

Alaska Field Report

Summer 2021

Staff Highlights

- Released to the field
 - Carrie Curtis (during summer conference)
- Very close to release
 - Chad and Andrea Peterson
 - Jordan and Jessica Martin

Advances to Field Vision

- A Novel Approach Implemented
 - Team 1 Paulls, Petersons (Copper Center)
 - Team 2 Daltons, Martins (Grayling and Ruby)
 - "Team 3" DeVries (Anchorage)
- EnGage 2021 2 interns, ending July 21st
- Jill continues MABC studies in preparation for the development of the counseling portion of our vision for the Lazy Mt. Campus
- Jill is developing the Alaska Christian Educators Networking (1 educator attended Conference) and also working with Alaska Bible Collage as they develop an Elementary Education Degree
- Summer work crews have begun the projects for this year
- Our missionary support team is very busy this summer
- Our Mentoring program continues to develop
- LEaD Alaska has had several inquiries for this fall
- Exploration and assessment trip to Chignik completed in June
- Active and building partnerships with Wasilla Bible Church, Lazy Mountain Bible Church, and Creekside Church

Future planning

- Beginning with the end in mind
 - We are working to define what we believe a biblically Maturing Church would look like. This process began at Conference
 - Exploring ways for more direct ministry involvement with Toby & Cherie Curtis (LEaD, EnGage, Counseling)
- Discipleship/Counseling Center
 - Copper Center Community Chapel has requested biblical counseling opportunities to serve their community from our Lazy Mountain Campus

- We are working with one of our staff couples to get certified as Biblical Counselors to meet the need for counseling staff as we develop our Counseling Center
- We have had requests from Native Leaders to develop a biblical counseling option for Alaska Natives in the Mat-Su Valley
- Villages asking for our attention
 - Ruby (Martins are in Ruby, getting to know the community)
 - Chignik (need a young couple to follow Dave Hill as he is phasing out of ministry)

Setbacks

We are so very thankful that God has provided funding for the Grayling house repairs. There are two issues that have caused a delay in accomplishing this project this summer. The first issue is by the time we could get the supplies for the project to the barge and the barge to Grayling we would not have time to complete the project before first snow. The other problem is that Grayling still has quarantine for anyone that has not received the Covid-19 vaccine. The advantage for delaying the project until next spring is that we will have more time to plan and stage the project and the Covid-19 protocols will likely loosen.

The ongoing stretch for Jill and I to supervise, guide, and launch staff with ongoing direct ministry responsibilities. Not sure what we do except continue working through the muddy waters until we have more seasoned staff to assist and assume ministries without the direct support that a new job requires.