RECORDS OF ALASKA NATIVES IN RELIGIOUS ARCHIVES


Prepared By Larry Hibpshman, Archivist
Alaska State Archives

April 30, 2014
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**Introduction**

Orthodox Christian missionaries arrived in Russian America in 1794, and many religious groups have sent messengers to Alaska since that time. Alaska Natives have been members of numerous churches and religious bodies over the years. Religious organizations provided churches, schools, hospitals, orphanages and youth camps. They often assembled important records that document both Alaska Native Cultural History and the personal lives of Native Alaskans.

This is a list of known organizations that have significant religious records of interest to Alaska Natives. The list isn’t meant to be comprehensive. Valuable Alaska Native Collections are probably not included because we didn’t know about them when we prepared this guide. A good publication to consult for Alaska genealogical resources of all kinds is:


Not all religious materials are in religious institutions. Listings for the *Alaska State Archives, University of Alaska Fairbanks Alaska and Polar Regions Collections, U.S. National Archives, and Library of Congress are found throughout this directory wherever applicable.*

A good resource, especially for images, is *Alaska’s Digital Archives Portal, [http://vilda.alaska.edu/](http://vilda.alaska.edu/),* often referred to as **VILDA.** It’s a shared bibliographic database that includes the *Alaska State Library Historical Collections, the University of Alaska Anchorage Archives and Special Collections, the University of Alaska Fairbanks Alaska and Polar Regions Collections* and several other institutions. Go to the website and a topical search field is at the top of your screen.

If you are aware of other pertinent religious or denominational records we should include, please contact us:

Alaska State Archives  
141 Willoughby Avenue  
Juneau, AK 99801-1720  
907-465-2241(v); 465-2465(f)  
[chris.hieb@alaska.gov](mailto:chris.hieb@alaska.gov)  
[www.archives@alaska.gov](mailto:www.archives@alaska.gov)

El Nathan Home in Valdez, 1940, Kenneth & Vivian Hughes back right. Courtesy Yvonne Marty
Alaska Children’s Services became AK Child and Family in July 2013. This does not reflect any change in services or mission. The new name is intended to clarify that the agency is not affiliated with the State of Alaska Office of Children’s Services.

AK Child and Family was originally founded as the United Methodist Jesse Lee Home. The Home, in Unalaska (1889-1925), Seward (1925-1965) and Anchorage, merged with the Lutheran Youth Center (American Lutheran Church) and Anchorage Children’s Christian Home (American Baptist Church) in 1970, and began transition to Alaska Children’s Services, a cooperative treatment and social services provider to children with severe emotional disturbance. Anchorage First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) partnered with the agency in the 1980s.
Access to some records may be restricted under State and Federal privacy laws. Contact:

AK Child and Family
Special Projects
4600 Abbott Road
Anchorage, AK 99507
(907) 346-2101
info@akchild.org
http://www.akchild.org

Alaska State Archives has a photograph album created by Jesse Lee Home staff in 1940. Questions about the album should be directed to the State Archives staff.


(Sources: Alaska Child & Family, Hardscratch Press)

Assemblies of God

Assemblies of God Missionaries Charles and Florence Personneus established Alaska’s first Assembly of God at Juneau in 1917, and served in Alaska November 1917-February 1940. Ned Nusunginya, born in Barrow 1898, was ordained the first Inupiat Assemblies of God minister in 1968. (Peninsula Clarion June 1, 2005)

From 1940 Alaska was part of the Northwest District of the Assemblies of God, (Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Western Montana), and became a separate District in 1964.

Legally the district is the Alaska District of the Assemblies of God, but is generally known as the Alaska Ministry Network. Currently, 81 churches are spread across all regions of the state. Many churches were pioneered by Alaska Natives and Alaska Natives continue to serve in pastorates across the state.

Image & text source: Kenai Peninsula Clarion June 1, 2005.
Courtesy Vincent Nusunginya & Peninsula Clarion.

**Flower Pentecostal Heritage Center**: The Flower Center in Springfield, Missouri has the most Alaska Assemblies of God ministry archival material, including photos, audio recordings, published articles, and other files. Rev. and Mrs. Personeus’ Papers are located at the Flower Center. Contact:

Flower Pentecostal Heritage Center
1445 N Boonville Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802
417-862-2781
www.ifphc.org

**Juneau Children's Home; date unknown.**
Courtesy Flower Pentecostal Heritage Center.
(Assemblies of God, continued)

Alaska Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God Limited information, including some ministerial records, church history, and publications, are accessible at:

Alaska Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God
1048 W International Airport Road; Suite 101
Anchorage, AK  99518
907-562-2247
info@alaskaag.org
www.akministrynetwork.org

Baptist Churches

American Baptist Churches: The Historical Society of the American Baptist Churches holds the American Baptist Home Mission Societies collection, which includes records that relate to Alaskan mission activities. Historical records include correspondence and photographs of the Baptist Children’s Home on Woody Island near Kodiak. Contact:

American Baptist Historical Society
2930 Flowers Road South (physical address)
3001 Mercer University Dr. (mailing address)
Atlanta, GA 30341
678 547 6680(v); 678-547-6682(f)
abhsoffice@abhsarchives.org
www.abhsarchives.org

See also the listing for AK Child and Family (formerly Alaska Children’s Services)

(Source: American Baptist Historical Society, Mercer University, Atlanta GA)
Financed Alaska Baptist Family Services (ABFS). ABFS, a non-profit ministry providing residential treatment for youth on behalf of the Convention began operating May 2, 1974. Services were adapted over time to best meet community needs but the mission remains the same: Serving children and families in the spirit of Jesus Christ. To locate records generated by ABFS, contact:

Lorrie Morris, Executive Director
Alaska Baptist Family Services
1600 O’Malley Road
Anchorage, AK 99516
907-349-2222
akfamilies@gci.net
http://www.alaskabaptistfamilyservices.com/
Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives: The Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives has material related to Baptists in Alaska in its Nashville, TN collection. The collection includes Alaska Baptist Convention annuals/proceedings of from 1946; Alaska Baptist Messenger issues from 1946; local Baptist association annuals, state convention and church histories, some local church records, and archival material in the records of the Home Mission Board. Researchers can search the online catalog across the collections finding aids for Alaska related material at www.sbhla.org

Contact information is on the website or:

Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives
901 Commerce St., #400
Nashville, TN 37203
615-244-0344
www.sbhla.org

Anchorage Native Baptist Church (East Third Avenue Baptist Church).
University of Alaska Anchorage. Consortium Library. Archives & Special Collections.

(Source: Alaska Baptist Family Services; Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives.)

1 Baptist associations are regional administrative subdivisions equivalent to dioceses or conferences.
Archdiocesan, Diocesan and Parish Records: The Catholic Church in Alaska does not have central archives, but the Fairbanks and Juneau Dioceses have archivists. Most parish records, including baptismal certificates remain with individual parishes. Other records may be available from one of the diocesan chancery offices or one of several educational and missionary organizations.

**Anchorage Archdiocese. Contact:**
Chancery Office, Archdiocese of Anchorage
225 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-297-7700(v)
archdiocesegeneraldelivery@cca-ak.org
http://www.archdioceseofanchorage.org

Fairbanks Diocesan Archives. Diocesan records begin with an 1886 entry from Nulato. The archives also documents names, from early years to the present day. Of particular note, student records of Saint Mary’s Catholic High School, Saint Marys Alaska, which closed in 1987, are now located at the Diocesan Archives. Access is restricted to former students or their legal representatives. Only written inquiries by conventional mail addressed to the chancery office are accepted.
The Fairbanks Diocesan Archives' primary purpose, however, is to maintain sacramental records – records of baptisms, confirmations, marriages, deaths and funerals. The diocese's 47 parishes keep their own sacramental records, but annually report them to the Diocesan Archives. Baptism Certificates can be used as proof of age for social security purposes.

Sacramental records include private information, and the documents are not open to the public. The archivist will search for specific information, unless requests involve fragile documents. If relevant information is found the archivist can issue an official Sacramental Certificate, in one of four types:

**Baptism Certificates include:**
- Baptized person’s name
- Parents’ names
- Date and place of birth
- Date and place of baptism
- Godparents’ names
- Officiating priest’s name

**Confirmation Certificates include:**
- Confirmand’s Name
- Parents’ names
- Confirmation Name
- Date and place of confirmation
- Date and place of baptism
- Sponsor’s name
- Officiating priest’s name

**Marriage Certificates include:**
- Individual’s name
- Parents’ names
- Date and place of marriage
- Individual’s date and place of baptism
- Spouse’s name
- Spouse’s parents’ name
- Spouse’s date and place of baptism
- Officiating priest’s name

**Death/Funeral Certificates include:**
- Deceased’s name
- Deceased’s birth place
- Deceased’s age
- Spouse’s name
- Sacraments received
- Date of death and burial
- Officiating priest’s name

When Requesting Sacramental Information by Mail, Phone, Fax, or On-line:

It is very important to plan ahead and give the archivist time to search. It is also important to provide as much information as possible when you request a search. To request sacramental information on the Internet go to the diocesan web site, fill out, and send the On-Line Sacramental Request Form (http://dioceseoffairbanks.org/joomla/images/archives/sacramentalrecordrequestform.pdf)

You can also download and print the Sacramental Request Form, to submit a search by mail or fax. Requests can also be made by telephone.
(Catholic Church, Fairbanks Diocesan Archives, continued)

Office hours are 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Contact:

David Schienle, Coordinator of Archives
Chancery Office, Diocese of Fairbanks
1316 Peger Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709-5199
907-374-9500 (v); 374-9580(f)
info@cbna.org
http://www.cbna.info/archive/archivehome.html
http://www.cbna.info/archive/request.pdf

(Source: Fairbanks Catholic Diocesan Archives)

Juneau Catholic Diocese. Each church in the Juneau Diocese maintains its own sacramental records. The diocesan archivist maintains non-sacramental records, including material for all fourteen parishes in the diocese. Diocesan records include correspondence and administrative records, church administration and programs, parish Sunday bulletins, building information and diocesan special events. Contact:

Diocesan Archivist
Chancery Office, Diocese of Juneau
415 Sixth Street, Suite 300
Juneau, AK 99801
907-586-2227, ext. 27(v); 463-3237(f)
diocesedevdevelopment@hotmail.com
juneaudiocese@gci.net

(Sources: Juneau Catholic Diocesan Archives)
Holy Name Catholic School, Ketchikan. Current Ketchikan Holy Name Catholic School student records are located at the school. Student records are transferred to the Ketchikan School district when students begin middle school. For information contact:

Holy Name School
433 Jackson Street
Ketchikan, AK 99901
907-225-2400
schooloffice@holynamektn.org
http://holynamektn.com

(Source: Holy Name Parish & School)

Marquette University

The Marquette University Special Collections and University Archives has 10 collections with records relating to Alaska and Alaska Natives (not all are Catholic-specific):

**Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions Records**, (1848-Present). An advocacy and support organization for Catholic missions and schools among American Indians and Alaska Natives. Holdings are extensive and include diverse texts, black-&-white and color photographs, most of which relate to Inuits and Athabaskans and many different religious orders. Alaska materials date 1862 to the present.


**Mary Ewans, O.P Papers**, (1882-1987), pertain to research about Native women who served as religious sisters. Holdings include notes and audio recordings and 3 pertain to Alaska Natives. The Ewans Papers are restricted. Contact the archivist for more information.


*In the Spotlight* digital collection with **Catholic Ladder Pictorial Catechisms** (1839-1984) issued January 2009. Published pictorial texts used in Alaska and elsewhere from the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions Records and other collections in the Marquette Archives; *includes a Russian Orthodox text published 1892*.


**Herman D. Ray Collection**, (2011-present) includes digital color photography of **Tekakwitha Conference** events and related celebrations in the United States and Rome that pertain to Catholics and/or Indians. Alaska Native photography dates 2011-present.
Anne M. Scheurman Collection, (1935-2013) includes black-and-white and color photography and video recordings of Tekakwitha Conference and related events in Canada, the United States and Rome that pertain to Catholics and/or Indians. Photographs about Alaska and Alaska Natives date 1980s-2012.


The Marquette Archives web site presents its Catholic Native collections and related reference materials within three sections:

Collection inventories
Microfilmed series (most available via interlibrary loan) are prefaced by a general narrative description and comprehensive checklist linked to all collections

Digital collections
Linked under a “Marquette e-Archives” page with Catholic Native and Other collections (includes In the Spotlight)

Guides to Catholic-Related Records about Native Americans in the United States
Over 1,000 repository entries (over 100 pertain to Alaska) plus:
State-level listings of current repositories
Master index of specific listings of past and present institutions and the related Catholic organizations/religious orders and American Indian/Alaska Native peoples involved
The guides are linked to a “Teaching and Study Resources” page under an “About the Collections” page; Contact:

Marquette University, Special Collections and University Archives
Raynor Memorial Libraries
1355 West Wisconsin Ave.
POB 3141
Milwaukee, WI 53201-3141
414-288-5904(v); 288-6709(f)
mark.thiel@marquette.edu
http://www.marquette.edu/library/archives/indians.shtml (collection inventories)
http://cdm16280.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ (digital collections)
http://www.marquette.edu/library/archives/teaching.shtml (Guides)

(Source: Archives & Special Collections, Raynor Memorial Libraries, Marquette University)
Sisters of Providence: The Sisters of Providence established Holy Cross Hospital, their first in Alaska, at Nome (1902-1918). Other works include Saint Joseph Hospital (Fairbanks, 1910-1968) and Providence Hospital (Anchorage, 1938, now Providence Alaska Medical Center). Sisters of Providence Alaskan medical work became part of Providence Health & Services, a health system comprised of hospitals, schools, and social services in 5 western states. Other Alaskan ministries include:

Anchorage: Providence Extended Care Center (1983, originally called Our Lady of Compassion Care Center, transferred from Nakoyia Health Care Center)
Mary Conrad Center (1987-2007)
Providence Horizon House (established 1995)

Seward: Providence Seward Medical & Care Center (managed by Providence Health & Services beginning 1996)

Kodiak: Providence Kodiak Medical Center (managed by Providence Health & Services beginning 1997)

Valdez Providence Valdez Medical & Care Center (managed by Providence Health & Services beginning 2005)

Records are located at Mother Joseph Province Archives in Seattle. The Archives’ website includes an online service request form. Contact:

Providence Archives, Seattle
Mother Joseph Province
4800 37th Avenue, SW
Seattle WA 98126
206-937-4600
archives@providence.org
www.providence.org/phs/archives

Left-right: 1st row, L-R: Pauline Marsh; [unidentified]; Marie Karns; Marguerite Chapman; Mrs. Charles Claire; Mrs. M. Simmons; Helen Richmond. 2nd row: Sisters Laura Lariviere; Yvonne Benoit; Marcien; Theodula; James Marcellin Coderre; Mary Sabina. 3rd row: Sisters. Rosemary Kistner; Gladys Menard; Jorene; Alice Mary St. Hilaire. 4th row: Rev. Joseph Walsh; Ralph MacKenzie, MD; Lenoy Flora, MD; Harold Sogn, MD; George Davis, MD.

(Source: Mother Joseph Province Archives, sisters of Providence)
Sisters of Saint Ann (French equivalent Sainte Anne): The Sisters of Saint Anne (Saint Ann in Western Canada and Alaska) were founded in Quebec in 1850. In 1858, four Sisters opened a school in Victoria, British Columbia and in 1886 the congregation expanded to Alaska and opened schools and hospitals in several areas in Alaska and the Yukon Territory. Both the Motherhouse Archives in Lachine, Quebec and the Sisters of St. Ann Archives in Victoria, British Columbia have archival collections.

Sisters of St. Ann Western Province Archives holdings include records of Juneau, Holy Cross, Nulato, Skagway, Douglas and Copper Valley. The Archives is a private institution that houses and maintains records of the legacy of the Sisters of St. Ann in the West. To find out more or access the Archives please call or e-mail to make an appointment. Contact:

Carey Pallister, SSA Archivist
The Sisters of St. Ann Archives
3-675 Belleville Street,
Victoria BC V8W 9W2
250-592-0685
archives@ssabc.ca
http://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/bcarchives/sisters-of-st-ann/

Sisters of Sainte-Anne Mother House:
Sisters at the Mother House Archives answer their telephone in French, but English Language inquiries are accepted. Contact:

Archiviste
Sœurs de Sainte-Anne
1950 Rue Provost
Lachine, Quebec H8S 1P7
514-673-3783, ext. 112
http://www.ssacong.org/eng/index.htm

(Sources: Sisters of Saint Ann, Western Province Archives; Sœurs de Sainte-Anne Mother House Archives)
Society of Jesus, Oregon Province:

Joseph Alcan & children displaying take of emperor goose, Saint Mary’s mission, Akulurak Alaska. Courtesy Jesuit Oregon Province Archives, Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA.

Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington holds the Jesuit Oregon Province Archives. Provincial archives include the Alaska Mission Collection and the Alaska Native Language Collection. Both collections have been microfilmed and are available locally. Other materials include Alaska Prefecture records, oral histories, photographs and moving picture film. Contact:

David Kingma, Archivist
Oregon Province Archives
Special Collections, Foley Center
Gonzaga University
Spokane, WA 99258-0095
509-313-3814
jopa@foley.gonzaga.edu

Alaska and Polar Regions Department, University of Alaska Fairbanks: The Alaska and Polar Regions Department has microfilm copies of the Society of Jesus Oregon province Indian Language and Alaska Catholic Missions Collections (see Gonzaga University listing, above). Contact:

Alaska and Polar Regions Department
Elmer E. Rasmuson Library
University of Alaska Fairbanks
310 Tanana Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-474-7261(v); 474-6365(f)
ffslg@uaf.edu

(Source: Oregon Province Archives Special Collections, Foley Center Gonzaga University);
Alaska and Polar Regions Department University of Alaska Fairbanks)
British Columbia Archives: The British Columbia Archives have limited records relating to Catholic missions in Alaska, the Yukon and Northwest Territories. The British Columbia Archives is unable to respond to requests unless you provide complete address information. A valid Internet email address should consist of both your email user name, and the machine on which you have a working email account (this may not necessarily be the same machine or Internet IP address from which you are accessing this service). Valid email addresses are typically in the following form:

name@somemachine.someplace.somewhere

Conventional mailing address information should include: number, street, city, province/state (or other region), country, and postal code. A form that contains all of these elements is provided on the BC Archives web site. Contact:

BC Archives
Royal BC Museum
675 Belleville Street
Victoria, BC CANADA V8W 9W2
250-387-1952(v); 387-2072(f)
access@bcarchives.bc.ca
http://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/bcarchives/

(Source: BC Archives, Royal BC Museum)

Disciples of Christ:
See the listing for Alaska Children’s Services.

Episcopal Church
For records of the American Episcopal Church contact: Alaska and Polar Regions Department, University of Alaska Fairbanks: The Alaska and Polar Regions Department serves as the official Episcopal Church Archives in Alaska. Record types vary for individual parishes. PLEASE NOTE:

This collection is restricted and you must obtain access permission from the Episcopal Church. Contact:

Archives of the Episcopal Church, USA
606 Ratherview Place
POB 2247
Austin, TX 78768
512-472-6816
Research@episcopalarchives.org
http://www.episcopalarchives.org

{Episcopal Church, continued}

Alaska & Polar Regions Collection, University of Alaska Fairbanks: The Polar Regions Department’s microfilm collection dates 1900-1989, and includes records of the following Episcopal parishes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parishes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allakaket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anvik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eagle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairbanks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Yukon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Huslia</td>
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<td>Ketchikan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nenana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point Hope*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shageluk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sitka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanacross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valdez</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Point Hope church records also include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parishes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Candle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kivilina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kobuk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kotzebue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Polar Regions Department has other than parish records, which relate to the Episcopal Church and date 1899-1976 for the following communities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arctic Village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Yukon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juneau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nenana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skagway</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Polar Regions collection includes two publications; The Alaskan Churchman (Fairbanks Episcopal Church, 1906-1980) and Alaskan Epiphany (Episcopal Diocese of Alaska, from 1980).

Contact:

Alaska and Polar Regions Department
Elmer E. Rasmuson Library
University of Alaska Fairbanks
310 Tanana Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-474-7261(v); 474-6365(f)
ffslg@uaf.edu

(Sources: Archives of the Episcopal Church; Alaska & Polar Regions Department Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks)

Evangelical Covenant Church:

Stephen Ivanoff, an Alaskan missionary, drew this picture in 1902 while a student at North Park College. CAHIL_262.

Courtesy Archives and Special Collections, North Park University
The Evangelical Covenant Church (ECC) is a Protestant denomination founded by Swedish immigrants in 1885 as the Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant of America (generally referred to as the Swedish Covenant Church). The Church established a mission at Unalakleet in 1887. Denominational offices are located in Chicago. The church is divided into ten North American regional conferences and one administrative region – Alaska. Alaska Church Regional Offices are located at:

Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska
16635 Centerfield Drive, Suite 202
PO Box 770749
Eagle River, AK 99577
907-694-6348(v); 694-6378(f)
info@eccak.org
http://www.covchurch.org/

Covenant missionary nurses served in Unalakleet before the church started a hospital about 1920. The 1927 annual mission work report indicated that the Bureau of Education (a Bureau of Indian Affairs agency) took over the hospital, during summer, 1926.

Evangelical Covenant Unalakleet Hospital Ward, n.d. CAHL_2682. Archives and Special Collections. North Park University.

The Church opened a Children’s Home at Unalakleet in 1946, moved its location to White Mountain in 1954. The orphanage closed in 1970. The church established Covenant High School, a boarding school in 1954. It served students from all over western Alaska until local village high schools became common and closed in 1985.

Whereabouts of Children’s Home and Hospital records is uncertain. Some information about these institutions is available online in reports to the Church’s annual meeting (Covenant Yearbooks), in the Frisk Collection of Covenant Literature:
http://collections.carli.illinois.edu/cdm4/index_npu_swecc.php?CISOROOT=npu_swecc

North Park University. Evangelical Covenant Church Headquarters are in Chicago, and North Park University’s Covenant Archives and Historical Library is official denominational archival repository. Edward and Jennie Olson Rasmuson were two important Covenant missionaries to Alaska. Mr. And Mrs. Rasmuson were parents of prominent Alaskans Elmer Rasmuson and Evangeline Rasmuson Atwood. Both Edward and Elmer Rasmuson were presidents of the National Bank of Alaska and its predecessor institutions. Evangeline Atwood was the wife of Robert Atwood, publisher of the Anchorage Daily Times.
Evangelical Covenant Church records of interest to Alaska Natives include correspondence, minutes, and reports of denominational departments, including Home Missions (now Church Growth and Evangelism) and World Missions (now World Mission). Missionaries and their activities in Alaska are documented in their correspondence with the Church. Much material written before 1925 is in the Swedish Language.

Collections are available onsite for consultation, by appointment only. Contact:

F. M. Johnson Archives and Special Collections
North Park University
3225 W. Foster Avenue
Chicago, IL 60625
773 244 6223(v)
archives@northpark.edu

Alaska and Polar Regions Department, University of Alaska Fairbanks. The Alaska and Polar Regions Department has the following collections relating to the Evangelical Covenant Church in Alaska:

Evangelical Covenant Church Records, Unalakleet, 1888 through 1981. Records of baptisms, marriages, births deaths, yearly meetings, conferences, church membership, annual school reports, and family records. Records of the Unalakleet Church sometimes contain entries for other villages, including:

- Egawik
- Hooper Bay
- Klickatarik
- Koyak
- Marshall (Fortuna Ledge)
- Nome
- Nunivak Island (Mekoryuk)
- Scammon Bay
- Shaktoolik
- White Mountain

This material is also available on microfilm at the University of Alaska Anchorage.
(Evangelical Covenant Church, continued)

Unalakleet Alaska Mission Daybooks and Logbooks, 1892 through 1915. Includes daybooks of David Johnson (1893-95) and Axel Karlson (1894-97) and the Covenant Mission logbooks. Some records are in Swedish while others are English Language. The records document funerals, marriages, prayer meetings, visitors, and other mission and school activities. Contact:

Alaska and Polar Regions Department
Elmer E. Rasmuson Library
University of Alaska Fairbanks
310 Tanana Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-474-7261(v); 474-6365(f)
ffslg@uaf.edu

Covenant High School, Unalakleet Alaska. The Alaska State Archives has the former Covenant High School student records. Access is restricted to former students and their fiduciaries. Written inquiries only, should be addressed to:

Alaska State Archives
141 Willoughby Avenue
Juneau, AK 99801-1720
907-465-2241(v); 465-2465(f)
archives@eed.state.ak.us
www.archives.state.ak.us

(Sources: Archives and Special Collections. North Park University; Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska website http://www.covchurch.org/who-we-are/structure/conferences/alaska/; Alaska State Archives; Alaska & Polar Regions Department Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks)

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKER):

Evangelical Friends Church of the Southwest: The Evangelical Friends Church Southwest holds Alaskan Friends Mission Diaries, 1897-1905. Contact:

Stan Leach, Superintendent
Evangelical Friends Church Southwest
PO Box 2079
Yorba Linda, CA 92885-1279

Alaska and Polar Regions Department, University of Alaska Fairbanks: The Alaska and Polar Regions Department has an Alaskan Quaker Documents Collection, 1892-1897, that includes microfilmed mission diaries and documents, individual missionary papers, Douglas Monthly Meeting records, ethnic stories, and copies of the Alaskan Messenger.

The Polar Regions Department also has the diaries of Margaret E. Hadley, a Friends Missionary to Kotzebue, 1899-1903. Contact:

Alaska and Polar Regions Department
Elmer E. Rasmuson Library
University of Alaska Fairbanks
310 Tanana Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-474-7261(v); 474-6365(f)
ffslg@uaf.edu

(Source: Evangelical Friends Church, Southwest)
The Luther College Anthropology Department has 33 Inupiaq artifacts collected 1894-1916 by Norwegian Lutheran Missionary Tollef Brevig. The United States Bureau of Education sent Rev. Brevig to Teller to fulfill agreement with Soumi (Laplander) Reindeer herders that a pastor would be provided them. Brevig ~ called Apaurak by the Inupiaq ~ was also Teller’s Assistant Reindeer Station Superintendent and namesake for the village of Brevig Mission. Photos of the ivory or wood carvings and clay pipes, associated catalog and brief research notes are available. Contact:

Anthropology Lab Collections and Museum Studies
Luther College
700 College Drive
Decorah, IA 52101
563-387-2156
https://www.luther.edu/anthropology/collections/
http://www.flickr.com/photos/lanthropology/sets/72157623363806969/

For information about the Alaska Lutheran Youth Center (American Lutheran Church): see the listing for AK Child and Family

(SOURCES: Luther College Anthropology Department; Vesterheim Norwegian American Museum, Decorah, IA)
**LATTER DAY SAINTS (MORMON):**

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Church Historical Library in Salt Lake City Utah has a very large historical records collection. This collection includes material on the history and activities of the Mormon Church, plus records of many types from many sources that may be useful to historical or genealogical research. The Church History Library does not have a central reference email address; however, you may visit their weblink where you can send questions to library staff.

The Church also operates Family Search, a program dedicated to finding and distributing genealogical information. Contact:

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Church Historical Library
15 East North Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84150
Phone number is 801-240-2272
http://history.lds.org/article/ask-a-librarian?lang=eng
https://familysearch.org/about (Family Search)

Latter Day Saints planting potatoes in Palmer to raise money to build a chapel, 1953. An entry Grace Boulter’s journal says:

[T]he Branch Presidency sponsored a potato raising project (so did everyone else). We had good times cutting, planting, weeding, harvesting, sorting, sacking and moving potatoes. I didn’t know they needed so much attention. It was the next year before we really realized anything… but this project added about $900.00 to our building fund.

Courtesy Church History Library Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

(Source: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Church History Library; Zachary Jones, Sealaska Heritage Foundation Archives)

In 1876, members of the Fort Simpson BC Methodist Mission took a wood cutting contract at Fort Wrangell Alaska. Lead by Clah (Philip McKay) they started church services. In 1877 Fort Simpson Methodist Pastor Thomas Crosby asked Clah to continue services and open a school. Clah died of tuberculosis August 1877. Rev. Crosby called him the *Apostle of Alaska.*

*Images ascribed to:* left; Alaska State Library Historical Collections; Right, Alaska Missionary

General Commission on Archives and History: Records for the United Methodist Church and its predecessors are at the General Commission on Archives and History of the United Methodist Church. Contact:

General Commission on Archives and History
United Methodist Church
36 Madison Avenue
Madison, NJ 07940
973-408-3189
research@.gcah.org
http://www.gcah.org
The Inupiaq Choir of Nome Community Church, Alaska. Second from right is Julia Yoder Elmore. Courtesy Alaska Conference Archives, United Methodist Church.

The Alaska Conference Archives of The United Methodist Church also has an archives. The Alaska Conference Archives has extensive early material about the Jesse Lee Home, in Seward and Unalaska. Contact:

Larry Hayden, Archivist
Alaska Conference Archives of the United Methodist Church
3604 East 18th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-3371
907-330-9488
lhaydennjuno@gmail.com or hayden@alaska.com

See also the listing for AK Child and Family (formerly Alaska Children’s Services)
**Moravian Church:**

Rev. John Henry Kilbuck, Jr., a member of the Lenape Christian Munsee Band (Delaware), and his wife Edith, daughter and granddaughter of Moravian missionaries, established *Bethel* a Moravian Church mission at Mamterillermiut in 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Kilbuck learned *Yup’ik*, made it Alaska’s Moravian Church language, and helped translate scripture. They moved Bethel to its present location on the west side of the Kuskokwim River. In 1891 Moravian Missionaries began training local ministry “Helpers”. The church claims the loyalty of many Alaska Natives, especially in Southwestern Alaska.

The Alaskan Moravian Church Book of Order may be found on the Alaskan Province Website [http://alaskaprovincemoravianchurch.org/?page_id=43](http://alaskaprovincemoravianchurch.org/?page_id=43).

The Provincial Office has records for the Church Districts, and some may be recorded in individual churches that can be accessed through the Alaska Moravian Church web site. Districts, churches and pastors may be found on a website drop down menu: [http://alaskaprovincemoravianchurch.org/alaska-moravian-church/alaska-moravian-church-pastors/](http://alaskaprovincemoravianchurch.org/alaska-moravian-church/alaska-moravian-church-pastors/).

For information about records contact the Alaska Province Office:

Alaska Moravian Church
Alaska Province
POB 545
Bethel, AK 99559
907-543-2478
goralrea@gmail.com
(Moravian Church, continued)

Aleknagik and Dillingham Moravian Church Records are located at the Dillingham church. Contact:

Dillingham Moravian Church
POB 1350.
Dillingham, AK 99576
907-842-5477

Alaska Bible Seminary:
The Moravian Church founded Alaska Bible Seminary in 1947, as the Alaskan Church’s educational arm, and to provide biblical training for the people. Since 2005 governance is under an all-native board of directors. Contact:

Alaska Bible Seminary
P.O. Box 2084
Bethel, Alaska 99559
907-543-4382
http://akbiblesem.org

Moravian Archives
The Moravian Archives is the official repository for the records of the Moravian Church in America Northern Province. The Northern Province covers Moravian churches in the United States and Canada, except North Carolina, Florida, Georgia and Virginia. The Bethlehem Moravian Archives holds some records from the Moravian Church in Alaska; notably the Kilbuck Papers and the Joseph Herman Romig Papers. Contact information on other Moravian Archives can be found on the website links page.

Nunapitsingak, the Moravian Childrens Home: Moravian missionaries founded the children’s home in 1939, three miles upriver from Kwethluk and 12 miles east of Bethel. Kwethluk is inhabited primarily by Inuit and Yupik. The Children’s Home, founded to care for and educate children orphaned for various reasons including tuberculosis outbreaks, ceased operation in 1971.
The *Alaska Children’s Home Records*, 1939-1971 at the Bethlehem Moravian Archives document children under the home’s care. The collection includes:

*Master Cards* 1939-1971; residents alphabetical by last name  
*Outfitters’ Correspondence*; alphabetical by destination  
*Master Cards Accompanied by Lists*; alphabetical by last name  
*Outfit Information*; chronological by date written

Master cards document individuals, including date brought under care and personal information. Some master cards include donation and benefactor information. Additional financial cost correspondence is included, among various Moravian congregations and groups and the Children’s Home. The papers also document items donated for children. A collection inventory is available on the Bethlehem Archives website:


The Alaska Children’s Home collection contains information that may be restricted. For details contact:

Moravian Archives  
41 West Locust Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18018  
(610) 866-3255(v); 866-9210(f)  
info@moravianchurcharchives.org  

*(Sources: Moravian Church Alaska Province; Anchorage Moravian Church; Moravian Church Archives)*
PARA-CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

Many religious and mission activities are not part of a specific denomination. Some “parachurch” organizations sponsored religious activities among Alaska Natives, particularly from the mid-20th Century.

Billy Graham Center Archives, Wheaton College:
One good resource for locating para-church records is the Billy Graham Center Archives at Wheaton College. The Billy Graham Center Archives has a number of collections with materials about independent Protestant Missions in Alaska, including the following organizations:

Collection 17. Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. Crusade Files
This collection includes files on planning, organization and results of the 1984 Anchorage, Alaska campaign.

Includes a tape of Graham’s March 10, 1984 press conference in Anchorage, Alaska.

Collection 36 Records of Gospel Recordings
Gospel Recordings prepared brief programs, including message, music and scripture recordings by indigenous speakers are in Native Languages. Includes tapes, and notes on various Alaska Native Languages.

Collection 136 Records of Mission Aviation Fellowship
The Fellowship provides missionary transportation in remote locations. The collection includes correspondence with the Central Alaska Mission and Alaska Moravian Church.

Interviews with people involved in crusades. Includes 1984 interview and transcript with Anchorage Times Editor-Publisher Robert Atwood, 1984 Anchorage Crusade participant.

Collection 177 Papers of Zoe Ann Alford
An India Missionary, Ms. Alford’s oral history (transcript on the web) includes a very small section on support she received from an Alaskan orphanage for Native Alaskan children.

Collection 178 Papers of Donald and Mary McGavran
Donald McGavran was a prominent teacher, and church growth theorist. His papers include correspondence with workers at the Alaska Moravian Mission and Central Alaska Mission

Collection 237 Records of Slavic Gospel Association
The SGA worked primarily with Russian speaking people in North and South America and in Europe. Their Alaska work included missions to Russian-speaking Aleuts.
Para-Church Organizations; Billy Graham Center Archives, continued

Copies or typescripts of outlines and transcripts. Mainly sermons but also speeches, prayers, press statements and similar material. Includes a complete set of sermon notes and transcripts from the 1984 Anchorage Alaska campaign.

Collection 275. Papers of Charles Colson.  
Includes a tape and transcript of his 1970 speech at Senator E.L. ‘Bob’ Bartlett’s Anchorage Memorial Dinner.

Collection 352. Records of the Interdenominational Mission Association  
Includes several files on Central Alaskan Missions (CAM) and SEND, which later absorbed CAM.

Collection 381 Interview with Peter Deyneka Jr.  
An oral history interview, which includes discussion of his year as pastor at an Aleut church.

Collection 406 Records of SEND International  
SEND International, an independent Christian mission working in several parts of the world took over the work of the Central Alaska Mission in 1971.

Collection 407 Records of InterAct Ministries  
InterAct Ministries (formerly Arctic Missions, (formerly Alaska Missions Inc.) is a group of Alaska and British Columbia nondenominational missionaries. The organization began rural work in Alaskan villages and helped found Victory Bible Camp in 1947. In 1959 InterAct founded Victory High School, a boarding school for Aleut and Inuits, and founded Arctic Bible Institute in 1966. The group began British Columbia work in 1967 and established a Bible school there. The collection includes correspondence, reports, brochures, and other material.

Correspondence, reports, financial records, meeting minutes, reference files, clippings, newsletters and other materials relating to work to develop small-group prayer fellowships. Includes some 30 folders of material about Alaskan activities 1949-1987

Collection 528. Mission Aviation History  

To access any of these collections contact:

Billy Graham Center Archives  
Wheaton College  
500 College Ave., 3rd floor  
Wheaton, IL 60187-5593  
630-752-5910  
bgcarc@wheaton.edu  
http://www.wheaton.edu/bgc/archives/

(Source: Billy Graham Center Archives Wheaton College)
Para-Church Organizations, continued: EL Nathan & Lazy Mountain Childrens Homes

**EL Nathan and Lazy Mountain Childrens Homes; Victory Bible Camp and Victory High School:**

El Nathan Children's Home (Valdez), Lazy Mountain Children's Home (Palmer) Victory Bible Camp and Victory High School (mile 94 Glenn Highway) developed in closely related circumstances.

**El Nathan Childrens Home:** Blanche Nason, a missionary, established El Nathan Home in Anthony J. Dimond’s former Valdez home in 1934. When Nason died in November 1936 the home housed a dozen orphans. The childrens home was incorporated in 1937 and Louise Johnson (later Segerquist) became Director. Kenneth and Vivian Hughes were added to the staff in 1938.

The orphanage expanded. Additional buildings were obtained; a nursery, a dispensary and a boy’s dormitory were added. By 1946 resident population was about 100. But the Valdez Community Hospital fire (02/02, 1947), destroyed all but two buildings. Children were temporarily accommodated in remaining buildings, a small house, a hotel and an empty garage.

(Alaska State Archives is indebted to Coleen Mielke whose website, Matanuska-Susitna Valley Alaska Researching Our South Central Alaska Roots [http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~coleen/south_central_alaska.html is the source for this El Nathan-Lazy Mountain history)

**Lazy Mountain Childrens Home:** Rev. Hughes dreamed of starting an El Nathan branch in a more rural farm setting and discussed his idea with Max Sherrod, a friend in Palmer. In 1946 Mr. Sherrod donated 40 acres of land, on Lazy Mountain, to the El Nathan Children’s Home. In spring 1947 Rev. Hughes and older El Nathan boys cleared land and built a road to the property. Fort Richardson Army authorities donated Quonset huts. A house was built July 1947 and 36 El Nathan children, with support staff transferred from El Nathan. The Rural Electric Administration installed electricity in December, and livestock arrived in spring 1948.

Both orphanages were funded by church, Alaska welfare, and Bureau of Indian Affairs funds and by donations from the public. When Florence, ‘Ma’ Barnes, owner of the Copper Center Roadhouse died, in 1948 she left her estate to support El Nathan.

Lazy Mountain Children's Home burned December 8, 1960. Children temporarily stayed in private homes and at Wasilla Youth Camp. Rev. Hughes rebuilt a one story structure and several small houses.
By 1960 El Nathan Children's Home developed financial problems. Resident population fell as children grew up and departed, and the new State required a full time nurse and psychologist were unaffordable. El Nathan closed when Louise Johnson Segerquist retired in 1962. Lazy Mountain Children's Home closed in 1972 and staff took remaining children into their homes. Arctic Bible Institute and Multi-Media Productions obtained the property in 1972. The site now is Oregon based InterAct Ministries' Alaska headquarters.  
(Para-Church Organizations, continued: Victory Bible Camp & Victory High School)

Victory Bible Camp

Rev. John Gillespie of the Anchorage of the Open Door (now Scenic Park Bible Church) led a committee to start Alaska Missions and became its first Director. In 1947 Rev. Gillespie led an effort to build a remote Bible camp for missionaries and children from all over Alaska. Rev. Hughes was also involved. The camp was built overlooking Index Lake in the Talkeetna Mountains, 53 miles north of Palmer (NW ¼ of SW ¼ S23, T20NR8E Seward Meridian). As Federally owned land it was patented to the camp by Act of Congress -- H.R. 1558 Private Law 840 Chapter 697, and additional parcels added over the years. Today the camp is owned by Victory Ministries of Alaska and hosts missionary conferences and church camps for all ages.

Victory High School

Rev. Wallace and Mrs. Alice Bays started, a boarding school at Victory for Native young people from the Bush. (The idea for Victory High School came from missionaries serving in various villages in the Interior of Alaska. There were no high schools in any of these villages in the 1950s and 1960s, so those who desired to further their education had to travel to a boarding school in Sitka or to Bureau of Indian Affairs schools in the Lower 48. Many young people stayed home. (The Eagle, Victory High School yearbook, 1963.)

Victory High School operated 1959—1982. Most Victory and Arctic Bible Institute students came from Yupik Moravian and Aleut Orthodox backgrounds. Others came from Presbyterian, Baptist and Covenant families. Still others were sent by InterAct Ministries (Arctic Missions) missionaries from non-denominational backgrounds. The school also took white students on a space available basis and staff children also studied at Victory.

(Sources: Billy Graham Center Archives Wheaton College; Dorothy Page Museum; Matanuska-Susitna Valley, Alaska-Researching Our South Central Alaska Roots http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~coleen/alaskaorphanage.html; Palmer Historical Society, Palmer Museum; Send International; Send North; Valdez Museum & Historical Archives; Yvonne Marty)
(Para-Church Organizations, continued: Arctic Bible Institute & Native Musicale)

Arctic Bible Institute: Arctic Bible Institute was established for further Bible training for any native people who desired it, and many Victory graduates attended. Other people came from villages or from urban centers like Anchorage and Fairbanks. Many became Village pastors or Christian workers, some as independents, others in Moravian Covenant, Baptist, or other settings.

Native Musicale: Victory High School started Native Musicale in 1967 to share the Christian message with Native people in Anchorage. Rev. Bays was its first Director. Alum Choir was a February 2007 celebration of the Native Musicale 40th anniversary

(The Alaska State Archives is indebted to Rev. Wallace Bays who’s emails of April 26 and 27, 2014 are the primary sources for content on Victory High School, Arctic Bible Institute and Native Musicale.)

InterAct Ministries (formerly Arctic Missions; formerly Alaska Missions Inc.): InterAct Ministries is a nondenominational missionary organization that serves indigenous people in Alaska, British Columbia, Alberta and other Canadian provinces as far as Winnipeg Manitoba. InterAct also has workers in Siberia. The organization began rural evangelistic work in Alaskan villages and helped found Victory Bible Camp in 1947. Work in British Columbia began in 1967 and Arctic Bible Institute, eventually was established.

In 1959 the mission started Victory High School, a boarding school for Aleut and Inuit students. In 1976 the group created Arctic Bible Institute - now The Resource Center. Victory High School student records are available from InterAct’s Palmer Office. Contact:

Doug Prins, Business Manager
InterAct Ministries Alaska Office
907-745-3124 (v); -841-0112(c)
Doug.prins@interactministries.org
http://www.interactministries.org/#/home

Send International:
Contact:
SEND International, North
4227 Spenard Road, Unit B
Anchorage Alaska 99517
907-929-7363(v); 929-7364(f)
http://www.send.org/north/north-contact-us/

(Sources: Rev. Wallace Bays; InterAct Ministries Alaska Office; Matanuska-Susitna Valley Alaska Researching Our South Central Alaska Roots
(http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~coleen/south_central_alaska.html; SEND International; SEND International, North; Victory Ministries of Alaska)
Faith Hospital began in 1956 as the medical ministry of Central Alaskan Mission (CAM). Rev. Vincent and Mrs. Becky Joy arrived in the Copper River Basin as church planters in 1936. In the early years Vincent Joy regularly provided medical assistance due to the area’s remote and challenging geography. In 1950 Dr. Chet Schneider arrived and Dr. Jim Pinneo was added in 1954. They established Faith Hospital in Glennallen in 1956. It grew from four to eight beds by 1967, and was serving 8,000 outpatients. An outpatient clinic was added in 1968.


Major hospital construction in the 1980s provided a new clinic wing, examination rooms, emergency room, laboratory, pharmacy, and improved offices. New State requirements caused financial stress and Faith Hospital voluntarily deregulated in 1981. On July 1, 1988 the Cross Road Medical Center independently incorporated as a non-profit Christian corporation governed by a Board of Directors. On January 10, 1989 CRMC was granted 501(c)(3) status.

Historical pictures are available on center’s Facebook page. Cross Road Medical Center has official corporate records since 1988 in Glennallen. Send North may have more historical information prior to 1988. Official birth records should be on file with the Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Contact:

Cross Road Medical Center  
Mile 187 Glenn Highway  
P.O. Box 5  
Glennallen, AK 99588  
907-822-5686(v) 907-822-5684(f)  
http://crossroadmc.org/  
info@crossroadmc.org  
http://www.crossroadmc.org/History.htm

(Sources: Email, Joel Medendorp, CEO-President Cross Road Medical Center 02_17_2014; Cross Road Medical Center webpage http://crossroadmc.org/)
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES

Presbyterian Historical Society: The Presbyterian Historical Society (PHS) has a browsable online catalog at www.history.pcusa.org. PHS holds congregation, mid-council, and national agency records of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), its predecessor denominations, and ecumenical organizations including:

Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. (“Northern Presbyterian Church; PCUSA)  
Presbyterian Church in the U.S. (“Southern Presbyterian Church; PCUS)  
United Presbyterian Church of North America (UPCNA)  
National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCC)  
Federal Council of Churches (FCC)  

Major Alaska holdings at the Presbyterian Historical Society include:

RG 239 Sheldon Jackson Papers and Photograph Collection, 1855-1909  
RG 301.3 United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Board of National Missions. Department of Work in Alaska Records, 1874-1972 ()

Both collections are also available on microfilm. Contact:  
Presbyterian Historical Society  
425 Lombard Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19147  
215-627-1852  
refdesk@history.pcusa.org.  
www.history.pcusa.org

Princeton Theological Seminary: Sheldon Jackson was a major Alaska historical figure. Although a large collection of his papers is located at the Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia the Princeton Theological Seminary Library Special Collections also has a collection of Dr. Jackson’s papers. Contact:

Special Collections  
Princeton Theological Seminary Library  
P.O. Box 111  
Princeton, NJ 08542  
609-497-7953  
speccoll@ptsem.edu.
Alaska and Polar Regions Department, University of Alaska Fairbanks. The Alaska and Polar Regions Department has Presbytery of the Yukon Church Registers for the following Presbyterian Churches:

Anchorage:  Barrow Utquiagvik (1960-96)
Faith (1947-60)  Fairbanks University Community Church (1950-94)
First (1952-95)   Gambell (1940-95)
Immanuel (1952-95)  Kaktovik (1953-93)
Trinity (1960-93)  Palmer United Protestant Church (1967-95)
Eagle River (1951-89)  Savoonga (1940-89; includes Savoonga Session Minutes, 1940-1963)

The Polar Regions Department has a microfilm copy of the Record Book of the Juneau Native Presbyterian Church, 1894-1919; the original is at the Presbyterian Historical Society. Contact:

Presbytery of the Yukon Microfiche Project:
In 1999, the Presbytery of the Yukon celebrated its centennial. Looking towards that anniversary, the Presbytery evaluated its archival holdings and investigated ways to preserve the records as well as to make them available to the public.

At present the churches of the Presbytery possess approximately 110 registers of vital statistics from a number of different locations. These volumes come from 22 churches.

Vital statistics are valuable to historians, genealogists, anthropologists, and other others, but until now the records were not readily available to the public. A few registers are in a central Anchorage repository but most are in their respective home churches, making them difficult to access.

Apart accessibility there is a concern to preserve the information in these volumes. There were no copies, except in rare instances where a photocopy had been made. If fire, flood, or other natural disaster were to destroy any local churches, vital statistics would probably suffer the same fate.

Microfiche was decided upon as the best way to preserve and make these valuable records accessible. The Presbytery of the Yukon Microfiche Project was a joint project of the Presbytery and the Alaska and Polar Regions Department. The Presbytery Historian, Rev. Diane O’Connell provided project guidance. Marvin Washington of the Alaska and Polar Regions Department filmed the records, and Acting Alaska and Polar Regions Curator of Oral History Mary Ann Larson was Liaison between Church and University.

Copies of the microfiche are available at the University of Alaska Fairbanks archives, the University of Alaska Anchorage, the Loussac Library in Anchorage, the Alaska State Library in Juneau, the Family History Library in Salt Lake City Utah, and the Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia Pennsylvania. Other community libraries can obtain copies at nominal cost.
Not all the churches in the Yukon Presbytery participated. Participating churches were:

- Eagle River Presbyterian Church
- Faith Presbyterian Church
- First Presbyterian Church of Anchorage
- Gambell Presbyterian Church
- Immanuel United Presbyterian Church
- Jewel Lake Presbyterian Church
- Kaktovik Presbyterian Church
- Kuupik Presbyterian Church (Nuiqsut)
- New Hope Church (North Pole)
- Trinity United Presbyterian Church (Anchorage)
- United Protestant Church (Palmer)
- University Community Presbyterian Church
- (Fairbanks)
- Utqiagvik Presbyterian Church

Only vital statistics were included in the fiche project. A complete set of vital statistics includes the following, in alphabetical order:

- Affiliated Members
- Baptized Members
- Deacons
- Deaths
- Elders
- Marriages
- Pastors Roll
- Roll of Communicants
- Suspended Members
- Trustees

Contact:

Alaska and Polar Regions Department
Elmer E. Rasmuson Library
University of Alaska Fairbanks
310 Tanana Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-474-7261(v); 474-6365(f)
ffslg@uaf.edu


(Sources: Presbyterian Historical Society; Princeton Theological Seminary Archives; Alaska & Polar Regions Department Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks)
**RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

*Saint Herman’s Seminary:* The seminary has a small archival collection. It includes Russian Colonial and American Period church records, liturgical records, pastoral and episcopal correspondence and journals. The collection also includes correspondence of Saints Innocent (Ivan Viniaminov) and Yakov Netsvetov. Contact:

Daria Safronova-Simeonoff, Archivist
St. Herman Seminary
414 Mission Road
Kodiak AK 99615
dgsafronova@kodiak.alaska.edu
http://www.sthermanseminary.org/archives.html

(Source: Saint Hermans Seminary Archives)

**Alaskan Orthodox Texts Project**

A project of All Saints of North America Orthodox Parish Hamilton, Ontario, the *Alaskan Orthodox Texts Project* seeks to preserve and encourage use of Orthodox Christian texts in original Alaskan Native languages and orthographies. Saints Innocent Viniaminov and Yaakov Netsvetov are well known, but none of their Alaskan Native-Language translations were on-line. The project’s long range goal is to digitally record as many Alaska Native Language Orthodox Church materials as possible. Focus is on the original Native Language biblical, liturgical and catechetical materials through the early 20th century.

The Project discovered many Alaskan Orthodox Church materials in many languages dating from the early 1800s onward. Most are written in Unangan-Aleut, Alutiiq, Tlingit, and Yup’ik using the Alaska Native Cyrillic alphabet. Some Russian Alaskan multilingual comparative dictionaries are included the website has a number of Russian-language sermons preached by bishops in Atka, Kodiak, Ninilchik, the Pribilofs, Sitka, and elsewhere.

Texts are available to download and print for non-commercial use in a manner that glorifies God and honors the Orthodox Church and Her saints who promoted Alaskan Native languages. Texts may be printed but pdf files should not be copied to websites. (Pdfs on other websites would make it difficult to track down all websites when future corrections are made.) Contact:

Alaskan Orthodox Texts
A project of the parish of
All Saints of North America Orthodox Church
397 Melvin Avenue
Hamilton, ON, L8H 2K6
Canada
korzg@hotmail.com
http://www.asna.ca/alaska

(Source: Alaskan Orthodox Texts Project, All Saints of North America Orthodox Church Hamilton, ON)
Library of Congress: The Russian Orthodox Church in Alaska transferred records to the Library of Congress in 1927. The Manuscript Division collection title is The Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church of America. Diocese of Alaska. Contact:

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
James Madison Memorial Building
101 Independence Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20540-4680
Telephone: 202-707-5387
Email: mss@loc.gov
http://www.loc.gov/rr/mss/

Archpriest Simeon Nishnyakov, 1892, Orthodox Ladder Catechism found at the Tununak Orthodox rectory, Nelson Island, Alaska; now at the Jesuit Oregon Province Archives, Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA. “The text is Russian and an unidentified language, possibly Inuit or Yupik Eskimo, with the Cyrillic alphabet”. Translated Tantyana Lide and George Khristish, October, 2008.

Alaska State Library Historical Collections: Historical Collections has microfilm copies, and a printed inventory, which is also available at the following other institutions: Alaska and Polar Regions Department, University of Alaska Fairbanks; University Archives, University of Alaska Anchorage; the Alaskana Section, Anchorage Municipal Libraries (J.Z. Loussac Library). Contact:

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<td>University of Alaska Anchorage</td>
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<tr>
<td>POB 110571</td>
<td>3211 Providence Drive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juneau, AK 99811-0571</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99508</td>
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<td>907-465-2925</td>
<td>907-786-1849(v); 786-1834(f)</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:asl@eed.state.ak.us">asl@eed.state.ak.us</a></td>
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<td>907-474-7261(v); 474-6365(f)</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:asl@eed.state.ak.us">asl@eed.state.ak.us</a></td>
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</table>
Alaska State Archives: The State Archives has Russian period birth, death and marriage records for Southeast and Southcentral Alaska, ca. 1818 through 1912. The Kodiak and Sitka churches probably provided these records to the Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics when it was established in 1913. All birth records less than seventy-five years old, and all marriage records less than fifty years old are restricted by Title 18.50.310, Alaska Statutes. Contact:

Alaska State Archives
141 Willoughby Avenue
Juneau, AK 99801-1720
907-465-2241(v); 465-2465(f)
archives@eed.state.ak.us
www.archives.state.ak.us

(Sources: Alaska State Library Historical Collections; Alaska State Archives; Library of Congress)

The Salvation Army is one of the most active churches among Alaska Natives. Salvation Army presence in Alaska began in 1898 under Canadian Branch leadership. Tlingit in Southeast Alaska were receptive to Salvationist Charles Newton’s message, and the first Salvationist Corps (local congregation) was established at Kake in 1904.

By the Second World War Alaska had fifteen corps, all with primarily Alaska Native membership except in the Anchorage church. Wartime communication and financial support difficulties led to transfer from Canadian Territory to United States Western Territory affiliation June 1, 1944.

Today The Salvation Army in Alaska serves 16 communities from Fairbanks to Klawock. Social service programs include addiction recovery, clothing and shelter, disaster relief, food for the hungry, outreach to the sick and elderly, and safe havens for abused children. (Source, a plaque titled The Salvation Army in Alaska, Salvation Army Western Museum).
The Salvation Army in Alaska


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name &amp; Date Established</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaska Divisional Headquarters 1898</td>
<td>143 E. 9th Ave. Anchorage 99501</td>
<td>276-2515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anchorage Corps Community Center 1943</td>
<td>1701 C St, Anchorage, 99501</td>
<td>375-3583</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anchorage Korean Corps Community Center 2000</td>
<td>2100 DeArmoun Rd. Anchorage 99515</td>
<td>349-9080</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cordova Outpost 1995</td>
<td>514 1st St. Cordova, 99574</td>
<td>424-3134</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fairbanks Corps Community Center 1950</td>
<td>1602-10th St. Fairbanks 99701</td>
<td>452-3103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gateway Corps Community Center 1922</td>
<td>524 Steadman St. Ketchikan 99901</td>
<td>225-5277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haines Corps Community Center 1924-45; 1961-</td>
<td>430 Union St. Haines 99827</td>
<td>766-2470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homer Corps Community Center 1992</td>
<td>1468 Sterling Hwy. Homer 99603</td>
<td>235-2609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoonah Corps Community Center 1923</td>
<td>725 Eagle St. Hoonah 99829</td>
<td>723-4157</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juneau Corps Community Center 1921</td>
<td>439 Willoughby Ave. Juneau 99801</td>
<td>586-2136</td>
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<td>Kake Corps Community Center 1904</td>
<td>Keku Rd. Kake 99830</td>
<td>785-3580</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenai Peninsula Corps Community Center 1975</td>
<td>201 N. Forest Dr. Kenai 99611</td>
<td>283-3879</td>
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<tr>
<td>Klawock Corps Community Center 1906</td>
<td>585 Summit, Klawock 99925</td>
<td>755-2769</td>
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<tr>
<td>Petersburg Corps Community Center 1909</td>
<td>106 Fram St. Petersburg 99833</td>
<td>772-4586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mat-Su Valley Corps Community Center 1985</td>
<td>209 W. Evergreen, Palmer 99645</td>
<td>745-7079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sitka Corps Community Center 1906</td>
<td>405 Sawmill Creek Rd. Sitka 99835</td>
<td>747-3358</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Salvation Army Canada and Bermuda Territory: Because Alaska was part of the Canadian Territory 1898-1944 the Army’s publication *The War Cry*, Canadian edition, has a number of articles relative to Alaska. Access to *The War Cry* is through the Canada and Bermuda Territory Archives website. Visit the site and follow the links [www.salvationist.ca/museum-archives](http://www.salvationist.ca/museum-archives). Contact:

The Salvation Army Archives
Canada and Bermuda Territory
26 Howden Road
Scarborough, ON M1R 3E4
Canada
416-285-4344(v); 285-7763(f)
heritage_centre@can.salvationarmy.org

(Sources: Major Henry Gariepy, *A Century of Service in Alaska, 1898-1998; The Salvation Army Canada & Bermuda Territory*)
The Salvation Army, continued

**Salvation Army Museum of the West:** The Salvation Army Museum of the West has material documenting Salvation Army presence in Alaska, and the Museum created a 2011 Salvation Army in Alaska exhibit. *Alaska related items in the Museum of the West Archives include:*

**Manuscripts:**
- (Note: This is only the cover letter. The *Fairbanks History* is available from: The Salvation Army National Archives, 615 Slaters Lane Alexandria, VA 22313, (703-684-5529 archives@usn.salvationarmy.org)
- Salvation Army Alaska beginnings & the South East AK Native Revival. Lt. Colonel Chester Taylor. (Manuscript, 115 pp; *a copy is on file in the Alaska State Library Historical Collections*) cat. 1984.1.236

**Publications:**
- Celebrating the Salvation Army’s 75th anniversary in the United States, & a brief history of Salvation Army Alaskan work (magazine article) cat. 1979.4.66.

*Newsletter* Western Territory Home League magazine quarterly activities, news & photos cat. 1982.1.144

*Western News Roundup* photo review: AK Congress, HI youth, retired officers (newsletter) cat. 1980.1.9


*Alaska Congress or Officer's Councils 1953: b/w, cat. 1981.1.647*

*AK Salvation Army Congress 1st General Guard troop Christmas Manger & Wisemen, Juneau, 1930 b/w, cat. 1982.1.560)*

*Commander Colonel Chester Taylor receives a new Jeep Juneau Mayor Hendrickson & Board Chairman Faulkner b/w cat. 1981.1.639*

*Captain & Mrs. George Lloyd & sons in their Petersburg home b/white cat. 1984.2.128*

*Congress Band, Klawock, 1934, trombone, drum, coronet, baritone, & tuba b/w cat. 1983.1.243*
Decorative Pins (all metallic):
Alaska outline map, crossed superimposed on Salvation Army flags cat. 2006.1.148
Alaska flag & motto: Men's Social - The Salvation Army - Western Territory cat. 2006.1.229
Alaska outline map superimposed by Salvation Army shield cat. 2006.1.293
Crossed Alaska & Salvation Army flags cat. 2006.1.174
Operation Santa Clause charity worn by Alaska volunteers; sled, presents, Salvation Army shield; cat. 2006.1.427
Salvation Army centered metallic 2006.1.460
United States Salvation Army 100th anniversary; m/v William Booth circular; cat. 2006.1.280

Contact:
Salvation Army Museum of the West
The Salvation Army THQ
30840 Hawthorne Boulevard
Rancho Palos Verdes California 90274
310-544-6475(v); 265-6514(f)
sheila.chatterjee@usw.salvationarmy.org

(Sources: Major Henry Gariepy, A Century of Service in Alaska, 1898-1998; The Salvation Army National Archives; The Salvation Army Museum of the West)
A Note of Appreciation

Many people helped make this pamphlet possible:

Alaska Child & Family: Kristie Nelsen,
Alaska & Polar Regions Archives: Charles Hilton, Rosemarie Speranza
Alaska Division of Libraries Archives & Museums: Amy Carney, Daniel Cornwall, Chris Hieb, James Simard
Alaska State Archives: Dean Dawson, Chris Hieb
Baptist: Jan S. Ballard, Lorrie Morris, Leslie Stickland, Bill Sumners, Deborah Van Broekhoven
Catholic: Kim Bakic, Emily Dominick, David Kingma, Cindy Lentine, Peggy Mattson, Sister Mary Peter, Ron Nicholl, Susannah Numme, Carey Pallister, David Schienle, Peter Schmid, Rev. Scott Settimo, Mark Thiel, Connie Wingren

Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska: Harold Jacobs
Episcopal: Sarah Dana
Evangelical Covenant: Anna-Kajsa Anderson,
Friends (Quaker): Rev. Stan Leach
Handscratch Press: Jackie Pels
Latter Day Saints: Brittany Chapman, the FamilySearch Team. TE, & other Church History Library staff
Lutheran: Destiny Crider, Sasha Griffin, Jennifer Kovarik
Matanuska-Susitna Valley, Alaska: Wallace Bays, Bethany Buckingham, Richard Estelle, Sheri Hamming, Coleen Mielle, Yvonne Marty, Selena Ortega Chiolero
Methodist: Larry Hayden, Frances Lyons-Bristol L. Dale Patterson
Parachurch: Michelle Coll, Brian Headdings, Greg Joyce, Joel Medendorp, Doug Prins, Bob Shuster
Presbyterian: Ken Henke, Nancy J. Taylor
Royal British Columbia Museum: Beverly Paty
Russian Orthodox: Father Geoffrey & Reader Michael, Daria Safronova-Simeonoff
Salvation Army: Michael Barrow, Sheila Chatterjee, Harold Jacobs, Susan Mitchem, Ivy Spohnholz,
Sealaska Heritage Foundation: Zachary Jones
University of Alaska Anchorage Archives: Veronica Denison, Arlene Schmuland, Jay Sylvestre
Valdez Museum & Historical Archives: Andrew Goldstein

(We regret any omissions)