



### In This Newsletter

- [Moment for Mission](#)
- [This Sunday](#)
- [Gambell Project](#)
- [Whaling Celebrations](#)

### Prayer Requests



Beulah Nowpakahok

Bob Christensen

Prayers for General Assembly

Tony Cabinboy

### Stay Connected



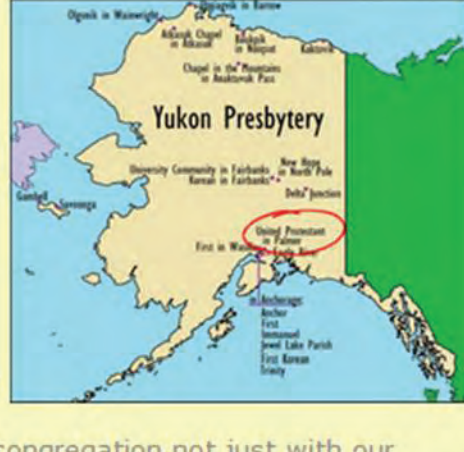
Visit Our Website: [www.PBYukon.org](http://www.PBYukon.org)



## United Protestant Church, Palmer

United Protestant Church (Presbyterian) (UPC)

The "Did You Know" series was created this year to educate our congregation, and visitors, of our rich 80 year history of mission in the Mat-Su Valley. Every week we provide the congregation with information of the past mission work transforming to the present. The exciting part about our mission history is the fact that our passion for community resonates throughout our congregation not just with our deacons. The following are some of the mission education areas that we have focused on so far this year.



Did you know... that in 1956 our church helped build the original Valley Hospital through the Denomination's "Pennies for Palmer" fund. The Valley Hospital is now the Mat-Su Regional Medical Center which created the Mat-Su Health Foundation.

Did you know; that our church congregation contributes an average of \$1000.00 per month to mission work in the Mat-Su Valley. Did you know; that UPC has supported the Kairos mission for 15 years. Kairos is an ecumenical Christian ministry which addresses the spiritual needs of incarcerated men and women and currently has ministries in 35 states and 9 countries.

Did you know; The most generous financial supporters of Kairos in Alaska over the past 15 years have been Yukon Presbytery and UPC in Palmer. Did you know; that the origins of Vacation Bible School can be traced back to 1894. A public school teacher felt she was limited to teaching the bible to children so she started a daily bible school to teach children during the summer. Our church partners with the neighboring Catholic church to provide a week-long Vacation Bible School at no cost to those attending.

Did you know; that the UPC congregation collected over 50 pounds of fish banks this year. The money raised by the Fish banks will be contributed to "One Great Hour of Sharing". One Great Hour of Sharing allows our congregation offering's to "answer Christ's call all over the world".

Did you know; our congregation supports a homeless shelter system called Family Promise Mat-Su. The Family Promise shelter system (churches in the Mat-Su Valley) can accommodate 15 individuals at one time. Family Promise transitions 100% of its families into permanent housing. Family Promise participating families are comprised of at least one adult with children.

This is our Did you know insert for June 5, 2016:

**Did you know...**

The word Mission can be defined in several different ways. In one view, we may gravitate to Mission as a body of persons sent to a foreign land by a religious organization, especially a Christian organization, to spread its faith or provide educational, medical, and other assistance.

**Did You Know...**

- You support mission with your tithes and offerings every week.
- You can provide mission support through "One Great Hour of Sharing" to individuals worldwide that face catastrophic weather disasters.
- Our church facility is used on a daily basis to provide the community with a safe haven for groups like the girl scouts, AA group meetings, lower 48 mission groups, and many more.

**... together, we make a difference!**

## You're Invited This Sunday...

This Sunday, June 12th, you are invited to an Iñupiaq Christian Fellowship gathering. It will begin at 3pm at the Christ Lutheran Church located at 1798 Iniakuk Avenue in Anchorage. There will be Iñupiaq singing and Eskimo dancing.

## Gambell New Church Building Update



Dear Friends,  
I need some help! To date we only have two teams scheduled to go to Gambell (both in July) and a possibility of a team for the first week in August.

Several of you have indicated interest in working towards providing leadership for a team to go to Gambell during the 2016 building (July - October). I would really like for you to take some time and try to get a team organized so we can move ahead with the building. We are praying that we will be able to use the building for the winter season this year but this is dependent on raising the funds for the sprinkler system and getting volunteer work teams partnering with the community to move ahead on the building.

Here is how you can help:

- Work to send a work team of 4-6 people to Gambell during the 2016 season.
- If you can't send a work team for Gambell find 2-3 people who are interested and we can pair them up with another team. That worked really well last year with Eagle River, Anchor and Immanuel.
- Continue to share the vision of the Gambell church with your congregation and others who may be interested. Here is the link to the video Presbyterian Foundation made for us: <https://vimeo.com/137366828>. It is also on the Yukon Presbytery webpage.
- Spread the word on your facebook page about the fire sprinkler system that is needed for the building through our gofundme campaign: <https://www.gofundme.com/25qun7wb>.

You can find lots of information about the New Gambell Church Build on the Yukon Presbytery website; under mission and Gambell New Church Building. It has a link to the work schedule. The work schedule can be changed to fit your groups needs including only going for one week instead of ten days.

Thank you for continuing to work with our brothers and sisters in Gambell on this new building. Please let me know the dates of when your group will be going to Gambell by the end of June if possible.

Thank you so much!

Blessings,

Danna Larson  
[dllsitka@gmail.com](mailto:dllsitka@gmail.com)  
(907) 538-7313

## Upcoming North Slope Whaling Celebrations



June is the month for celebrating Nalukataq in arctic communities. Nalukataq is a whaling festival, celebrating God's amazing grace in providing relationships between all creatures that feed and care for people and for all of God's creation. Traditionally, the whale was seen as central to God's providence for people in the arctic. Successful whaling crews hold their own Nalukataq festivals in the month of June.

All of us in the Presbytery of Yukon join with our arctic members in celebrating God's goodness, grace and providence, and the amazing relationships we humans share with the rest of God's creation.



### North Slope Spring Whaling Celebrations

<p><b>Qagruq in Tikigaaq</b></p> <p><b>June 12-14</b> Clark Lane, Sr. &amp; Tiara Kingik Michael &amp; Lenora Tuzroyluk, Sr. Russell &amp; Andrea Lane Rex &amp; Ramona Rock, Sr. Ashley &amp; Diane Oktollik, Sr. Ira &amp; Martha Frankson, Sr.</p> <p><b>Nalukataq in Nuiqsut</b></p> <p><b>June 16</b> Oyagak Crew</p> <p><b>June 22</b> Taalak Crew</p> <p><b>June 25</b> EMN Crew</p>	<p><b>Nalukataq in Barrow</b></p> <p><b>June 21</b> Little Kupaaq Crew</p> <p><b>June 24</b> Arey Crew Edwardsen Crew Patkotak Crew Savik Crew</p> <p><b>June 29</b> Anagi Crew</p> <p><b>Nalukataq in Kali</b></p> <p><b>June 24</b> Atkaan Crew</p>
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<p><b>Nalukataq in Wainwright</b></p> <p><b>June 17</b> Iceberg 14 Jason Ahmaogak <b>June 22</b> Iceberg 17 Tugi &amp; Maxine Nayakik <b>June 23</b> Iceberg 6 Jack &amp; Ida Panik <b>June 24</b> Iceberg 10 Benjamin Tagarook</p>
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Will be updated as more crews set their dates. Updated 5/25/16

### Mark Your Calendars

**June 12, 2016** Iñupiaq Fellowship Gathering  
Christ Lutheran Church in Anchorage at 3pm

**June 18-25, 2016** PC(USA) General Assembly 2016  
Portland, Oregon

**June 16-18, 2016** Presbyterian Women Gathering  
First Presbyterian Church in Wasilla



**July 19-23, 2016** 2016 Presbyterian Youth Triennium  
Purdue University  
Who: Youth grades 8 - 12  
For more information: [www.presbyterianyouthtriennium.org/](http://www.presbyterianyouthtriennium.org/)

