



# North Word

A Publication of Alaska Bible College

Winter 2012

## Hooked on Jesus Bringing Awana to a remote Alaska village

Like every full-time student at ABC, Cynthia is immersed in ministry for her Christian Ministry Training credits. However, she is taking it one giant step further.

As a leader in the Awana program at Glennallen Chapel, she started picturing the evangelism and discipleship program in her own hometown.

"I fell in love with the program and thought, 'This would be great for Stebbins.'" she says. "I prayed, and felt the Lord leading me to start Awana in Stebbins."

Stebbins is a Yup'ik Eskimo village of 585 people, located on Norton Sound. It's residents live off the land, and commercial fishing. There is no evangelical church there currently, but that doesn't stop Cynthia from dreaming big.

"I didn't think I'd do something like this. This is huge," she says, adding that Awana would be a great activity every week to keep kids focused on the Word of God and keep them out of trouble.

"My hope is to start them young, and they'll stick with it as they grow up. Kids go to their parents, their parents read the material to them, and they come to know the Lord - *that's* my dream."

Cynthia hopes to give the youth of her village hope, earlier in life than she had. In 2009, Cynthia

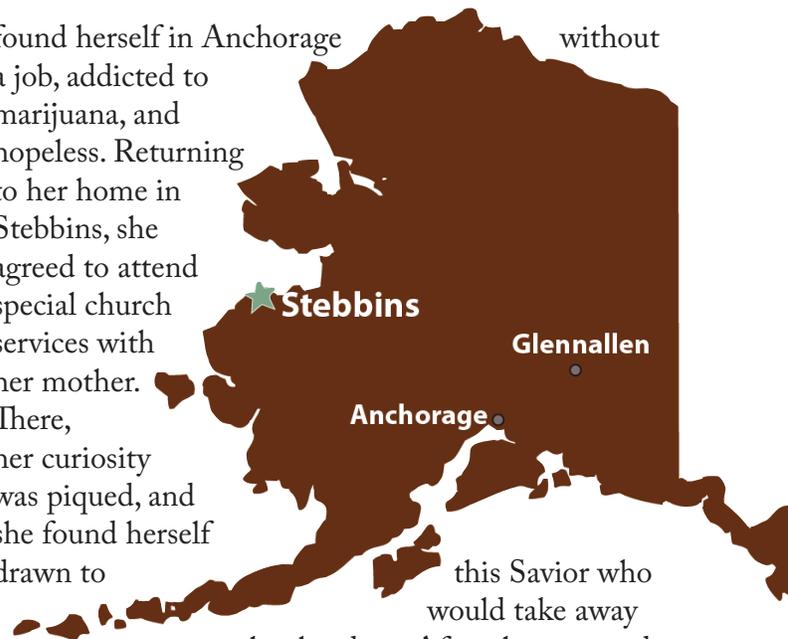
found herself in Anchorage without a job, addicted to marijuana, and hopeless. Returning to her home in Stebbins, she agreed to attend special church services with her mother.

There, her curiosity was piqued, and she found herself drawn to

this Savior who would take away her burdens. After she accepted Christ, she had no desire to smoke, something that surprised those who knew her.

"I got hooked on Christ," she says.

She couldn't wait to share her newfound relationship with everyone around her, and soon she was leading a youth group in Stebbins. They called their group, "Night Owls", because they gathered at 10 p.m. and hung out together late into the night,



# FROM THE PRESIDENT



As we engage the spring semester 2013, we are confident in the power and purpose of the word of God to inform and affect every area of life, not only in the lives of our student but ours as well. As our year verse states, “But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.” A person who truly trembles at God’s word is someone who has responded in humble obedience to what the Lord has said.

We are honored again this semester to have the opportunity to train men and women in the eternal word, for the building up of the church. In addition to the classes being offered at the traditional campus in Glennallen, we are excited about the growing student body at the Palmer Campus and those taking online courses. Looking to the future, Alaska Bible College is working toward offering full degree-granting programs both in Palmer and online. Please pray with us for this area of ministry and growth!

Thank you for your ongoing interest in ABC and particularly for your continued prayers!

Affectionately,

**NICK RINGGER**

**“Even a child is known by his actions, by whether his conduct is pure and right.”**

**Proverbs 20:11**

*AWANA, continued from Page 1*

studying the Bible, playing games, and worshipping the Lord through music.

She soon felt overwhelmed as a new Christian. Desiring to be better equipped to share her faith, she went online and searched for Bible colleges, coming across Alaska Bible College.

“I felt that Glennallen was far enough away from distractions of the city,” she said. In 2011, she enrolled in the four-year degree program at ABC.

Awana is a national program that brings parents and churches together to teach children to faithfully follow Jesus Christ. To begin the process of bringing Awana to Stebbins, Cynthia contacted the headquarters of the national program to get the ball rolling. The leaders there were enthusiastic, and she now needs to get permission to use the local school, which is where most community activities take place. She also plans to handpick five local residents to train as leaders to keep the program running.

In addition, Cynthia is writing letters to local Native Corporations to help bring up Awana leaders to train local leaders, and to cover the cost of curriculum and materials.

She asks for prayers as she seeks out locals who can step up into leadership positions in Stebbins, as well as wisdom in tackling such a large project.



The “Night Owls” in Stebbins, Alaska.

# Alumni News

**70s** Since **William** (B.A. Pastoral Studies, '72) and **Pauline Hendley** (B.A. Missions, '72) graduated from Alaska Bible College, they have planted three churches: in Farrow, Pit Meadows, and Tumbler Ridge, Canada. After serving the church at Tumbler Ridge for twenty five years, the couple now lives in Chetwynd, British Columbia, where he ministers as a Chaplain for the Gideons International of Canada and works as a Paramedic for the British Columbia Ambulance Service. Pauline ministers at a local youth center.



William Hendley

**90s** **Daniel** ('90) and **Trisha Eaton** moved to Alvo, Neb., this summer to live on their family farm. They spent four years in Kenai working in accounting and enjoyed living close to three of their eight grandchildren. They are especially happy to be teaching Sunday School at their church.

**00s** **John Gray** (B.A. Biblical Studies, '05) went on to attend Cedarville University in Ohio and graduated with a degree in nursing.



John & Leah Gray

He and his wife, Leah, are both nurses in the Dayton area and run the Kids Rock children's program at Grace Christian Fellowship in Dayton.

**10s** **Chad Bradley** (Bible & Ministry Certificate, '11) married Nancy Wallace on Jan. 5, 2013, in Texas. Congratulations!



Chad & Nancy Bradley

**Eric Major** (B.A. Biblical Studies, '12) graduated just last year and moved back to Howell, Mich., with his wife, Heather. He has accepted a position as Youth Pastor at the Brighton Nazarene Church ([www.thenaz.org](http://www.thenaz.org)) in Brighton. They are happily waiting on the birth of their first child.



On a weekend outing in September, students, faculty and staff harvest potatoes at the farm of Alex ('01) and Kathy ('04) Davis in Palmer, Alaska. They also helped pick turnips and carrots before winter hit.

## Please keep in touch

We would like to keep in contact with our alumni. Please send your news to [meastty@akbible.edu](mailto:meastty@akbible.edu) so we can add you to our upcoming alumni news! If you'd like to spread the word about ABC and want brochures to hand out, please let us know. We invite you to join us on Facebook and keep in touch.

Alaska Bible College admits qualified students of any race, sex, color, and ethnic origin.

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# Campus Fun



Student wives get together with Carol Ridley and Pam Givens for encouragement and fun.



Italian Feast: Bruschetta, handmade gnocchi and pasta, osso buco, bue di ciliegi, were just some of the mouthwatering delicacies that Al Wall and his team of chefs cooked up in October for the ABC family.



Students and their families enjoy the annual Christmas banquet, hosted on by student government.

“Sons are a heritage from the LORD,  
children a reward from him.” Psalm 127:3



We welcomed two beautiful babies into the ABC family in the past year.

Evangeline “Eva” Ferch (left), daughter of John and Katie Ferch, was born Oct. 10, 2012 at 11:50 p.m. She weighed 8 lbs, 9 oz. John serves as VP of Academic Affairs & Distance Education.



Levi Albi Ringger (right) was born to Jeff and Ann Ringger on Aug. 20, 2012, weighing in at 8 lbs, 15 oz. and was 22 inches in length. Jeff is the ABC cook.



## SPOTLIGHT ON:

# BETHEL CHURCH

Fairbanks, Alaska  
[bethelchurchak.org](http://bethelchurchak.org)

In November 1959, eight people gathered to seek God regarding the formation of a Conservative Baptist Church in Fairbanks. From that small gathering of men and women came Bethel Church. They met in a rented building until the attendance grew to 35 when they purchased a property in Northeast Fairbanks. Surviving the flood of 1967 Bethel continued to grow and seven years later purchased the land on Farmer's Loop Road, where they continue to meet. Since that time God has continued to build Bethel Church. They now have about 650 people who join together on Sunday and in small groups throughout the week to glorify God, serve one another, and grow in their walk with God.

### Contact:

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Mark Holmes - Youth Pastor  
Sherina Anderson - Office Manager  
Tarayne Park - Office Assistant  
Chris Martin - Sunday School Director

Bethel Church is one of Alaska Bible College's many supporters. We thank them for their support of ABC and for encouraging people to live out their full, God-given potential and to draw out the gifts and abilities of each person who calls Bethel Church their "church home."





Scott Yahr welds sections of the new tower for electrical continuity. "The new tower is much more stable," he said.

## KCAM Radio raises new tower

A piece of Copper Valley history came tumbling down this summer, only to be replaced with a bigger and better structure.

About two dozen onlookers gathered at the KCAM Radio tower field next to the ABC campus on July 11 to witness the removal of the 49-year-old radio tower that has transmitted broadcasts on AM 790 since 1964.

Station Manager Scott Yahr said the 298-foot tower was showing wear from withstanding several major earthquakes.

The Nolan Brothers tower construction/maintenance crew from Kasilof has serviced KCAM's tower for more than 20 years, and in recent years warned that the years had warped the tower and that stability was a concern. The final straw came in 2009, when KCAM was awarded a license for an FM station.

"Nolan Brothers told us that they could not hang the FM antenna higher than 100 feet on our tower, because it would have toppled the tower," Yahr said. "The stability of our new tower allows the antenna bays to be mounted at 290 feet."

While removing the original structure took less than 10 minutes, building the new one took seven days of hard work, hoisting each 20-foot section and fastening them together.

The new "stick" – radio slang for "tower" – was donated by Northwestern College in Minneapolis, Minn. It is less than 10 years old and is worth approximately \$168,000. Rod Thannum, an engineer with Northwestern, was on site during the project.

"We were happy to give it to a nonprofit ministry like KCAM," Thannum said.

During the project, 88.7 FM was off the air. While the station's legal call letters are KCAM-FM, they have named it "The Light", symbolic of the effect the radio has in so many lives. Reception has been reported as far away as Paxson to the north, Sheep Mountain to the west, and Kenny Lake to the south.

KCAM is a division of Alaska Bible College. Video of the tower collapse is on YouTube and linked at Facebook.com/KCAMRadio.

## Students debut on air during Sharathon

KCAM's studios were buzzing with activity on October 9, 10, and 11 during the annual Sharathon fundraiser. And ABC faculty and students were right in the middle of the action.

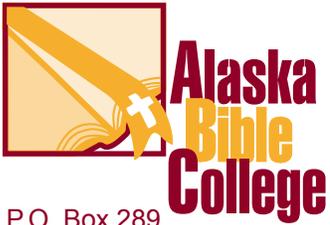
Students taking the Introduction to Broadcasting class made their radio debut, introducing themselves to the listeners and describing their interest in radio. Their families in Georgia, Tennessee, and Colorado got shoutouts as they listened online at kcama.org.

Meanwhile, ABC President Nick Ringger challenged ABC student and KCAM volunteer Rebekah Osborn to sing the Christmas classic, "I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas" live on air. \$2,700 was pledged, and Rebekah was a good sport and sang. Check out the video linked on Facebook.

Thanks to pledges of more than \$12,000, KCAM is one step closer to installing backup generators to keep broadcasting in the case of a power outage. Other projects to be funded include follow up work after the tower was replaced this summer and upgrades to equipment at the studios. Sharathon was simulcast on both AM 790 and The Light, 88.7 FM, which celebrated its one year anniversary on the air in 2012.



Broadcast students Jonathan Willms and Adelina Grosshans man the phones during Sharathon.



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Is Alaska Bible College right for you? If you're a high school junior or senior, check out our campus in Glennallen, Alaska. You'll attend classes and chapel, get a campus tour, and stay with ABC students in the dorms.

The cost is FREE, and transportation is provided between Anchorage and Glennallen.

**MARCH  
24-26, 2013**

**COLLEGE  
DAYS**

To register, visit [akbible.edu](http://akbible.edu)  
or call 1-800-478-7884

