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# Presbytery of Yukon

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## As The Body of Christ We Pray Together

If you are coming to Anchorage for hospital treatment and would like a pastoral visit, please contact the Presbytery office.

- Lloyd Nageak
- Lisa Lumijarvi

And our military chaplains:

- Rev. Ted McGovern
- Rev. Patrick Bracken
- Rev. Kevin Wainwright
- Rev. John Kaiser

## Now Hiring!

Trinity Presbyterian Church is now accepting resumes for a part-time position as the

Dear Melissa,

## Praying for the Kaktovik Presbyterian Church



*Do all the women in Kaktovik have the same name? One might think so from this picture. Marianne Rexford (left) and her aunt, the rev. Mary Ann Warden.*

As many in the presbytery know, the Rev. Mary Ann Warden retired from active ministry in July of 2011. Her last call was to the Presbyterian Church in Kaktovik, the community where she grew up and where she still lives. Since Rev. Warden's retirement the session has been seeking God's guidance on strategies to advance the cause of Jesus Christ in the village of Kaktovik. At their most recent meeting, the session of the Kaktovik Presbyterian Church decided to share this report with their friends in the presbytery via the presbytery eNews.

First, the session reports joy that housing is available in the village to allow Rev. Warden to stay in her hometown. Housing is in short supply in the village, making it difficult for young families and others to find places to live. There was therefore some concern about how to help Rev. Warden to stay in her hometown community. As it turns out, prayers were answered this spring, when the North Slope Borough opened a Senior Apartments building, featuring five apartments and a spacious commons area. Rev. Warden will be moving there over the next weeks

Since Rev. Warden's retirement the church leadership has been considering how to provide pastoral leadership for the church. The financial situation makes it clear that supporting a full-time pastor is no longer possible. On the other hand, the Kaktovik Presbyterian Church is the only church in town and Christ's ministry does need to move forward.

Director for Children's  
Ministries.  
If you are interested in  
applying, please contact  
Tammy at  
[tamaraletts@trinityalaska.org](mailto:tamaraletts@trinityalaska.org).



*Kaktovik Presbyterian Church in Winter*

Last Spring some of the members of the Chapel in the Mts. (Anaktuvuk Pass, AK) suggested that Kaktovik consider sharing a pastor with them. They admit that there is much to consider before any final decision can be made on this proposal. Efforts would be needed to be sure that the plan is God's way forward for leadership in these churches, or that the plan is feasible. However, both congregations are able to provide something less than half of pastor support package, and both have manses in which a pastor could live. The Anaktuvuk members suggested that the two churches consider providing what they can, and that they approach the presbytery about allowing this person to also serve as director of Project Y.E.S. in the presbytery. Taken together, all of this might be a supportable package.

The Kaktovik session was very intrigued with this idea. Some on the session thought there might be a church or two they could approach about pledging a small amount (perhaps \$5000?) toward pastor support. Others on the session thought of other fundraising ideas. In the end the session voted to request that the Anaktuvuk session join them in exploring these ideas. They further request that the whole presbytery and its friends join them in praying for God's guidance about the future of the church.

Of course, this left the question of what to do to keep the church alive in the interim period before pastoral leadership could be worked out. The session came up with some first steps, which include the following:

1. Could another church send leadership to Kaktovik during the week of August 5-9 to provide a Vacation Bible School week at the church?
2. Since New Hope Church (their partner church in the presbytery) has raised \$5000 in support of the Kaktovik church, the session decided to

**[Click here to view  
our Video Blog  
with Sally Johnston  
regarding Project  
Y.E.S.](#)**

use those funds to invite guest preachers to come from other villages in the presbytery during the odd numbered months. Guest preachers could come for at least one weekend, leading worship and offering encouragement to church.

3. The Rev. Curt Karns, moderator of the session, could come for a week at a time in the even numbered months, holding session meetings, leading worship and also offering encouragement.

4. They were also praying to find Sunday School leaders for the children to begin sometime this fall.

5. The Rev. Mary Ann Warden also wondered about offering one worship service each week in the commons area at the Sr. Apartments. Some people do not walk well and have a hard time making it to the church. Holding worship at an alternate site might provided a good service to the community.

First and foremost, however, the church leaders understand that they must be praying for God's guidance. God is always at work around us, among us and through us. We need to be open to the ways that God is providing. The church leaders invite their friends across the presbytery and beyond to join in the regular practice of prayer.

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**[In It For the Long Haul:  
Disaster Assistance in Galena](#)**



**PRESBYTERIAN  
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

The massive flooding in Galena this spring has been devastating and the clean-up has turned into a long-term assistance effort. Unfortunately, many of the evacuees will not be able to return to their homes in Galena this year. Debris removal has proven to be nearly impossible, meaning that homes that are repairable will be repaired, but the rebuilding of destroyed homes will probably not happen until next summer.

A Presbytery Disaster Assistance (PDA) team will be coming up in July for training that will be hosted by University Community Presbyterian Church (UCPC) in Fairbanks. There will be PDA training sessions in Fairbanks on July 8th-9th, the team will be in Galena on July 10th-12th, and they will visit Circle to evaluate the situation there as well.

How can you help? Monetary donations are always appreciated and would be used for the direct care of survivors. If you would like to make a donation, please have checks made out to Northern Alaska Disaster Recovery and mail them to: NADR c/o UCPC, 3510 College Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709. Money could also be sent directly to UCPC, as they have a disaster fund to assist NADR or to support their own disaster volunteer team.

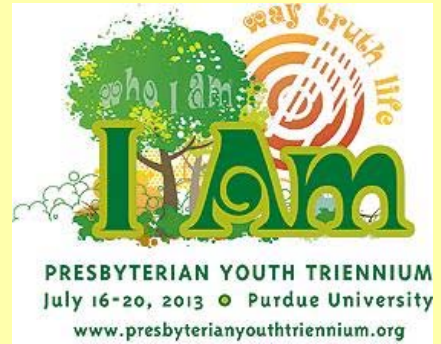
Also, if any churches would like to put together muck-out teams to assist, it would be greatly appreciated. Teams will need to be entirely self-sufficient, as the conditions in Galena are rough, with no potable water or cooking facilities. For more information or to set up an assistance team, please contact Sandy Faison at 907-978-0466 or [sandy.faison@usa.net](mailto:sandy.faison@usa.net).

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## 2013 Youth Triennium is Right Around the Corner

Eleven youth and two youth advisors will be a part of the 2013 Youth Triennium ([www.presbyterianyouthtriennium.org](http://www.presbyterianyouthtriennium.org)) at Purdue University July 16th-20th. The youth attending are: Aqsiataaq Ahsoak and Sadie Brower from Utqiagvik-Barrow, Madison Coulson from Immanuel-Anchorage, Charles McNeill from University Community -Fairbanks, and John Bell, Katie Bell, Callee Dahl, Megan Junge, Kelsey Olmstead, Paul Lindemuth, and Trey Segers from First Anchorage. The youth advisors are Andy Halfacre and Danna Larson from First-Anchorage.



This year's theme is "I AM." During the 2013 Triennium, youth will explore one of the significant "I am" metaphors from the gospels each day. Rev. Bill Buchanan, coordinator for the Worship Ministry Team is quoted as saying, "I AM" is a theme all about identity of God and our identity as children of God. We hope through the course of the Triennium young people will explore the nature of God through Jesus Christ. We also hope youth participants will wrestle with their own sense of self as young Christians in today's world. We hope that through the event those youth will hear God saying, I AM with you. I AM calling you. I AM preparing a place for you and a path for you. I AM challenging you to be my eyes, hands, and feet in the world."

The youth from the Presbytery of the Yukon will travel to the Youth Triennium on Monday, July 15 and return early Sunday morning, July 21. Danna Larson, Yukon Presbytery Registrar, thanks all from the Presbytery for their encouragement, financial support and prayers in making this faith formation experience a reality for this year's Triennium Delegation. Please be in prayer for our youth, youth advisors, and the Triennium event.

### Mark Your Calendars...

#### **September 16 - 19:**

2013 National Evangelism and Church Growth Conference  
Tradewinds Island Grand Resort  
[www.ECG2013.org](http://www.ECG2013.org)

#### **September 2013 - June 2014:**

Certificate in Lay Ministry Program  
Whitworth University  
Click [HERE](#) for further information about this program.

#### **September 2013 - June 2014:**

Certificate in Teaching the Bible  
Whitworth University (Online Course)  
Click [HERE](#) for further information about this program.

#### **October 11 - 12:**

Presbytery Meeting  
Anchorage Area - Location to be Announced

**October 14 - 17:**

Western Christian Educators' Conference  
Zephyr Point Conference Center, Lake Tahoe  
Click [HERE](#) for more information about this event.

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