

## A Renewed Purpose: Servant Leaders with Christ-like Character

Alaska Bible College will celebrate 50 years of biblical training this coming fall of 2016! We praise the Lord for His faithfulness in the lives of our graduates who are servant-leading around the world for His glory. We have a renewed purpose for Alaska Bible College that reflects what kind of student we long to train for His work. In this issue of NorthWord, we announce our new college motto: "Becoming servant leaders with Christ-like character." Someone once said, "Character is who you are when no one is looking!" At Alaska Bible College, we believe that Christ-like character counts. Our curriculum and student life encourage every student to grow in love for the Lord, His Word and His Church. Students that choose to join our adventure in Alaska will receive a high-quality biblical, theological, and ministry-based education that will prepare them to serve the Lord with integrity for the rest of their lives. Our students also join a long line of servant leaders who, after being trained with Christ-like character at ABC, are leading with integrity in His Kingdom work around the world.

## Servant Leaders with Christ-like Character Developed for Africa

Deng Badang was born in Southern Sudan, and as a young Christian discovered that God had gifted him to preach. He ministered to many Muslims in his region, and distributed Arabic Bibles to villages in his area. He observed that as people read the Word, their tears began to flow as they responded to God.



His uncle helped him to get good schooling, which has made him trilingual, speaking Arabic, English and Nuer, his Sudanese dialect. This has led to several jobs in Africa and the US, where Deng now lives, continuing to minister among Muslims in Anchorage.

*See "Deng Badeng," page 2...*

Celebrating 50 years of ministry!

**ALASKA**  
BIBLE COLLEGE

Jeremy Jenkins enrolled at Alaska Bible College last year on the recommendation of a friend who attended in 2013. At first glance, Jeremy might seem like a Texas-born missionary kid that has come to Alaska seeking the adventure of a lifetime. Beneath the surface, however, there is much more to the picture.



Jeremy has a true servant's heart that started developing shortly after birth when his family moved to Senegal, West Africa as missionaries with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Until coming to ABC, Jeremy was completely immersed in African culture and, as you can imagine, experienced a bit of culture shock when he arrived in Alaska, of all places!

*See "Jeremy Jenkins," page 2...*

## Deng Badang

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Deng preaches in the Southern Sudanese Church in Anchorage at 3 pm on Sundays, attended by 60-80 Africans. He also leads Bible Studies in homes, and continues to distribute Arabic Bibles to the Muslim people in Anchorage. Arabic Bibles cost \$10, and Deng can't afford to give many, but he has found that this ministry is never met with rejection. He has seen them reading the Bible with tears in their eyes. God's Word is having eternal impact among Islamic peoples. Deng is discussing a potential ministry with the Gideon Bible Distributors as a national director for their work anywhere from Egypt to Nigeria, or wherever the Lord leads him. He may have opportunities distributing Bibles in hotels in Dubai as well.

Deng believes that as a single person like Paul, he would have the greatest freedom to minister wherever God wants him. He is confident that the equipping in the Word he is receiving by studying at Alaska Bible College will prepare him for the future God has for him.

## Jeremy Jenkins

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In his time at ABC, we have had the privilege of discipling this servant leader with Christ-like character. Not only is he in the process of completing a 4-year B.A. in three years with almost straight A's, but he has shown himself to be a great example to those around him and currently serves as the men's Resident Assistant.

Last summer Jeremy had the opportunity to go back home to Senegal and complete his internship by leading teams throughout villages in West Africa digging wells, leading worship, and helping to lay foundations for church plants. His future goals include teaching at Dakar Academy after college and working to create an organization that reaches out to missionary kids through biblical training and cultural immersion.

When asked if ABC has met his high expectations, Jeremy gave an enthusiastic, "Yes! The size of ABC is a huge advantage to students as it forces you to face the hard issues. You can't just hide away and avoid others; it's perfect practice for ministry!"

## Professor Harley Bowerman Retires

On January 31, Harley Bowerman officially retired from the faculty of Alaska Bible College after 18 years of service. Harley was sent off by the ABC family with a special chapel service during which ABC students, staff, and many colleagues from SEND North shared memories and thanked Harley for his service.

Harley will spend the next several months traveling throughout the United States as he visits his financial supporters and thanks them for their involvement in his ministry.

Since coming to ABC with his wife Linda in 1996, Harley has filled many roles at the college, including Library Director,

Christian Ministry Training Assistant, Tutor, and Professor of Bible, Math, and Science. When Linda went home to

be with the Lord, Harley continued in service, always an encouragement to those around him. Harley was instrumental in the college's strategic transition to Palmer. He moved to Palmer in 2011 to become the lone caretaker for the newly acquired campus, and commuted to

teach in Glennallen on a weekly basis for two years until the College completed the transition in 2013.

Thank you, Harley, for your faithful service to the students of Alaska Bible College and to the Lord!



Harley (center) loaded his moving truck with the help of several students and faculty members.

## Faculty Expands Ministry Training Options

Alaska Bible College's faculty has begun developing several new areas of ministry focus for students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree from Alaska Bible College.

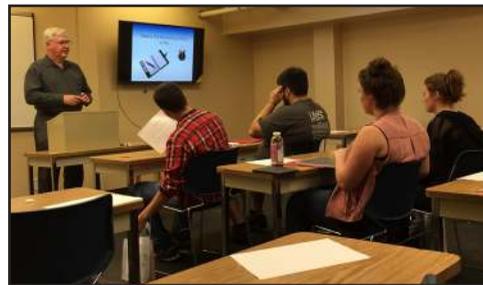
Every BA student at ABC earns a dual major in Bible and Christian Ministry. Within that major, students have the option of pursuing a specific ministry emphasis. ABC's current

curriculum provides three emphasis options and the faculty hopes to expand this to six, starting in Fall 2016: Children's Ministry, Intercultural Ministry, Outdoor

Leadership, Pastoral Studies, Student Ministry, and Worship Ministry.

Each emphasis will feature particular consideration of the unique challenges of ministry in the Far North, and students will be required to complete internships and practicums in established Alaskan ministries as part of the program. Please pray with the faculty that as plans are laid

and training partnerships are formed with other ministries, these new options will lead many more Christian workers into the white harvest fields of the North!



ABC students and staff had a chance to grow closer in their personal walks with the Lord along with their connections to one another during the annual Winter Retreat.

# ABC Envisions “Kingdom Use” of Glennallen Campus

*Christian college students from all over the country may be coming to Glennallen.*

Since the first moment that ABC planned to move its main campus to Palmer, the desire has been to continue using the Glennallen campus to advance and honor the name of Jesus Christ—but how to do this was the question...

God is alive and well! He has directed a team from Houghton College in up-state New York to contact ABC about using our Glennallen campus as a location where Houghton students, along with students from twelve other Christian colleges, can taste and experience the uniqueness of Alaska as they pursue their undergraduate degrees.

The faculty at Houghton recently gave unanimous approval to initiate an Alaska Studies program in Glennallen, and brochures are being sent out to students who have expressed interest in studying in Alaska. If enough sign up in the next 60 days or so, final plans will be put in place to commence a 3-month series of courses at the Glennallen campus in August of 2016!

Our hope and goal is that students



will be changed by their experience in Glennallen to become more mature and successful ambassadors for Jesus Christ in their fields of study. Secondly, we hope that the students and staff will go back to their “sending” schools suggesting that other students should attend a course at Alaska Bible College in the future.

Meanwhile, ABC, Houghton, and other participating schools will study measurable benefits to lower 48 students, brought about as a result of their time in Glennallen, to see if this model could be developed as a permanent future for the

campus. If our Lord desires, it is quite possible that two to five sessions per year, with up to 50 students per session, could operate from the Glennallen campus. These would impact many with a better understanding of frontier missions, casting vision for ministry opportunities in Alaska, and acquainting them with the work of God in “quiet” places. Many don’t know that “quiet” is even possible!

We invite your prayers for this potential use of ABC’s Glennallen campus. There are many components to this project—some are known, and some we can only learn when and if it comes to pass. ABC has strong desire to continue Vince Joy’s vision for “Kingdom use” of the Glennallen campus. Bringing Christian students from lower 48 schools (and possibly from foreign countries) into an environment outside of any they have ever known may allow them to see the quiet reality of God in a new and special way, and to consider how God might use them to reach the unreached in the Far North.

## ABC Launches Library Project: “Promote and Protect”

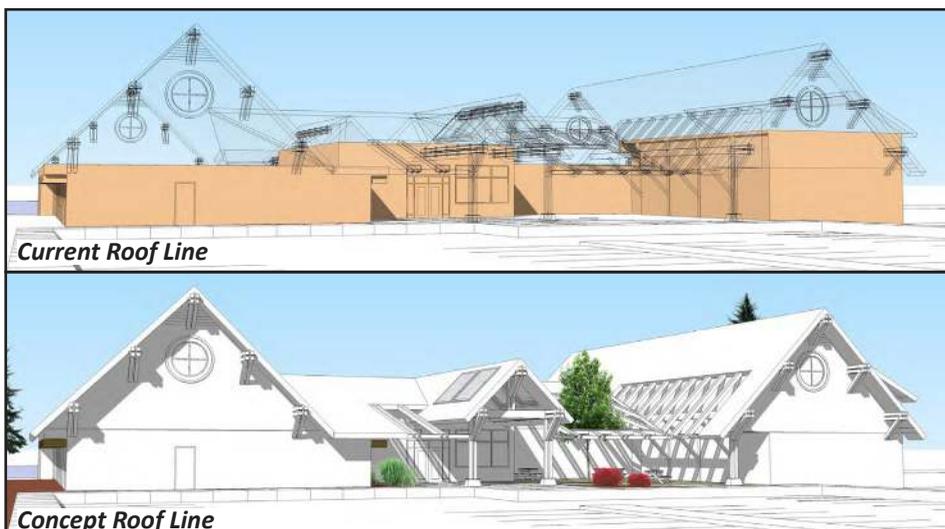
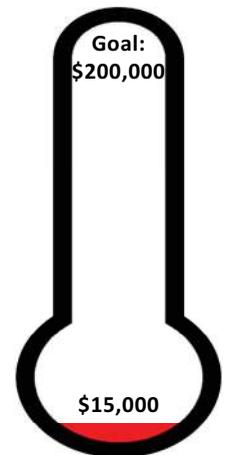
Alaska Bible College houses the largest theological library collection in the state of Alaska! The collection also features a significant Alaskan history section. We are excited to announce a new initiative to promote and protect this rich resource that our Lord has provided. Phase One of the project involves recruiting a full-time Library Director to

promote and improve the collection for years to come. We are seeking funding for this position through a grant that looks very promising.

Phase Two of this project is a reconstruction of the roof of the academic building that houses the library and classrooms, in order to protect and prevent damage to the collection. The current flat

roof leaks badly, particularly during the spring thaw and fall rains. By God’s grace and provision, \$15,000 has already been raised towards the estimated \$200,000 cost of the new roof. Would you consider how you might partner with ABC? Prayer is our first priority in partnership!

“Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain” (Psalm 127:1). We are praying for volunteer work teams and financial partners for this project. We are excited to share the concept to the left, and to keep you updated on God’s provision for this project in this and future editions of NorthWord!



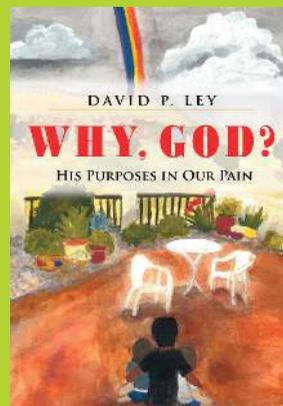
## President's Prayer Partners

Once you've accepted Christ, everything in life is supposed to be easy. Right? WRONG! For many brand new and even seasoned believers, suffering can sometimes come as quite a shock. In the midst of suffering, it is natural to want to know the reason behind the pain. ABC's President David Ley draws upon his own experiences from over 28 years of ministry and study in God's Word.

In *Why God: His Purposes in Our Pain*, you'll find:

- Explanations from Scripture for christian suffering
- Evaluation questions to help you process your pain
- Encouragement to continue to walk by faith

No matter what you are going through, *Why God? His Purposes in Our Pain* invites you to explore God's reasons for pain and suffering and to be confident that there is no such thing as senseless suffering for God's people.



As a "thank you" for your partnership of \$500 or more, NorthWord will send you a gift copy of President Ley's book and you will become a member of the President's

Prayer Partners, receiving regular email updates of praise reports and prayer requests for the college from the president. Return the enclosed stamped envelope with your gift and contact information and we will partner and pray together for His glory.