



# NorthWord

A Publication of Alaska Bible College

Summer 2015

## Alaska Bible College Welcomes Seventh President



*Dave Ley and his wife Deborah*

After much prayer and consideration, Alaska Bible College's Board of Directors is excited to announce that Pastor David Ley has accepted the call to become the college's seventh President. Dave and his wife Deb have been married for 28 years and are blessed to have eight children. Their five biological daughters are Lydia (27), Hannah (25), Abigail (23), Naomi (21), and Esther (16). In 2006, they were honored to become legal guardians of Jamie (25), Louie (17), and Karah (16), whose parents tragically died within four months of one another (one due to cancer and the other heart failure). Louie recently joined his parents with the Lord when his heart transplant was rejected after 15 years.

Dave has been in pastoral ministry for 28 years, the past 18 years as senior pastor of Hesperia Community

Church in Hesperia, CA. He has also co-founded New Hope Discipleship Homes, which is a year long residency discipleship ministry that helps men and women struggling with substance abuse to grow in the Lord and gain victory over their struggles. Along with this, Pastor Ley has also served as a chaplain for San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department as well as the President of Rose of Sharon Life Center for the last 15 years. He graduated from Dallas Theological Seminary with a Th.M. in 1987.

Recently, he began doctoral studies at Talbot Seminary via distance education. In his free time, he loves to sing, play golf, read, and hike. The Ley family is excited about serving at ABC, as they know God is calling them to mentor the next generation of Christian leaders. Pastor Ley strongly believes that God is gracing him with the opportunity to fulfill a life-long desire to earn a doctorate and impact the next generation in theological education.

Please welcome the Ley family with us by attending our Open House and Presidential Inauguration Ceremony in Palmer, Alaska on August 23rd from 1-5pm, or our reception in Anchorage on August 27th from 11am-1pm.



*Youngest daughters Esther & Karah*

# Meet the ABC Class of 2015



**Bachelor of Arts graduates (in black, left to right):** Sven Maakestad, Luke Ringger  
**Bible Certificate graduates (in red, left to right):** Joel Christensen, Adam Perez, Brittany Hall, Mattie Medders, Daniel Shrimplin, Adam Johnson



**SVEN  
MAAKESTAD**  
*Bachelor of Arts Degree*

Sven has a heart for pastoring in rural Alaska. As a student, Sven served as Pastoral Intern at Naknek Community Bible Chapel in the summer of 2014, under pastor Jim Stamberg. He has sharpened his preaching skills by preaching in chapel at ABC on several occasions, in addition to filling the pulpit in local churches. Upon graduation, Sven has been invited to serve at the nearby St. John Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod) in Palmer, under Pastor Jonathan Rockey. Sven is glad for this opportunity to be mentored and gain valuable ministry experience that will further prepare him for his long-term goal of a rural Alaskan pastorate. We are glad that this church is close by, and that we will continue to see Sven at ABC!



**LUKE RINGGER**  
*Bachelor of Arts Degree*

While Luke was at Alaska Bible College, he started 1:27 Ministries Inc., a non-profit ministry helping Kenyan churches to grow self-sustaining ministries. The Bishop of the African Gospel Church, Dr. Robert Langat, is pleased to promote this ministry. One goal of this program is to start a rehabilitation center for women in crisis. Luke and his wife Kariann (also an ABC grad) visited Salgaa, Kenya twice to establish this ministry. Luke has also been serving as the English Pastor at the Alaskan Korean Christian Reformed Church in Anchorage for two years, serving under pastor Sung Kwan Kim. Luke has received a scholarship to pursue Th.M. studies at Dallas Theological Seminary, and will be relocating to Dallas with his wife and son this summer.

## ABC bids farewell to Carol Reimer



After twenty-six years of service, Carol Reimer is retiring to be near family in Arkansas. In 1990, the Lord led this godly, dedicated young woman to minister at Alaska Bible College. Valuing the ministry, Carol faithfully and cheerfully served in many capacities—Dean of Women, Bookstore Manager, Registrar and finally as Bookkeeper in the business office, among many other “duties as assigned.” Dedicated and dependent on the Lord through the years, she has loved counseling, advising and mentoring dozens of students. They have always been the heartbeat of Carol’s ministry. She has often said, “The students are the reason I’m here!” She has been an inspiration and example to all who know her and we will miss her greatly! Thank you, Carol, for your heart for God and His people!

## Thank you Floriponics LLC!

Our campus is a little more beautiful, thanks to Emily and Joel Florian, owners of Floriponics LLC in Wasilla. Emily is excited to be donating flowers to Alaska Bible College because as a child she remembers her parents donating plants to ABC when our campus was in Glennallen. Her family lived in a Christian community in Kenny Lake that operated Sapa Greenhouses. Every year they would donate plants and flowers to ABC through SEND International. Emily said, “I donate to this college because I believe the team at ABC is making an eternal impact on society, our community, and our state by training and equipping leaders to advance the kingdom of God right here in the valley and globally. That is exciting! I am happy to donate to ABC, just as our community in Kenny Lake and my parents did so many years ago.”



*use your help! Some of these projects include painting, carpeting, and expanding classrooms. We are looking for both volunteers and donations of materials. Visit our website or like us on Facebook to check out our wish list. You can contact Sarah Gail at 800-478-7884 or 907-745-3201, or email [sgail@akbible.edu](mailto:sgail@akbible.edu), to drop off your donation to the school or sign up to volunteer. It’s exciting to be a part of ABC; join us today!*

### **Volunteer or Donate Today!**

*Landscaping is just one of the many projects we have going on this summer. We are working hard to beautify the campus grounds and have many renovation projects that could*

**Lovalaska**  
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## Leah Smith stocks “the cache” as new Food Service Director



This semester, students have been enjoying “home-cooked” meals prepared by Leah Smith in ABC’s dining room, still known as “The Cache.” Leah’s heart of service and skills in cooking have been real answers to prayer, filling a crucial need as we carry out Jesus’ command to make disciples. ABC has a number of other needs for missionaries skilled in areas of finance, communications, and teaching. Check out our opportunities online at <http://www.akbible.edu/prospective-faculty-staff>.



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