathy Ernst; and Geni Wing was organist.



1995

Caroled around the community  
Held a New Year's Eve Progressive Dinner  
Supported the Community Food Bank and Clothing Exchange at the Greater Grace Baptist Church  
Hosted Community Thanksgiving Dinner

1996

New Hope Church in North Pole and Fairbanks First UMC provided \$250 monthly to cover the Trapper Creek parsonage rent through June 1996 (not sure when it started.) An enlarged foundation was laid for a new building. John Moore was general manager.

1997

A nursery was added with a special ministry to the young mothers of preschoolers (MOPS). Created a Play Day for preschoolers

1998

Created a Coffee House for teens  
Host AA  
Continued to provide a wedding venue  
Offered funeral services

1999

Donated to CROP Walk  
Donated to Russian Far East Mission

2000

A VIM group from Tennessee gave the building a face lift  
A VIM group from Colorado organized a Vacation Bible School  
The community spaghetti feed became a popular event

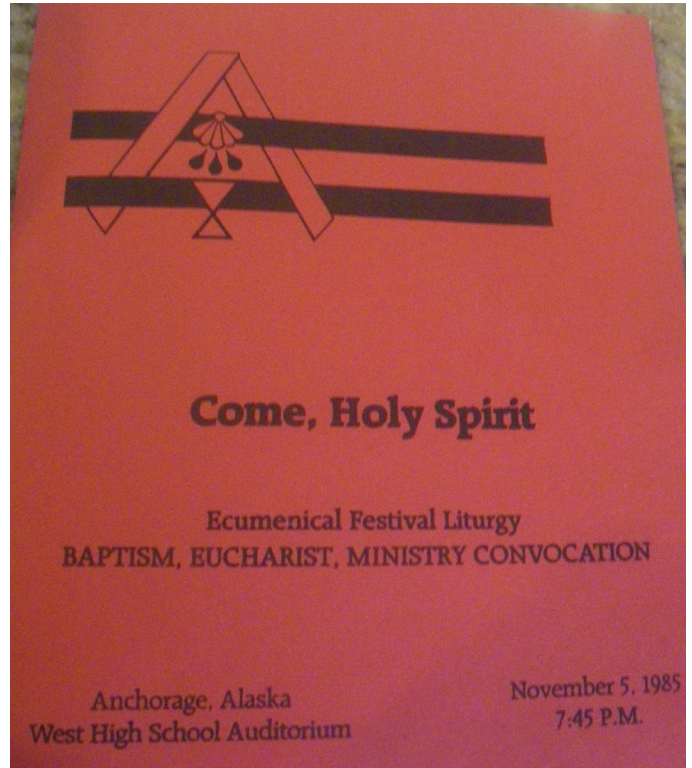
2003

The Alaska Missionary Conference developed a legal agreement to sell the Trapper Creek property and the document was signed on December 11, 2003 for \$21,000.

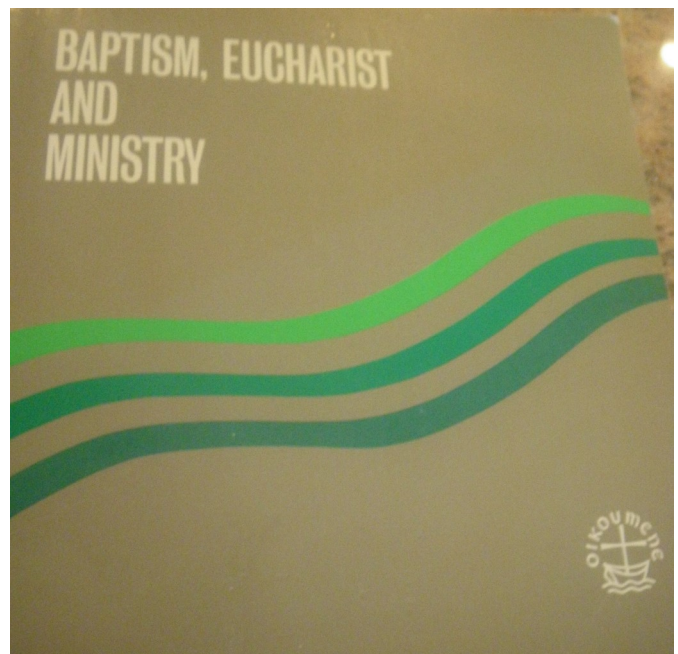
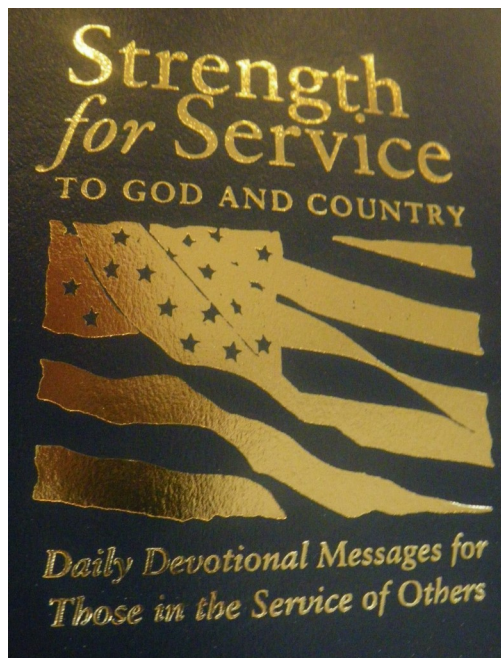
Conference received the deed for the property

2016

PLUME phased out its support for this ministry when the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Wasilla hired a part-time lay pastor, Ron Rucker.



This 1985 Ecumenical Festival was held with many denominations represented and the convocation task force was Chaired by Walt Hays and included Barbara Dadd Shaffer. Participating as United Methodists were the Rev. Wayne Weld-Martin, Bishop Calvin D. McDonnell, and Rev. Thom White Wolf Fassett.





# Turnagain

## West Anchorage

### Pastors

Anne Weld-Martin, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989

Dennis B. Holway, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2001, 2002

Brenda Wingfield, 2000 (there was no assignment in 1999), 2001

James Campbell, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008

Dale Kelley, 2009, 2010

Robert Smith, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

October 26, 1958 Rev. Fred McGinnis presided over the Constituting Church Conference with 16 charter members (page 30 of 1959 Journal)

Founding clergy couple Richard and Vivian Bruner

Newsletter names were: Bits and Bytes; Turnagain Tidings (selected after being suggested by Susie Holway's Aunt Joy in 1992)

### South Anchorage (Bayshore) (Faith)

David K. Fison, 1985

Donald Sather, 1986

Turnagain was part of a three-church charge and when Bayshore closed in 1986 members went to either Turnagain or Jewel Lake Parish. See *Have Gospel Tent Will Travel* for details.

# TRI-ANCHOR ECUMENICAL PARISH

TRINITY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
3300 Wyoming Dr.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
(907) 272-1634

JEWEL LAKE PARISH CHURCH  
3833 Strawberry Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502  
(907) 344-0431

TURNAGAIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
3300 Northern Lights Boulevard  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
(907) 279-3342

1982

Softball Team played in the Church League  
There was a Nuclear Arms Study Group  
There was an Ethics in Government 6-week class  
Hymnals were donated to Trinity Presbyterian Church  
Methodist Vagabonds met at the Nancy Lake Wayside for a rally and after an overnight worshiped at the Willow UMC  
Bud Walters was recognized by First Lady Bella Hammond as one of 20 Outstanding Volunteers across Alaska

1989

Al-Anon  
Boy Scout Troop 82  
Girl Scout Troop 611  
Brownies  
Third annual Anchorage UM Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament at APU  
Goods and Services Auction and Potluck  
Parents Morning Out  
Recycling  
FISH  
Marriage Encounter  
An AIDS quilt was on display at Egan Center  
The United Methodist Racing Association competed in autocross

In its 30 year history (up to 1988?) six people entered the ordained ministry:

Art Knight  
Anne Weld (Martin)  
Nancy Wright  
Donna Lowman (Pritchard)  
Susan Frost (Bennett)  
Sydney Pierce

1989

June 10, 1989 Community Celebration of 10 years of Beans Cafe  
Loaned some Epiphany banners to Christ First Wasilla UMC

Group called "No Dice" opposed ballot measure supporting casino gambling  
SANE/ALASKA planted trees and shrubs in Lion Park in Mt. View on August 6 – Hiroshima Day  
Progressive Dinner  
Chime Choir  
CROP Walk  
Turnagain Arts and Crafts Bazaar  
Helped with Anchorage Literacy Project  
Supported the Interfaith Clearinghouse  
In November they stopped collecting aluminum cans and were directed to Spenard Recycling Center and other places

1990

VBS was replaced with Family Involvement Week  
Kitchen renovation completed

1991

Halibut Trip to Homer on June 15  
Emmaus  
On March 31 on Friday the choir sang at Brother Francis Shelter  
Heifer

1992

New hymnals dedicated  
Got updated directory  
Friday Night Discussion about Movies (Steve and Helena Begg Group)  
APU Choir sang at April 5<sup>th</sup> Service  
One Great Hour of Sharing boxes  
Reinstituted the Lynn Ary Park Easter Sunrise Service  
May 30<sup>th</sup> the First Annual Alaska Missionary Conference United Methodist 5K Fun run, walk, or crawl was held at APU  
June 12<sup>th</sup> All Church picnic at Hope Retreat Center  
Sang Christmas carols at Alaska Psychiatric Institute

1993

A new brochure was developed explaining the wall hangings and banners

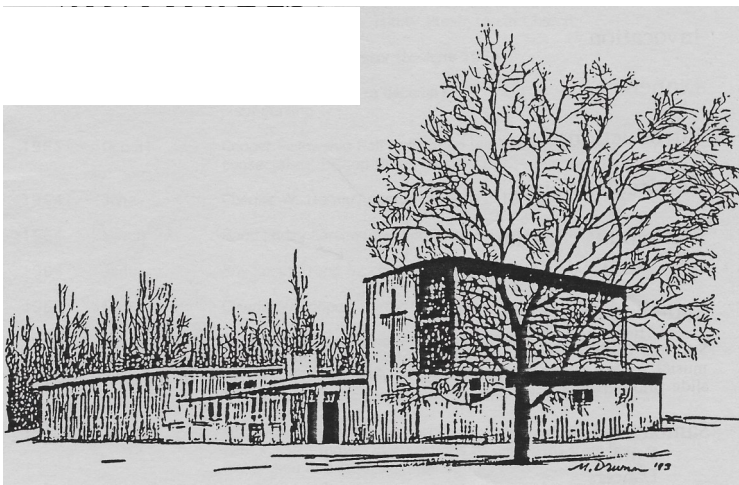
The Trading Game

The 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary task force prepared for an event on October 24<sup>th</sup> with first pastor Richard Bruner

Annual cross-country ski trek to Sheep Mountain

Interim pastor John S. Atwood died 2/7/93

Request went out for a line drawing and a logo for the church. Here is the winning entry.



May 22 – a drive-by shooter caused \$1000 damage after front window was hit late in the evening

Received Global Mission Partner award on June 6

25 member team from Stanwood Washington came to help do VBS and paint the church and parsonage

All church picnic at Valley of the Moon Park  
Dale Davidson was given the Lay Person of the Year award

A new sign was erected on the south side parking lot at 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue

SERRV

Literacy Project

Became a pilot site for WISE tutorial program with 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> graders from Turnagain Elementary School (Winning in Stronger Education)

PTA

New sound system was installed

1994

Embraced “Beginning Experience” a peer ministry of divorced, separated and widowed persons

Advocated against HB162/SB127 Death Penalty

Maxine and Frank Jackson were selected as Fur Rondy Queen and King Regents, Pioneers of Alaska; Frank received the crown from the 1993 King and charter TUMC member Bruno Johnson

New directory available

Group of 12 went on Sierra Service Project mission trip to San Carlos Indian Reservation near Globe Arizona doing winterization work

Search was on for a new organ

Church was member of Anchorage Interfaith Council

November 20<sup>th</sup> ten Samoan families joined TUMC

The Begg’s Discussion Group met monthly in homes to reflect on social issues

Progressive Dinner tradition started

Former pastor Charles Nowlen died 10/5/94

1995

Installed Rodgers 650 digital organ for \$19,600; sold the Baldwin they had had for 30+ years; the new organ was donated by Jim and Joan Flood in memory of their daughter Janice

Lynn Ary Park was adopted for cleanup (Adopt-A-Park Program from Municipality)

June 11 – Great Statewide Celebration of Worship at Atwood Concert Hall

June 4 – dedication of new stain glass window in memory of Dorothy Edlund

Talent show

Guys Bowling Party

Salitai Maga received the Denman Award

November 17<sup>th</sup> there was an All Church Luau

1996

School/Agency/Business Partnership

1997

Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers, a coalition providing services to older and disabled individuals

Chrysalis Flight weekend  
 Ben Walters was presented the Scouts Cross & Flame Award  
 Co-hosted the "Great Day" Singers with St. John  
 Hosted the Anchorage School of Music for 8 weeks in June/July; they had also used the TUMC in 1995-1996  
 Held a Birchwood Camp Scholarship Phantom Spaghetti Dinner  
 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October  
 Established the Tes Immigration Fund

1998

New directory  
 Chrysalis Flight  
 Kaleidoscope Sunday for W.A.G.  
 Got rent from AT&T for cell phone on property  
 Parking lot was paved  
 October 24/25<sup>th</sup> celebrated 40 years of ministry

1999

Stained glass windows were installed in sanctuary  
 This was the 5<sup>th</sup> full year of Samoan Fellowship  
 23<sup>rd</sup> year with Butterfly Pre-School  
 36 years as sponsor of Boy Scout Troop 82  
 Choir sang at Alaska Psychiatric Institute during Advent  
 Work day at Lynn Ary Park with 50 Turnagain Elementary School students  
 4<sup>th</sup> year of School Business Partnership with Turnagain Elementary School  
 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Turnagain UMC on October 31<sup>st</sup>

2000

Cell tower was erected after much neighborhood concerns mediated  
 Planted 500 pine seedlings at Birchwood Camp

2001

Planted seedlings at Birchwood Camp  
 Hosted a Moravian Fellowship

2003

Offered two petitions to the Conference regarding St. Lawrence Yup'ik People; and International Mine Ban Treaty

Shared the facilities with the Moravian Church  
 2004

The chartering service for the Samoan Fellowship at Turnagain was May 30, 2004  
 Moravian Fellowship remodeled the two older bathrooms  
 Pastor Jim Campbell was award a \$30,000 grant to initiate a "Gathering of the Elders" conference called "Giving Voice". There ended up five gatherings that happened over the following months  
 William Nicholson was the Moravian representative in 2004

2005

Roof was renovated and was paid for in part by the sale of land bought by the city for a road (\$26,030)  
 Turnagain Church Players present "Out on a Limb"  
 Hosted the Third Gathering of Native Elders Conference  
 Moravians used the building  
 A Siberian Larch tree was dedicated on the church property in memory for the ministry of Della and John Waghiyi to the Russian Native people.  
 The Samoan Fellowship from Turnagain was able to purchase a building in Mountain View and on June 1<sup>st</sup> became a chartered church

2006

Arnold Sherman made a cross from recycled material which is hanging on the wall in the Fireside Room  
 Thursday Night Reading Group (TNRG)  
 Alaska Youth for Environmental Action  
 FISH – Friends in Service to Humanity  
 In April the first ever Towel and Basin Award went to Tom and Mary Nightswander for their outreach program in Malawi, Africa focused on orphanages for children whose parents died of AIDS  
 Parsonage was sold for \$200,000 to the Barber boys

Turnagain gave half of their pews to the Mt. View Samoan Church and after new carpet was put down went on a chair system.

The Worship Committee established the Rachel Lieder-Simeon "Fellowship for Excellence in Preaching" award and the first one went to Rev. Tori Hicks, pastor of the Colfax UMC in Oregon

Walt Hays was awarded the second Turnagain Towel and Basin Award for his efforts with the PET Project

Memorial Service for Rev. Tom Dahl was held April 15<sup>th</sup>

## 2007

Presented the second "Fellowship of Preaching Award" to Andrew Oliver of the PNW Conference (Hoquiam UMC in Washington) that provided a week's retreat in Alaska

There was a Teacher Appreciation Lunch given to the Turnagain Elementary School teachers

## 2008

Boy and Girl Scouts

"Giving Voice" the fifth annual gathering of Native Alaska Elders for three days from seven denominations

Awarded the third "Towel and Basin Award" to Jolie Glaser of Moose Pass for her mission work in Zambia, Africa

Morningside College sent 20 students to use Turnagain UMC as a base for a ten day four credit hour "Immersion in Alaska" class in May

Provided medical care for Russian missionary Klava Makarova

Nothing But Nets raised \$2000 for African families

Dennis Holway was designated "Pastor Emeritus" for thirteen years of service to Turnagain

Hosted neighborhood health fair

Shared its pastor with Barrow and Nome

Produced and distributed an hour long DVD "The Life of Della Waghiyi" made by Latonya Odden.

50<sup>th</sup> anniversary held October 26<sup>th</sup> at Kincaid Chalet

Gave credit for birthing the Samoan UMC, the Moravian Church of Anchorage, and Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church

Clown Sunday

Laurel Andrews received the 4<sup>th</sup> Towel & Basin Award for helping the Anchorage homeless population in various ways

Gave food baskets and gifts for 3 families from Turnagain Elementary School

Published a 50-year history with contributions from Jim LaBau, Earl Maxwell, Jack Frost, Bill Trudeau, Jim Flood, Virginia Hilliker, Beth Henderson, and Netta Walters

Presented the third "Fellowship of Preaching Award" to Rev. Kathy Morris of First UMC in Everett, Washington

## 2009

Started a prayer team/phone chain

Promoted Mitzvah Mall

Spam and other food items were collected for F.I.S.H.

Photo board was updated

Ran "Share the Harvest" for the Downtown Soup Kitchen

Promoted Earth Stewardship

Homeward Bound

Helped the Tundra Women's Coalition Shelter in Bethel

Helped Greg Mortenson's Central Asia Institute to build schools in Afghanistan

## 2010

Had a Film Group

Carpeting was installed in Fireside Room and Hallways

Prayer Shawl Group

Emmaus

Butterfly Daycare

## 2012

Abbe Dunning-Newbury received the Towel and Basin Award

## 2019

Reconciling Ministry

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Crochet mats for the homeless

Shares space with a Tongan Wesleyan Fellowship congregation

Scouts

AA

NA

Jesus Food Gardens to support Beans Café and Downtown Soup Kitchen

Blessing Box Library near parking lot

2020

Provided meals to Clare House

Continues as school ambassadors for Turnagain Elementary School

Trying to stay connected by bringing food and activities to member homes

Provided bags of treats with a pumpkin cookie cutter brought to member homes with the intent they would make pumpkin shaped cookies and share at Thanksgiving

Provided an open Zoom site for various discussions

Successful summer harvest in 3 fenced gardens along with potato buckets.

Turnagain UMC continues to be recognized for its sacrificial generosity.



Sumatanga Camp and Conference Center, North Alabama Conference image



# Unalaska

## Pastors:

Ann Janzen (Full Time Local Pastor), 1991

John Campbell, 1992, 1993, 1994

Steven F. R. Lambert, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

Martha Oldham, 2001

Kathleen Wilson, 2002, 2003, 2004

Dale Kelley, 2005, 2006

Dan Wilcox, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

Kris-Ann Wilcox, 2011

Carl Landerholm, 2014

Variety of people 2015, 2016

Evelyn Erbele and Matt Reinders, 2016

Matthew Reinders, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021



Newsletter Name was United Methodist Happenings in 1991, then in late 1993 it was the Unalaska Breeze

Address: 252 East Broadway Avenue; P O Box 121 99685

The ministry in Unalaska had ceased in 1959 with the drowning of the minister in a boating accident.

1989

Carol Seckel, Chuck Horner and Ann Janzen went in February to see how much interest there was to create a UM presence in the community and in 1991 Ann and Harry Janzen went there on a two-year assignment.

1991

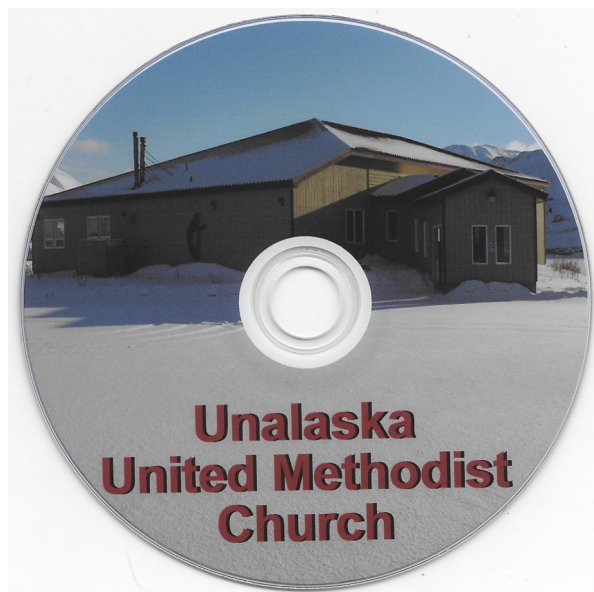
In October about 100 Russian visitors came to Unalaska

Palm Sunday 1991 was the first time they gathered as a congregation

Started meeting in the Unalaska City School in January 1991

Benefitted by a St. John UMC Parcel Post Party Auction

Women's Bible Study Group  
 Sang in the Easter Cantata  
 Unalaska celebrated its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary; three replica Russian boats from the Bering/Chirikov era were there with many Russian sailors and enjoyed a community potluck.  
 Parsonage was made livable thanks to a Louisiana work team  
 Friendship Sunday was on May 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Methodist Volleyball Team had 4 wins and 1 loss with 3 more games to play in November  
 December 24<sup>th</sup> a Christmas Carol Festival was performed with original music by Harry Janzen  
 A communion set was given by the Westby United Church in Wisconsin  
 A silver candle holder was loaned by John and Faye Denton which was part of a wedding gift from John's mother and father; which in turn was a wedding gift his mother received in 1936.



1992

Community-wide VBS  
 Former Soviet citizen, Galena Roraback, became a charter member  
 Roger Paterson, an architect from the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church assisted in developing its initial design for a first building.  
 An exchange was made with the city for the ballpark land for utilities  
 Developed a community choir  
 July 5<sup>th</sup> – Unalaska UMC commissioned John and Jeanette Roberds as Mission Partners to Nome

Served Christmas dinner at the Elbow Room  
 Coins were saved for the building fund

1993

The main building was built by VIMs  
 Officially chartered February 21, 1993; the program lists charter members: 5 regular and 18 provisional

Many Alaskans flew to Petropavlovsk Russia which is a Sister City, coordinated by Peresenia Whittern who is the adopted daughter of former Methodist missionary Keith Whittern, and a native of Unalaska. Food, clothing, medical supplies, school supplies and gifts were given.

A Korean Ministry began in Unalaska by Byung Sun Oh. Resources in Korean from The United Methodist Church were provided.

Promissory Notes were used to fund the first unit of the church building

October 8<sup>th</sup> – Service of Consecration for the Church building was followed by a banquet on October 9<sup>th</sup>

In May a film crew made a composite film of Advanced Special Projects of the United Methodist Church as a promotional piece  
 The first service in the new facility was on September 5<sup>th</sup>

Falling Leaf Race

Dr. Phillip and Jean Armstrong donated \$2,000 for a pulpit cross memorial for the Newhalls.

1994

Fall of 1994 Faye Wilson sang in a gospel program

Falling Leaf Race biathlon

Offered citizenship, GED, and reading classes

Phase One of building completed

Citizenship, GED, and Reading classes were offered

Fish Bake

Craft Group formed

1995

The UMW unit organized

Parsonage built by VIMs

In August an effort was undertaken to

purchase an Ibach piano by Norma Lowder and one was purchased in March 1999. On November 3<sup>rd</sup> it was dedicated with Rev. Steve Lambert in Houston. Then it went on a 4,000 mile journey by truck and barge and arrived 2 weeks later in fine condition.

1998

May 24<sup>th</sup> there was a dedication of Alaska's first United Methodist National Historical Marker (#350) and dedication of the church building; special thanks was given to Helen Hoffman of Alaska Monuments in Palmer, Alaska for donating and carving the historical monument, given in honor of her Methodist family members killed by the Stalin purge in the Soviet Union.

There was a Burning of the Mortgage outside the building

2000

Piano concert by John Hendrickson  
May 27-28<sup>th</sup> the sanctuary was dedicated; a room was named for Dr. A.W. and Agnes Sowle Newhall

2004

A freighter ran aground December 8<sup>th</sup> and the Unalaska UMC members helped clean up the spilled oil and helped feed the Coast Guardsmen and others

2007

Kids Night Out  
Second Blessings Sale

2011

Boy Scout Pack 560  
Boy Scout Troop 561  
KNOW (Kids Night Out Wednesday)

No date: Sarah Peacock Concert came after a BBQ and Bonfire Social

2015

Hosted Girl Scout Troop #381  
Held Fellowship Lunches at Senior Center  
Second Blessing operation

In 2015 Erin and Matt trained as Lay Ministers while Ev or Teri Erbele made quarterly trips to Unalaska. Ev reported on Unalaska's ministry. A VIM team assessed the condition of the parsonage. A large list of needed improvements was developed. The Tutiakoff Park lease was renegotiated with the City of Unalaska to provide meaningful compensation and require better stewardship of the park.

2016

The altar clothes from the UMC in Scotland, South Dakota were delivered by Teri Erbele where they were consecrated in the sanctuary

The Unalaska UMC online ministry started 2016 Matt was assigned by Carlo to be the Lay Minister. "Room For Nonprofits" was created to provide temporary housing for guests in Unalaska performing community service. The program generates revenue for property improvements.

2017

A grant from First UMC Anchorage Foundation and with community support a new cross and flame sign was erected. The flames were made from propane tanks.

2017 A VIM from St Johns UMC Anchorage performed much of the parsonage exterior work.

2019

Goal established to form 100 covenant relationships with congregations giving \$10 a week to fully fund the annual outreach budget.

A plane crash closed the airport thus stranding many people for weeks  
Heath Day offered a workshop focusing on creating a healthy and tolerant future  
In August and November there were sales of clothing and household items  
In September the Teen Council loaded up a 20-foot shipping container, provided by Samson Tug and Barge, so that items remaining after a year's worth of sales could be shipped off the island for recycling.  
Partnership with local school to reduce bullying and promote leadership  
Host Girl Scout Troop 381

Second Blessings community resale, recycling and waste reduction programs  
 Gave temporary housing support for local non-profit organizations  
 Created a community bonfire celebration  
 Hosted Family Fun Nights

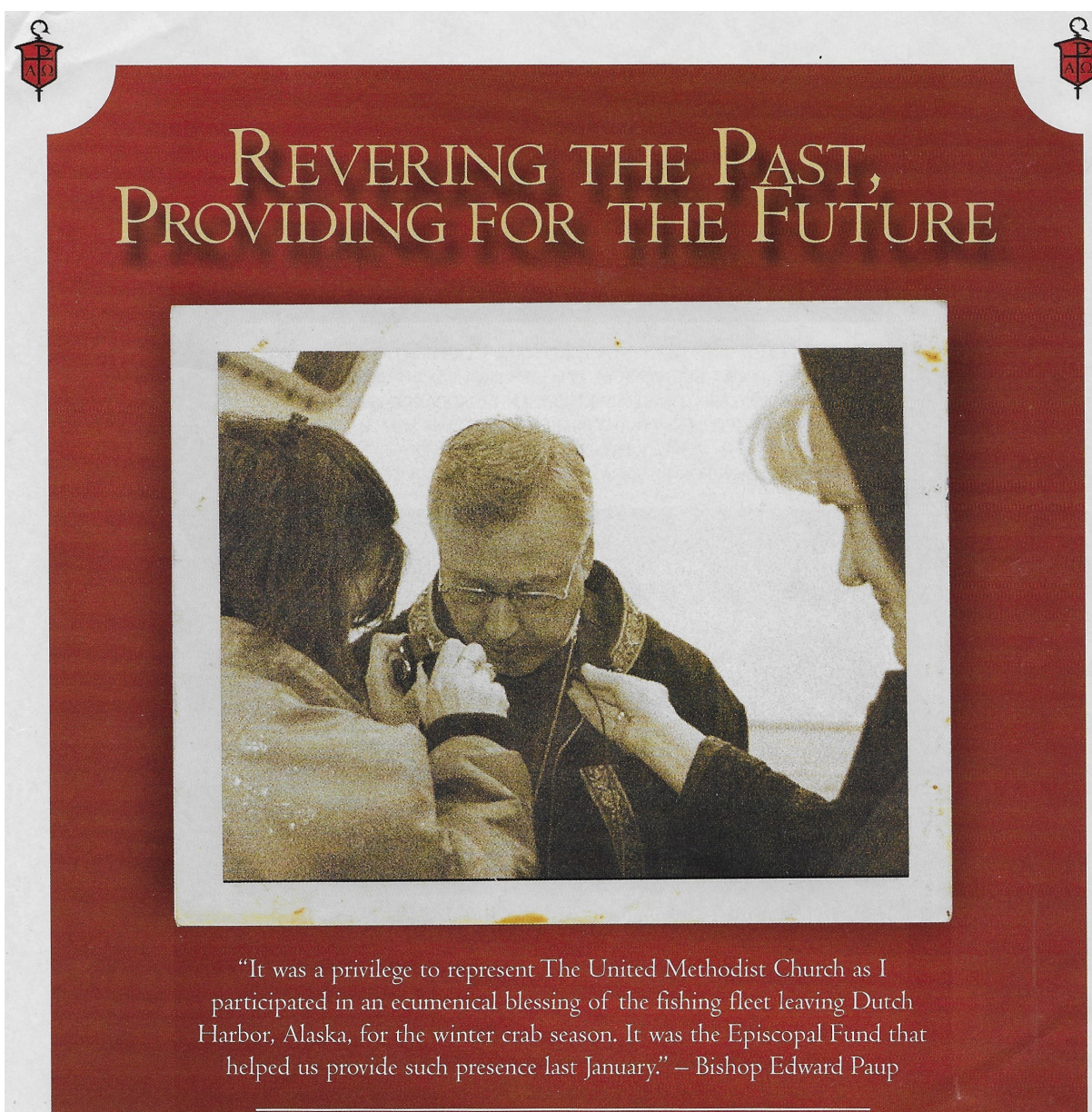
Held an Annual Polar Bear Plunge and WalkTober The Pass to raise funds for cancer research  
 Provided fellowship meals at the senior center  
 Abundant Health partnership with the City of Unalaska and Tutiakoff Park  
 Wednesday Community Connection for youth Bible study  
 Regular Sunday Services  
 Sanctuary was transformed into a movie theater and concert hall and retail shop

2019 Matt was appointed Minister and earns Local License at The Illif School of Theology in Denver, Colorado.

2020 continues to unfold but is proving to be significantly disrupted. The weather blew our sign apart! But the cross and flame stand firm. Ravn Airlines, our only link to Anchorage, filed for financial protection and bankruptcy and grounded all flights.

Offered online ministry during the coronavirus pandemic.

Partnered with Alaska Ship Supply and others to provide food to elders in more remote neighborhood communities





# Willow

## Pastors:

Jack Christian, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985 (he was the first pastor of Parks Highway Ministry)

Linda Jean Myers, 1992

James A. Campbell, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999

Donna Lee Martin, 2000

Stephen D. Eldred, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009,

Dan Lush, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

Daniel Wilcox, 2014, 2015, 2016

Christina and Joe-d DowlingSoka, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

Chartered May 8, 1982 with 11 charter members

Nickname: The Little Church in the Woods

## 1980s

A building and a 2.3 acre lot was purchased from the Presbyterians, who had abandoned the location. The building has 24 old theater seats bolted to the floor and a barrel stove. A large upright piano came with the church building, a local carpenter built an altar and pulpit.

In July 1982 the conference gave the church two relocatable buildings which were placed on a foundation, insulated skirted and used for Sunday School and as a Fellowship Hall. Eventually a well was dug, septic added, improvements made so that it contained a small kitchen and a bathroom. Above notes here are from Phyllis Folta, Historian for WUMC, 2001.



1989

Sent money to Armenian earthquake relief  
Sent money for Bangladesh Relief efforts  
Gave money to the Women's Resource Center  
Softball  
Bible Study  
Valley Woman's Resource Center

1990

Trapper Creek, Wasilla and Willow were all affected by ash from Mr. Redoubt eruption  
Supported missionary Gerusa Santos' ministry in Brazil

1995

Plans developed for a new expanded sanctuary; estimated cost \$108,000 with many VIM Teams to supplement the rest with in-kind donations to complete in 1996 but the first worship service was held on October 15, 1995. It was dedicated on September 14, 1997.

An electric organ was donated and a grand piano was on loan.

The church adapted their telephone ministry to a voice mail system called "Northwinds, a ministry of hope to people in the Matsu Valley during the long, cold dark days of winter."

1996

After the Big Lake Fire several people were lodged in the building and the Red Cross set up a coordinating center there as well  
Began an outreach Fly-In Bush Ministry  
Folder has some WAG history

1998

Went on home visits with school personnel  
Provided firewood for the needy  
Offered counseling  
Offered After School program

1999

Old parsonage was at NR 3 Meleiai in Willow  
Offered a telephone ministry called "Northwinds" for a moment of devotional reflection by calling 373-9555 (no longer available in 2020)



People sewed "fake fur" dog booties for every family in the congregation. Each week the booties were to be filled with loose change and brought back to church and put in a large dog dish. Then money was sent to Nome for mission projects. This was inspired by the Iditarod Dog Race that ends in Nome. Supported the Willow Winter Carnival  
Organized the Willow Spring Institute  
In July more VIMs came to add on an education wing.

2000

They were able to purchase a used 1983 Chevrolet G20 Diesel van to transport kids and others to Sunday School; it lasted until 2005

Pastor Donna started a "Joyful Noise" informal music and prayer service on Wednesday evenings

2001

Much of the money used to build the church came from the Ferne Johnson Memorial Fund and VIMs  
Had 39 members

Supported the missionary to Tonga  
Tree was planted by the Emmaus group in honor of the Sunday School teachers

4 albums of history are in the sanctuary vestibule and are a source of information and enjoyment

2002

Erv Dedeker built the big sign at entrance to parking lot

There was a John Puhl cross on the steeple

There is a lighted Methodist flame on the Education Wing

Parcel Post Auction

Erv Dedeker created birch log cups for each family to put loose change in during April and May and then brought it to church to put in a boot to support the Outdoor Ministries Mission-al Priority Fund

PET

Bill Waldron donated his mother's organ which was named the "Edith Waldron Hammond Organ" and the previous organ was moved to the St. Christopher Catholic Church in Willow Habitat House built in Willow

2003

Candle Lighter Robe was made by BJ Eldred and dedicated in memory of charter member Louise Twitty

A quilt that had Bible stories stitched onto it was a gift from Chime at First UMC in Pulaski, Virginia and hangs in the Education Wing

The first of many stain glass windows was installed with money in honor of Bryan Eley Memorial fund was to be used for stained glass in back of sanctuary

Sent \$250 to Tongan missionary Mary Kelly

The Annual All-Church Conference was held in the Ferne Johnson Room in the Education Wing

2004

Memorial service held for Ziggy, a special friend of the community

The Giving Tree was built in memory of Louis Dafoe and dedicated to all the Volunteers in Mission who came to help build the new facility. Each leaf represents the name of an individual, couple, or VIM team. Each branch is a VIM team.

2005

Participated in Kairos

The Fellowship Hall is known as the Fireside Room



2006

Parsonage was sold and plans were under-way to get another one

2008

Special 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary event on September 2007

Campaign was started to get a new parsonage since the old one did not meet Conference minimum standards

Hosts the Alaska Food Bank in the original church building

2009

Food Bank Ministry

Provided firewood

Parsonage was built by VIM team members from Middlebrook Pike UMC of Knoxville, Tennessee but much interior finishing needed to be worked on

No year, February 1 – Money from the estate of Don Dafoe helped purchase 40 padded oak chairs for the sanctuary; others bought chairs in memory of other loved ones

Ballet enthusiasts performed "Color of a Rainbow"

2015

Gift Registries were established for the Salmon Fire Victims

August 8<sup>th</sup> hosted a Bug Stompin' 5K to benefit Imagine No Malaria

2017

A Kairos event took place February 10/11 led by Paul Williams

2018

There are notices placed on the Facebook page  
Sermons are posted on YouTube

In March a Willow Community Food Pantry Parcel Post Auction is held

There is a community garden at the back of the church

Dogs have important roles in the church

A labyrinth was built by the Memphis Conference Work Team

Dealt with the McKinley and Deshka Landing fires

Stuff the Bus Project

In September a blog was written by Jeff Campbell from Discipleship Ministries about how they model discipleship and service

2019

Provided gas vouchers

Provided weekend sack packs

Provided a shower facility

Hosted Deaconess Kelly Marciales, Director of Valley Interfaith Action to begin "one-to-ones" intentional conversations for congregational focus

2020

In August Munsey UMC in Johnson City, Tennessee collaborated with youth in an on-line VBS.

Worship was done on-line on YouTube

Outdoor services were also held in the parking lot

Ola Williams and her team of volunteers totally reconfigured the food pantry so it could stay open and safely serve as a drive-through pantry. Food bag program and Kids Kupboard continues

School Supply Project was a blessing for kids and teachers

Received a covid-19 response grant of \$21,789 from the Mat-Su Health Foundation

Pastor Joe-d chairs the McKinley Fire Long Term Recovery Group



## **Anvik/Grayling, Church and Community Worker**

Fran Lynch, Deaconess, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007

**From here  
begins a new  
history.**

### **Comments from Bishop Stanovsky August 28, 2020**

Yesterday was the six month anniversary of my first pastoral notice regarding COVID-19. We didn't know much about the coronavirus and the pandemic it would cause on February 27.

We didn't know we would celebrate Easter online. That General Conference in May would be postponed, Annual Conferences in June cancelled, Jurisdictional Conference in July.

We couldn't imagine movie theaters closing. Restaurants open only for take-out. Loved ones being isolated from visits in hospitals or nursing homes. We didn't imagine that we would pass spring and summer and enter fall with restrictions on social gathering, travel, economic activity and schools.

We find ourselves in a wilderness. The bible knows what wandering in the wilderness is like. The bible is full of stories, laments, encouragements, admonitions, guidelines for people who, from time to time find themselves wandering, discouraged, uncertain, lost. So, people of God, listen up. God has not abandoned us.

Most of our churches have adapted very quickly to provide ways for the community to gather remotely – online, drive-in, distanced outdoor, on the phone, by sending written sermons and bulletins. Some have activated telephone trees. It's been amazing.

Nothing is the same in our churches since COVID-19 first forced us to “hunker down” with stay at home orders in March and April and I asked the churches of the Greater Northwest Area (Alaska, Oregon-Idaho and Pacific Northwest Conference) to suspend worship and close their buildings beginning March 13.

Editor's note: at the time of publication in December 2020, there were no indications that churches would open up until sometime in 2021.

### **Comments from Bishop Stanovsky November 10, 2020**

As we reenter life together, we must allow for our dream or memory of community to fade to make room for love to emerge in new and different ways. The task we have is to reimagine church – and all we are and do – so that we can be what God dreams us to be. After all, church isn't a building; it isn't doors or a steeple. Church is the people in ministry and service. If we can't do this ministry in the ways we have in the past, we will find new ways to do it. We will find a way. Our imaginations can show us what is possible.

In many ways we see ourselves as one church with many doors.



Willow



New Hope



Fairbanks



Sitka



Ketchikan



Chugiak



Jewel Lake



Korean



Northern Light United



Alaska Pacific University



Girdwood



St. John



Turnagain



Homer



Soldotna



Palmer



Seward



Douglas



Christ First, Wasilla



Aldersgate



Kenai



Anchor Park



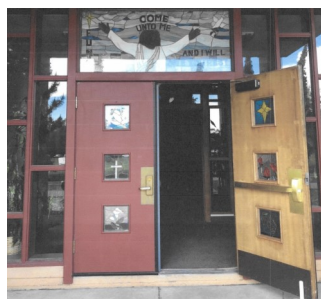
Unalaska



St. Peter the Fisherman



Moose Pass



Anchorage First



North Star