





NETWORK CALENDAR

APRIL 2019

6	AKSOM
18	Finance Team
	*Good Friday
	Easter Sunday
23-24	Presbytery
April-29-May 2	Network Conference True North-Fairbanks

MAY 2019

4	AKSOM	
12	Mother's Day	
27	*Memorial Day	

JUNE 2019

6-8	RR Camp
8	LFTL Golf Tourney
9	Pentecost Sunday
9-13	SE Youth Camp
16	Father's Day
17-21	Youth Camp 1
24-28	Youth Camp 2

NETWORK IS CLOSED

- dood i fiday	Αριιι	13
- Memorial Da	ayMay	27

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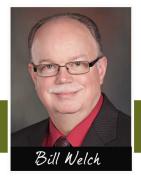
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Bill Welch Superintendent

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my could pants for you, my God. My could thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? My tears have been my food day and night."

Ps. 42:1-3.

We celebrate the *Gold Initiative* and give God thanks for the many souls that have been saved. Our concern for lost souls and commitment to Christ's Mission is the reason for recalibrating our churches and ministries. We desire to have maximum Kingdom impact in our communities. Staying on mission critical is extremely important, but as important as staying on mission critical is to the fulfillment of the Great Commission, it's also vitally important as Christ's servants, for us to give spiritual attention to taking care of our own souls. If God loved us enough to send His Son to die on the Cross for our sins, how much more does He care about the spiritual health and growth of our soul.

God cares about every aspect of who we are – body, soul, and spirit.

My prayer and hope are that we will all be spiritually and emotionally healthy. It begins by communing with God in prayer, meditating on His Word, and having fellowship with the Holy Spirit. Also, we should intentionally find time for rest, relaxation, and physical exercise.

This 2019 Network Conference I'm going to ask all of us to allow the Holy Spirit to speak to our lives about our own personal Soul Care. Jesus says, "What does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul?" Please allow me some latitude to suggest, "What does it profit if we Recalibrate our churches and ministries and fail to Recalibrate our own souls and/or lose our own soul?" Carefully consider with me the spiritual health of your own soul. Surrender to the Holy Spirit and let Him do a work of Recalibration of your own soul for maximum spiritual health, so that you can be as effective as you are meant to be as a human being, servant leader of Christ, a husband or wife, father or mother, or a minister of the Gospel.

If we are to lead healthy churches and have a healthy Network, then we need to be healthy leaders. I'm not suggesting we are unhealthy, but I do believe God wants to call our attention to our own personal Soul Care – body, soul, and spirit. So, let's be real with God and surrender every aspect of life and ministry to Him. Like the Psalmist, who portrayed his deep longing for relationship with God "as the deer (that) pants for steams of water," let's fervently seek the Lord and allow the Holy Spirit to recalibrate us and minister to our Souls.

Recently, I asked Rick Johnson, the Director of Personnel and Member Care for AGWM if his office had developed suggested protocols that serve our world-wide missionary family in the practice of "Self-care."

Rick said, "The best starting place for self-care is the fourth Commandment, 'Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy,' (Exodus 20:8, NKJV)." Rick went on to suggest, "Setting aside a regular time for rest and reflection is a problem for so many."

Because of the press of our calling, and the needs of our world, many have incorrectly surmised that "busy-ness" was an exhibition of godliness. "I'll rest when I'm dead," is a common (but frightening) statement I have heard. I wonder...could that statement perhaps be a prophetic one?

I love what Pastor Adam Mabry writes, "The busy trap is the self-defeating spiral of nonstop action that feeds on the belief that restfulness is weakness. **But rest is not weakness. Rest is an irreducible ingredient for the life that enjoys God."**

The Sabbath day was the high point of God's creative week. Every other day God simply pronounced "Good." The only day God declared "Holy" in the creation week was the Sabbath. "Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done" (Genesis 2:3, NIV).

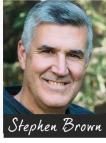
God designed us to have the same rhythm of six plus one—six days of working hard, plus one day of resting and celebrating what has been accomplished. God designed the Sabbath as a gift to Kingdom workers! "They must realize that the Sabbath is the Lord's gift to you..." (Exodus 16:29a, NLT).

Jesus knew that a Sabbath rest was essential to "self-care." He said, "The Sabbath was made to meet the needs of people, and not people to meet the requirements of the Sabbath" (Mark 2:27, NLT).

The fourth Commandment "self-care" protocol allows us to receive the life-restoring benefit Jesus offered when He beckoned, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30, ESV).



Gary Morton Assistant Superintendent



Stephen Brown Treasurer

Ministry as a vocation can be stressful at times. We have all seen the light flash on our emotional dashboards warning us that our emotional tank is low. Trying to minister to others while we need encouragement is even more draining.

One of the leading causes of stress in ministry is that of financial shortage. When church finances are strained and then in turn, our personal finances become strained stress levels can rise. We quote to ourselves great Bible verses like: "casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you" 1 Peter 5:7.

Doing so can help us feel better but is somewhat like closing the barn door after the horse has escaped. Developing a strategy to get ahead of financial crisis can go a long way in caring for our soul.

An encouraging saying, we have no doubt heard is that "tough times don't last." This is comforting to know. The corollary would be "good times don't last either." Not quite as encouraging but true, nonetheless.

When we are experiencing a good season, especially financially, think of it as God giving us the means for future soul needs. Putting away some of our surpluses in the good seasons makes preparation for tough times that will follow. When windfalls come, instead of increasing spending, it is wise to commit some of our margin to future needs. In doing so, we are banking future resources to meet obligations thereby creating margin to care for our soul.

The Genesis story of Joseph saving Egypt in time of severe famine was made possible by his wisdom in storing surpluses for the days of want ahead. Instead of being stressed and vulnerable in a difficult time, Joseph and those whom he cared for thrived.

The root of stress is fear. The antidote to fear is preparation. Maintaining a lifestyle of preparation is an effective strategy to care for our souls.



Amid ferocious gale winds and formidable waves, the steel steamer, Clara Nevada, navigated down Lynn Canal from Skagway en route to Seattle. It was 1898, the height of the gold rush, and the Clara Nevada was carrying 800 pounds of gold. Striking Eldred Rock, the steamer burst into flames that could be seen for miles ... the gold was lost, but even more importantly, one-hundred people perished that night.

The tragedy moved Congress to fund the Eldred Rock Lighthouse (see picture). Although activated in 1906, the beacons from that lighthouse, or any other lighthouse does not necessarily guarantee a ship will not hit the rocks. Having grown up on a commercial fishing boat in Southeast Alaska, I have heard multiple stories of fishermen who have fallen asleep at the wheel after a long day of fishing. Their lack of prioritizing sleep caused their vessel to run aground.

The many principles within this story have strong implications for ministerial ethics. We have the spotlight of God's Word and the witness of the Holy Spirit to lead us into all truth and godly character. However, when we become exhausted in ministry, we are prone to ignore warnings signs. Ministry stressors, such as working too many hours, can cause a minister to let down his or her guard and become more vulnerable to an ethical lapse. Keeping your spiritual, physical, and emotional tanks full helps to ensure your reputation will not be shattered on the shores of sin and indiscretion.



As we explore recalibrating soul care at Network Conference, remember this isn't just about feeling good. Like the captain of the *Clara Nevada*, ministers care for precious cargo.

When we experience a moral failure, it is a reproach to the cause of Christ and can be disastrous to those we serve. As we are led by the light of God's Word and listen to the Spirit, let us daily renew ourselves in the Lord, thereby limiting the opportunity for a shipwreck of the soul.

> Church & Minister Stats Dec. 2018 - Feb. 2019

Transfers Out:

Robert Shull Collin & Kristen Hill Grant Parkki

Resigned:

Barry & Jan Haggerty

Deceased:

Marvin Paul

Lapsed:

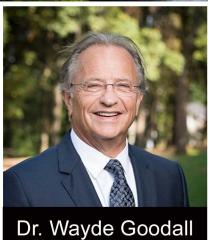
Gilberto Nantes Sterling Nelson Benjamin Baldwin Edward Ash

Open Churches:

Kodiak Assembly of God, Kodiak Kaktovik Assembly of God, Kaktovik Aurora Heights Worship Center, Nikiski Lakeside Chapel, Yakutat Yupik Assembly of God, Alakanuk Kotzebue Assembly of God, Kotzebue

> Brad Kesler Secretary





And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? ~ Mark 8:36

Caring for our soul should be the highest priority of every follower of Christ . . . especially those who are in spiritual leadership. When we care for our soul, God will bring us balance and sensitivity to His voice. Caring for our soul involves understanding that the Holy Spirit is working deeply within our soul/spirit to heal, restore, lead, and motivate us to become more Christlike and loving.

The soul is the most neglected part of the leader in today's world.

~ Steve Macchia, Leadership Transformations

The Scriptures, rather than the culture of our world, must inform our lives as we endeavor to be healthy leaders. Soul care focuses on our walk with God, and our deeper intimacy with Christ. When we have this intimacy, our Christlike person will have great impact on the people around us.

Some ways we don't care for our soul:

1. Isolation - Ioneliness

Isolation can be a dangerous. To care for our soul, we need trusted people with whom we enjoy deep friendships and confidentiality – men with men, ladies with ladies. As leaders, we can easily become lonely and drift into isolation. We tend to hide when having thoughts or behaviors that battle against our soul.

All of us need other godly, and wise friends who pray for us, listen to us, and give us wisdom from above.

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship (koinonia), to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ~ Acts 2:42

Koinonia is mentioned 19 times in the Greek New Testament. The New American Standard Bible translates Koinonia "fellowship" twelve times, "sharing" three times, and "participation" and "contribution" twice each.

2. Exhaustion

We let ourselves go, go, go until we're exhausted. Caring for our soul is being obedient to God's will for us to rest. Sabbath rest is an area that the majority of Christian leaders fail to observe. Some say, "I don't have time to take a Sabbath." This commandment from our Father is for us. It creates balance, healthy thinking, and deeper spiritual insights, while enabling God's presence to be part of our lives. The term *sabbath* is mentioned over 60 times in the Bible and it describes the commandment to rest.



Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. ~ Exodus 20:9-10

The soul is often the most undeveloped part of us. Our soul cries out to be known, and to be loved by God and others. The sensual, materialistic, sinful world in which we live says that we can be satisfied by worldly pleasures. **Not so!** The deepest needs of our lives are satisfied by knowing God and understanding His amazing love and plan for us.

3. Spiritual ways to care for our soul:

- Meditation, reflection, and praying in the spirit
- · Self-examination and soul searching
- Developing sensitivities to the voice of the Holy Spirit
- Slowing down while reading the Scriptures to permit the Holy Spirit to speak through the Word
- Writing or recording your revelations, dreams, and reflections from the Scriptures
- Seeking Godly advice, and understanding that there is wisdom in the counsel of others
- Developing spiritual friendships: loyal, confidential, trustworthy, and willing to speak the truth to us about concerns or successes they see in our lives

4. Practical ways to care for our soul:

- Sleeping: Each one of us needs the right amount of sleep for our unique rhythm. Some need 7 hours of sleep; some need 9, etc. Like observing a Sabbath, sleep is an energy producer, and will revive us to accomplish more for His kingdom.
- Eating healthy, developing an exercise program, and resting: Our body is the only one we'll ever have. A healthy body will bring greater health to our soul
- Having fun: This has been a difficult one for me. My wife understands "fun" much better than I do. However, I'm getting better at having fun, and have noticed that it has a positive impact on my soul/spirit.

I have found that many Christian leaders are not happy. They don't know how to have fun and just enjoy God's creation.

A cheerful heart is good **medicine**, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones. ~ Proverbs 17:22

5. Creating boundaries as we care for our soul:

When we work beyond our limits and are constantly in a hurry we will eventually become exhausted and burned out. As a result we can become bitter. There is a law of limits that we need to observe. We can only do so much, and often we go way beyond what we can adequately do. When we live within our limits, we can sense the presence of God and the direction of the Holy Spirit more clearly. Part of that is understanding how to say "no."

Ruthlessly eliminate hurry from your life.~ Dallas Willard

6. Our time alone with God:

When we read the Scriptures, we should ask the Holy Spirit to speak to us. God is always ready to lead us into new ways of listening so we can sense His will and obey.

When we care for our soul, our hearts and minds become healthy. We will notice that the Lord's presence becomes part of all we do. The fruit of the Spirit will become more apparent in our lives, and we will grow from grace to grace as we conform to the image of Christ.

Chuck Mays 461 Response

Lattis Campbell



Since the beginning of the year, I have been intentional in establishing relationships and defining the target of the AKMN Home Missions ministry.

Relational Journey
In February, I had the opportunity to join with a Missions Director from another group working in Alaska for a cross-country snowmachine trip from Nenana to Unalakleet. We traveled frozen river trails, stopping at villages along the way to connect with missionaries, pastors, and village leaders.

In the planning stage of this trip, we were discussing our expectations. I stated that my primary focus would be to build relationships with key individuals along the way. My task was to be "relational along the journey, rather than just being focused on arriving at the destination.

In Matthew 22, Jesus stated that the two most important things we can do in life are to love God and love people (Matt. 22:37-39).

During this first stage of the trip, we were able to visit and stay in homes with missionaries and leaders connected with groups including Send North, Interact, The Covenant Church, and several non-denominational churches. We had powerful times of prayer in each village.

As of the writing of this article, plans are set to fly back out to Unalakleet, get back on the snowmachines, and travel to St. Michael, Stebbins, Kotlik, Emmonak, and Alakanuk. Presbyter Jimmy Okitkun will team-up with me to visit these folks.

Defining our TargetWe must know where to aim! Zig Ziglar stated "If you aim at nothing you will hit it every time." For years now we have heard that there are over 100 locations in Alaska without an adequate Gospel witness. We have not been able to find any recent reports that indicate exactly which villages are still without an adequate representation of the Gospel. In an effort to get our finger on the spiritual pulse in Alaska, I have asked a team of individuals from regions in Alaska to join me in researching locations. I anticipate this team having information to report during the April Network Conference.

Terry Hull Alaska Home Missions

It's time to do something about this! In 2019 we will launch an initiative to reach some of these unreached areas. With God's help, as He opens opportunity to us, we will work the kingdom of God into all regions of Alaska.



Chuck Mays 461 Response



I would like to acknowledge K-LOVE Radio's Crisis Response Care Network for bringing Crisis Response Training to Alaska. In February 2019 they offered two classes in Anchorage: Group Crisis Intervention and Operational First Aid. Rev. Mike Henderson is an Assemblies of God Minister and Director of the Crisis Response Care Network. Besides plans to return to Anchorage next year, discussions are also underway to bring Crisis Response Training to the Fairbanks area. I will announce these dates as soon as they become available.

Please consider signing-up your church and staff on the 461 Response Website. I would love to come and present the 461 Response program to your staff and assist you in building a team to fit your interest in assisting others in crisis.







Thank you for the opportunity to share with you about what is happening with your Alaska Royal Rangers (RR) Ministries.

Since the first of the year, I have been honored to visit six RR programs in the Anchorage/Wasilla area, and I'm happy to say that your Alaska RR is growing! Currently, we have three veteran Outposts having Rangers: MCA Church meets on Sunday nights and First Assembly and South Assembly meet on Wednesday nights. In the Anchorage bowl, we have three Outposts that are new within the last year: AK Joy Church, led by the Bialiks and Crossroads Assembly, led by the McKanes meet on Wednesday evenings. In Wasilla, Journey Church has RR on Saturday afternoon. In the Northern Region, Jubilee Worship Center meets on Wednesday evenings, and North Pole Assembly has RR on Sunday morning as Sunday School.

In addition to these groups, an Outpost from Homer (Outpost 14) will be starting up again in October, as a joint venture between Homer AG and Regent Life Church. They have scheduled RR training for April 12-13 and have seven men signed-up already. We have two other churches that are in contact with me about starting up a program this year as well. It is fun to see God building his Kingdom using a mentoring ministry called Rangers.

SAVE THE DATE: Ranger Camp happens **June 6-8**. Our guest speaker is the National BGMC Director, David Boyd, and we have themed the camp **Missions Possible**. We are looking forward to having your students join us for awesome chapel times filled with great stories from all over the world and powerful altar times, games that will stretch and engage the students, and opportunities to make lifetime friends. Cost is \$125.00 per student and \$100.00 per leader. If you have any questions regarding your Alaska RR, please feel free to contact me on my cell at (907) 952-2905 or email me at chuxn@gci.net.

We are all caught up in this year's theme of "Recalibrating," and I believe there is no better way to recalibrate than to focus our attention on the Alaska School of Ministry (AKSOM) program. This is an excellent time to begin the program or perhaps take classes to upgrade your ministerial credential. Pastors/ministers are always looking for ways to increase their biblical knowledge and understanding so they might be more prepared to meet the needs of the congregation. It's easy to get started, just call the AKSOM office at 907-662-2247 or send us an email at aksom@alaskaag.org and we will set you up for the classes.

AKSOM is also in the recalibrating process, and there have several positive changes that will significantly help our students. We are currently reviewing the Zoom communication platform and anticipate using the program beginning September 2019.

Zoom has several qualities that will help make our classes "cutting-edge," so to speak. First, Zoom allows each class participant to be seen on a computer screen at the same time. Second, because everyone is in the class "live," each participant can hear the lecture, ask questions, and interact in classroom discussions. This will make the class more interactive than ever before. There will no longer be a need to use the chat function and type in your questions. The preferred method for online students taking classes this Fall will be to have their own computer or access to one with a camera.

AKSOM INTERNSHIP:

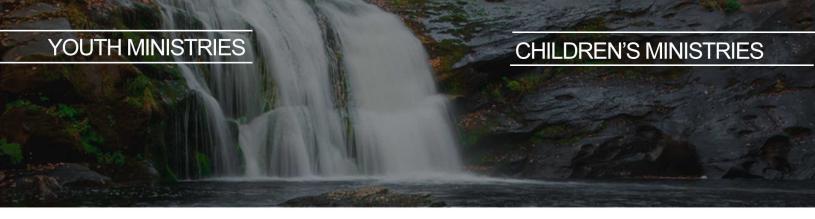
If you are planning on an AKSOM Internship this summer, register at King's Way Ministry Center on May 4th, purchase the required texts, and contact Fay Niemann at fayniemann@alaskaag.org.



Chuck Niemann Director Royal Rangers



Wade Cogan Alaska School of Ministry



There are things this current generation of youth are having to deal with that no other generation has. Negative influences through technology, culture, lack of parenting, and much more give access to so many things that can disrupt God's plan and purpose in their lives.

We as leaders can make a vital difference in the life of a teenager by empowering them to move toward Jesus and giving them opportunities to encounter the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in our youth ministries and churches. In order for us to pour into our students, kids, or anyone else, we need to be pursuing Jesus like never before. We can only expect to pour out what is being poured into us. Our soul care will power over into everyone we lead and minister to. A student's powerful encounter brings conviction, purpose, purity, hope, forgiveness, and freedom in a way nothing else can.

Student soul care isn't a program or process, it is about a student being empowered by the Holy Spirit to overcome anything that comes their way. I believe that God is awakening this generation to bring life to their generation, say "yes" to the call of God, and relentlessly obey the direction of the Holy Spirit in their lives. As leaders, let's pray for our students, lead them by example, and do everything we can to give them environments empowered by the Spirit.





Ryan Gluth Network Youth Director As parents, we are responsible for caring for our children. Meeting their physical, educational, and emotional needs can tend to be given priority. However, the spiritual part of children is also important. Most parents want to care for ALL their child's needs, but sometimes feel inadequate or unqualified in this area.

We know that finding a church where kids are valued and ministered to is very important. This is one way of nurturing your child's spiritual journey, but church is not enough! At best church ministry only provides one or two hours of spiritual care per week. This amount of attention would be unacceptable if measured by the time allotted for caring for our physical and mental needs. Kids need spiritual care every day from their parents.

Here are some ways for parents to invest spiritually in the lives of their children:

- 1. Pray for and with your child(ren) daily. Make prayer a part of life.
- 2.Read the Word daily with your child(ren). Get a devotional that can be done in a short period of time, especially for younger kids with short attention spans. Talk about the things you are learning from the Word. And, remember, it's ok if you don't have all the answers, take advantage of the many resources available for parents to answer questions.
- 3. Practice teachable moments. When life happens, demonstrate forgiveness, do the right thing, speak kind words, show compassion, and love.
- 4.Provide special opportunities for your child(ren) to have spiritual experiences, such as camps, VBS, and missions' opportunities.

These daily practices, conversations, and times together will help nurture and solidify your child's faith.

SAVE THE DATE KIDS CAMP

Little Beaver Bible Camp - July 15-19

→ SE - July 21-25





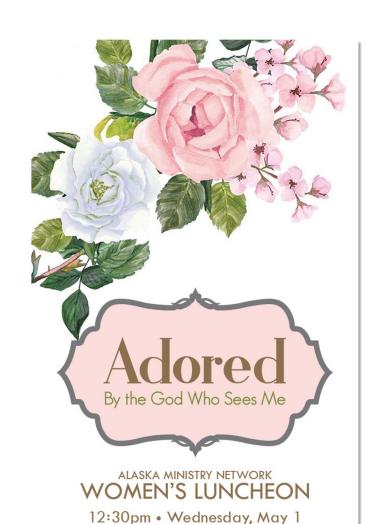
You, my friend, are loved, longed for, valued, cherished, and **ADORED**...by the God who sees you.

In Genesis 16, we find the beautiful account of Hagar with the angel of the Lord. Pregnant and left to the mercy of her mistress who had turned on her, Hagar had fled impulsively and now faced an incredible journey through a desert wilderness that stretched for miles before her. Pondering her choices and attitudes towards Sarah, Hagar realized that she had been wrong. She sat under the tree, feeling tired, hungry and thirsty, fearful, unsure of what to do next.

At the perfect moment, the angel of the Lord appears to her in a powerful yet gentle way and gives her some advice. Encouraged by His message, Hagar declared "El Roi," meaning, "You are the God who sees me." What a profound statement!

Like Hagar, when we encounter the Lord in the middle of our circumstances, our souls and our lives will forever be impacted. The infinite, all-knowing, all-powerful Father God who saw to the depths of Hagar's soul and interrupted her as she journeyed in the desert wants to do the same for you and for me. Our circumstances may not be quite the same as Hagar, yet we have all experienced how the heartaches and challenges of life can shatter the beauty of our souls. Through the good times and the challenging times, we need to remember that our Heavenly Father loves us extravagantly, desires to bring healing and restoration to every part of us, and always has good, good plans in store for our life and our future.

As we look forward to Network Conference, I want to personally invite each lady to join us for the Adored Women's Lunch. It will be held on Wednesday, May 1, 12:30pm at Jubilee Worship Center. This will be a wonderful time of friendship, delicious food, a variety of prizes, gifts, and fun! Together we will also be encouraged and challenged by Rosalyn Goodall, Dr. Wayde Goodall's wife. Please plan to join us for this special time!

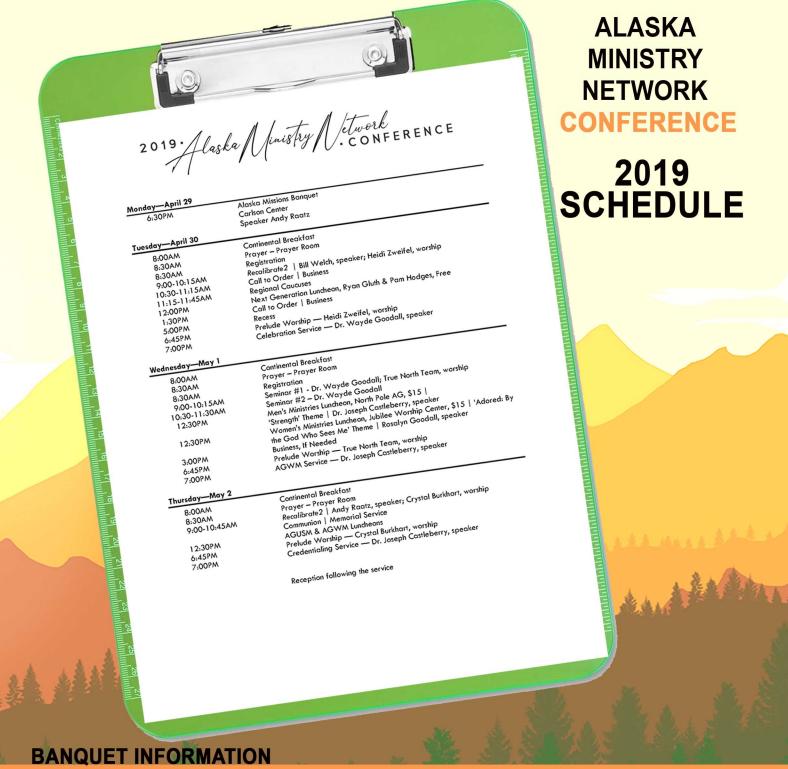


Jubilee Worship Center

541 3rd St. • Fairbanks

Charee´ Davis Women's Ministries





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The banquet will be held Monday night, April 29 at 6:30 PM in the Carlson Center (2010 2nd Ave Fairbanks, AK 99701). Andy Raatz, AGWM Communications Director, will be our honored guest. Casual, sports, and outdoor attire is welcomed, so no need to worry about suits and ties. The cost will be \$25 per person if you purchase tickets by April 15 and \$30 per person if you purchase tickets after April 15. You are also able to purchase an entire table, seating 8 people, for \$175. You can pre-register for the banquet online and we will send your tickets in the mail. Please bring your tickets with you to the banquet as admission.