



## E-Newsletter for Alaska Pastors and Supporters

Winter 2023

### Merry Christmas!

We are all covered up in snow here in the Great State! That's no surprise we know, but the beauty of this state wrapped in white never gets old!

There are some changes we'd like to share with you. Our one church in Terrace, B.C. has now been absorbed into Canada - Western. Due to the Canadian compliance regulations between the US and Canada, a geographical advantage for Canada - Western, and a strategic church planting initiative in British Columbia, we have made this change. Soon, the Terrace - B.C. church will become a hub for church planting initiatives in this region. You will also notice these changes reflected in our newsletter banner and website.

As our churches begin their Christmas celebrations, we hope you will continue to pray that their ministries will be productive and increase the kingdom. Our pastors are deeply



This picture taken in North Pole, Alaska at Santa's House. When in Alaska, you should definitely check it out!

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grateful for your prayerful support!



"JB"



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## VISITS IN THE STATE

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### Oceans Church of God

In November, we visited the island of Kodiak to spend time with the Oceans Church of God and Pastor Shannon and Dawn Panthin.

They are still having services in a local school and are doing an amazing job!





Keep the Kodiak congregation and the Panthin family in your prayers as they continue to minister to the folks in Kodiak!

### **Jesus is Lord**

We visited with Pastor Will Asaivao and the Jesus is Lord congregation in November. This church remains committed to serving the Samoan community in Anchorage. We so enjoyed their powerful worship and loving fellowship. Continue to pray for Pastor Will and the Jesus is Lord Church!





## Beacon of Light Church of God

The Beacon of Light Church of God held their Christmas Program entitled, "Christmas in Our Hearts" on December 3rd. What an amazing production! Pastor Tommie and Sis.

Fredda Shook were also in attendance.

Sis. Esther and Pastor Ralph Juan did an amazing job pulling all of the singers/dancers/musicians together to give God all the glory!





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## Taking Care of Business

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We are grateful for the Alaska State Council and the Women's Ministry Board. In early December, we met with the State Council and the Women's Ministry Board for breakfast and enjoyed a great time of fellowship!

Later in the morning, the State Council had a very productive meeting. Rest assured that the ministers you elected are taking care of the business of the Alaska Church of God.



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## Christmas in Alaska

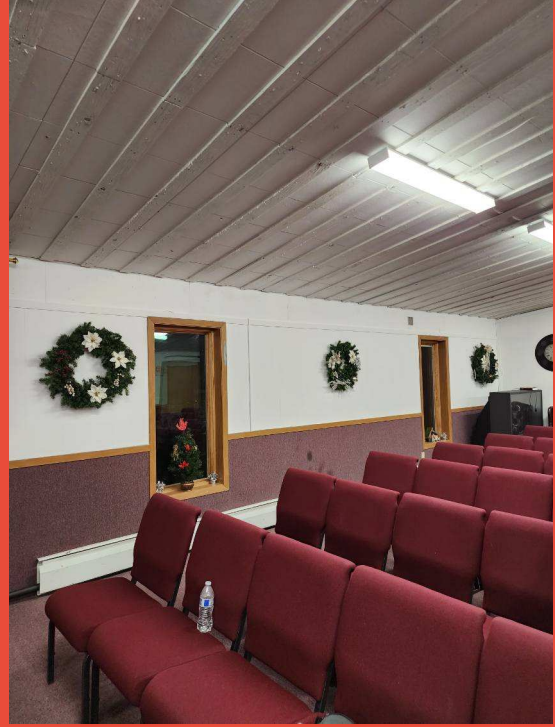
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### Kotzebue

The Kotzebue Church of God decked their halls for the Christmas Season after having a tremendous Thanksgiving celebration. Prior to that, they welcomed Pastor James and Brittany Kinkead from the North Anchorage Church of God for a phenomenal kid's krusade. The turn out for all their events has been tremendous!

Pastor Alan and Miriam Humphries are excited to spend their holidays with their precious Kotzebue church family.





## Craig Church of God

The Craig Church of God held their Christmas Dinner on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful time of good food and great fellowship!



The Craig Church of God still has ongoing renovation projects. If you'd like to help support them in completing their gym and community outreach center, contact Pastor

## Minister's Christmas Banquet

There's nothing better than celebrating with those you love at Christmas time. Our annual Minister's Christmas Banquet was just that opportunity for us. We had such a great time of fellowship and fun with each other! This evening would not be possible without the support of the following:

Dr. David Ramirez  
South Carolina Church of God  
Bishop John Miles  
Oak Park Church of God  
Bishop Matt and Kim Lewis  
Man O' War Church of God









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## PROJECTS IN THE STATE

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### **Lakeside Church of God, Metlakatla AK**

Back in July, a group of men led by Dalton Fox and Pastor Jeff White from Lighthouse Church of God visited the Lakeside Church of God in Metlakatla, Alaska.

The goal was to begin the arduous process of leveling the sanctuary floor in the church. As you can see in the photos below, this is not an easy process. As recent as this past November the team made a second trip over to Metlakatla to replace a seal beam while adding additional support piers to the building. To date, we are only about half way through this project.



These men have peered out for a breath of fresh air. The crawl space is damp, musty, and in need of additional repairs.



As you can see here, the support pilings are in terrible shape. They are having to dig holes, create a rock bed, and pour concrete for the pilings to sit on. We are so grateful for Dalton Fox, Lighthouse COG, and the men working on this project.

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## Out of State Visits

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### Clyde Church of God

We visited the Clyde Church of God in Clyde, N.C. in October. Pastor Michael and Beverly

Nations have visited the state numerous times and invited us to come and tell their congregation about Alaska.



We had a great time of worship and fellowship with this wonderful couple!



Their work with The Vital Initiative has impacted our state in amazing ways and we're so grateful for their ministry!

## CDM Conference



October also had us in Cleveland, Tennessee for the CDM Conference. These conferences provide so much information and we hope to put it to good use in AK! We thank our International Leaders for making this event possible!



Jan Jarvis of the West Virginia State Office facilitated this training event and we're so grateful for her help!



Jennifer Nelson, formerly of the Ohio Church of God State Office, was the conference speaker. She did an amazing job of providing important information that benefited everyone in attendance!

### **Man O' War Church of God**

In November, we visited the Man O' War Church of God in Lexington, KY. It was such an honor to be with Pastor M.J. and Sis. Trudy Tolle and Bishop Mitchell and Linda Tolle and their amazing congregation!



Bishop Mitchell Tolle has been such a blessing to Alaska. We appreciate his kind invitation to come to Kentucky.



Bishop McGirt introduced the congregants to Alaska by showing pictures of the scenery, the wildlife, and the great people of the state.



The Man O' War choir and worship team are phenomenal! The presence of the Lord was surely in the house. Thank you to The Tolle's and the Man O' War Church of God for their hospitality and their fellowship during our visit!

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**Celebration for Bishop Tommie Shook**

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Bishop Shook was honored at his 80th birthday party in December. Sis. Fredda Shook and their children put together a wonderful celebration for this Alaskan treasure who is so dear to everyone who knows him! Happy Birthday Bro. Shook!



## AK MISSIONS

### Thank You!

To all of our supporters, churches, and friends: thank you! We could not do what we do without your continued support. We are thankful for all you do for AK! Together, we can do more!

**AK World Missions Project**  
**Number: 102-7088**

### World Missions

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

*"Uniting Locally... Reaching Globally"*

### Remember:

We are VITAL  
We are VISIONARY  
We are VALUED

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