

# NORTHWORD

A PUBLICATION OF ALASKA BIBLE COLLEGE

WINTER 2017-2018

"FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN, UNTO US A  
SON IS GIVEN..." ISAIAH 9:6A

## A Presidential Parable

by President Dave Ley



There once was a lady named Youme who fell madly in love with a man by the name of Du Ty. They were married in such joy and expectation—they were going to grow old together! Youme loved Du so much that there was nothing she would not do for him.

After a few years, Youme became really discouraged. It seemed no matter how hard she tried to do what Duty demanded, it was never enough. Youme just could not seem to meet

Mr. Du Ty's standards, so they came up with a plan. Each morning Duty would make a list of what Youme was to do for the day. Now that Youme knew what Du Ty wanted, she was sure she could be good enough for him! My how she tried! She worked so hard to get everything done, but you know how life is at times. Duty would come home, and something wasn't just right. Well, you know what I mean!

Tired, discouraged and depressed Youme found that she was starting to hate those lists that her husband gave her. She just felt like a failure all the time, but she was a person of her word, she was committed to Du Ty until the day he died! Yet where was the joy, the expectation, the love? This marriage dream had turned into nightmare of fear and drudgery.

As the time of life passed on, Du Ty passed on as we all must do someday. Youme grieved as most spouses do, yet in some guilt-ridden way she felt relieved. A few years later, she met a man named Greg Ace, and that's what he was—a real ace. He loved her for who she was and not for what she did. Youme wanted to spend forever with G.R. (that's what she loved to call him). They were married with such joy and expectation.

Life for Youme with G.R. Ace was filled with laughter and hope. She loved doing things for him. She always felt that he was blessed to have her as his wife. Such love and acceptance gave her an enthusiasm for her work as a wife. One day as she was cleaning out her desk, she discovered one of those old lists from Mr. Du Ty. It seemed funny to her how she had almost forgotten her old life with its fear and drudgery. But, what shocked her most was her discovery that everything that Du Ty had written on that old list—all the things he wanted her to do that she could never seem to do—she was doing all the time in her new marriage to Mr. G.R. Ace!

Hope the point of this story is clear to you—  
Is our relationship with Christ a duty to do?

Or is it built on His deep love for us—  
The biblical truth that He is gracious

So let duty die its death on the cross  
Crucified with Christ at such a high cost  
Live in His love—the lists He's replaced  
With obeying joyfully by His amazing grace

# Would Jesus Eat **FRYBREAD?**

Image from <http://native.intervarsity.org/wjef-2017>

## Students Ask, “Would Jesus Eat Frybread?”

by John Ferch



On November 9-11, over 200 Native American college students from across the United States gathered in Anchorage for the annual “Would Jesus Eat Frybread?” (WJEF?) conference, a ministry of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. ABC graduate Cynthia Pete (BA 2016) was instrumental in bringing the conference to Anchorage this year, making it possible for many Alaska Native students to join this national conversation exploring the intersection of the Christian faith and Indigenous culture. Pete attended a previous WJEF? conference in Minnesota, at the encouragement of instructor Robin Harris, who teaches

Ethnodoxology at ABC each spring.

A major focus of Cynthia’s studies at ABC was the question of whether Eskimo Dancing can be used as a legitimate expression of Christian worship. At the conference, Cynthia had the opportunity to apply her studies and explore her ideas further, and she developed a desire to encourage this conversation among more Alaska Native people. The Anchorage conference was the result of over two years of dreaming and planning between Cynthia and the WJEF? team. The Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska was instrumental in coming alongside Cynthia and sponsoring her vision.

In addition to Cynthia’s involvement, several other ABC individuals participated in the conference, including former students Katie Daniels, Brandon Lupie, and Harriette Slwooko, current student Eugene Stevens (pictured above), and staff members Justin Archuletta & John Ferch.

A highlight of the conference was Mary Huntington of Koyuk, who taught the group how to drum, sing, and dance her own traditional-style Inupiaq song with a Christian message entitled “My Savior.”

Their performance, which includes several individuals from ABC, can be seen on the Alaska Bible College web site. Visit <https://www.akbible.edu/news>.

## Update From Admissions

SIX NEW STUDENTS ARE  
ARRIVING IN JANUARY!  
PRAISE GOD!



## ABC Apologetics

by Matthew Côté

At the end of October, Alaska Bible College hosted Dr. Richard G. Howe for a series of talks on Apologetics - the branch of Theology focused on defending the faith.

Dr. Howe is the Emeritus Professor of Philosophy and Apologetics at Southern Evangelical Seminary in Charlotte NC, and also serves as the President of the International Society of Christian Apologetics. He regularly travels the world speaking at various venues on important topics in defense of Classical Christianity.

From October 27-30, Howe spoke at a few different locations in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley. Up first was a talk at Wasilla Christian Church on "The Top Three Questions Skeptics Ask" and Howe followed it up with a time of Q&A. Howe then spoke at Farm Loop Christian Center on the topic of "The Biblical Mandate and Cultural Need for Apologetics in the Church," in which he emphasized the directive from Scripture to always be ready to give a reason for the hope within (1 Peter 3:15-16). He shared his testimony on the role Apologetics has played in his own life, and how the believer needs to be equipped to know what we believe and why we believe it. Howe gave an extended presentation in the chapel service at Alaska Bible College entitled "The Role Christian Philosophy Plays in Aiding Our Understanding of Scripture and Forming Our Theology." This talk helped to root our understanding of how we come to know and discern truth from God's revelations, both in creation and in His Word. Dr. Howe also emphasized the need for a revitalization of Classical Theism- to hold firmly to the theological and philosophical distinctions that affirm and uphold God as the metaphysically ultimate Being.

At Alaska Bible College, we believe firmly that students need to be equipped and prepared to present and defend the truth. We look forward to the possibility of hosting another Apologetics conference in the future!

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WEB

[www.AKbible.edu](http://www.AKbible.edu)



Russell Stendal has a heart to follow God. At the age of 4, Stendal prayed that his parents would become missionaries. 4 years later, his family was on the mission field. On November 9th, Stendal was a guest missionary speaker at Alaska Bible College's Thursday Chapel called Student Gathering.

Read more by going online to [www.akbible.edu/news](http://www.akbible.edu/news)



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# How You Can Help

We are appreciating the winter season in Alaska and God's blessing is being felt here in Palmer, Alaska! We anticipate 13 graduates this year - the largest graduating class since Alaska Bible College moved to Palmer! In a small school, we should be worried about trying to replace these students, but we are adding 6 new students in January! Friends, this is unheard of to not lose students for Spring Semester.

At ABC we keep our tuition rates low so that our students can go into ministry right after graduation without the burden of debt. We allocate scholarship funds to students to pursue their calling in God's Kingdom.

We are looking to replenish about \$30,000 of our scholarship fund with our year-end giving request. Can you help?

Give online! [www.akbible.edu/give](http://www.akbible.edu/give)

Give by check! Put 'Scholarship Fund' in the memo and send to:

Alaska Bible College 248 E Elmwood Avenue Palmer, Alaska 99645

Only with the faithful love gifts of God's people will Alaska Bible College be able to encourage students to become servant leaders with Christ-like character.