



2020  
IMPACT REPORT



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Arctic Mission Adventure (AMA) was started about a dozen years ago by Elder Ken Crawford, the former president of the Alaska Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (SDA). His love and passion for the Gospel and Bush Alaska set the stage for a dynamic adventure with Jesus. From humble beginnings to where the ministry is now, testifies to the Holy Spirit's leading and people responding to that leading with prayerful support. That is the partnership that Jesus called us to in the Gospel commission. AMA is touching people for eternity in bringing dedicated AMA workers to live in the Bush, establishing Alaskan Native leadership, sending out the Good News via radio, and bringing the joy of Jesus to communities all over the bush. It is also expanding with a new outpost of hope in Dutch Harbor, Alaska. "Not by might nor by power but by Your Spirit" will continue to push this powerful ministry of Christ's love forward. Thank you for your willingness to help take the Gospel to the Last Frontier in partnership with Jesus.



**Kevin Miller**  
Alaska Conference  
of Seventh-day  
Adventist President

## A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Twenty-twenty started out not too different from 2019. Arctic camp meeting in Nome was invigorating and Bristol Bay Camp Meeting was equally energizing. But as our flight left Dillingham, Alaska, it was apparent that our world was about to change. Overnight, ministry as we knew it halted. Connections that we once enjoyed, and maybe even took for granted, ceased. Fear and anxiety of the unknown gripped the hearts of many villagers and service people alike.

In many villages, it appeared that ministry and impact would cease, and the lockdowns and restrictions would get the upper hand. But God inspired AMA workers pushed through, looked for alternatives and continued being the hands and feet of Jesus.

Our AMA workers were able to pivot to online or phone prayer lines, VHF and radio church services which, in some villages, grew to a new outreach. During these dark days of discouragement and frustration, as people tuned in to hear about the hope in Jesus, hearts were convicted and several people accepted Christ and were baptized.

One very important and powerful lesson COVID-19 lockdowns taught is that what matters is not buildings, but people. When faced with the question, "What will you do when you are told not to worship?" God's leaders, inspired by the Holy Spirit, faced obstacles and found effective ways to keep the Gospel Mission alive.



**Tobin Dodge**  
Arctic Mission  
Adventure  
Director

*the* **Hands and Feet of Jesus in Bush Alaska**

# ARCTIC MISSION ADVENTURE MINISTRY

## WHO WE ARE

AMA is an outreach ministry of the Alaska Conference of SDA. Currently, nine AMA pastors and/or workers live in Alaska Native Bush communities, with the goal of integrating into village life and building relationships through ministries that meet the needs of both old and young. AMA workers use the parsonage in each village for spiritual, emotional, mental and physical healing. Their sole priority is to present Jesus through transformative evangelism. They feed the hungry, clothe the needy, provide day camps and Vacation Bible Schools (VBS) for children and pray for those in need. The potential to reach, especially the young, is great considering approximately 34% of most village communities are between the ages of 1-19 years old.

Over the years, there has been significant growth with AMA and we praise God for this; yet in many ways, we have just begun. There are still over 200 villages with no AMA presence! We continue to move forward in faith as we bear witness to the positive difference in the lives of the people that we serve and the community response that the program has received. Please lift up AMA in your prayers asking God's continued blessing on this ministry.

## WHAT WE DO

We have recently restructured our work in villages to reflect a "Center of Influence" model. AMA work and support within villages/hubs encompasses six elements: aviation, radio, camps, outreach, mission trips and Adopt-a-Village. Our vision is to develop centers of influence in each of the nine Alaska Native hubs that would include hub-to-village support; a radio station; dedicated AMA workers with a parsonage; day camps, food and clothing banks; and sound spiritual and financial support from churches, schools, and individuals adopting the hub and supported villages.

The next few pages are full of many exciting examples of how God is moving through Alaska and touching many through our AMA workers within their center of influence.





# ARCTIC MISSIONS AT A GLANCE



9 Villages Served



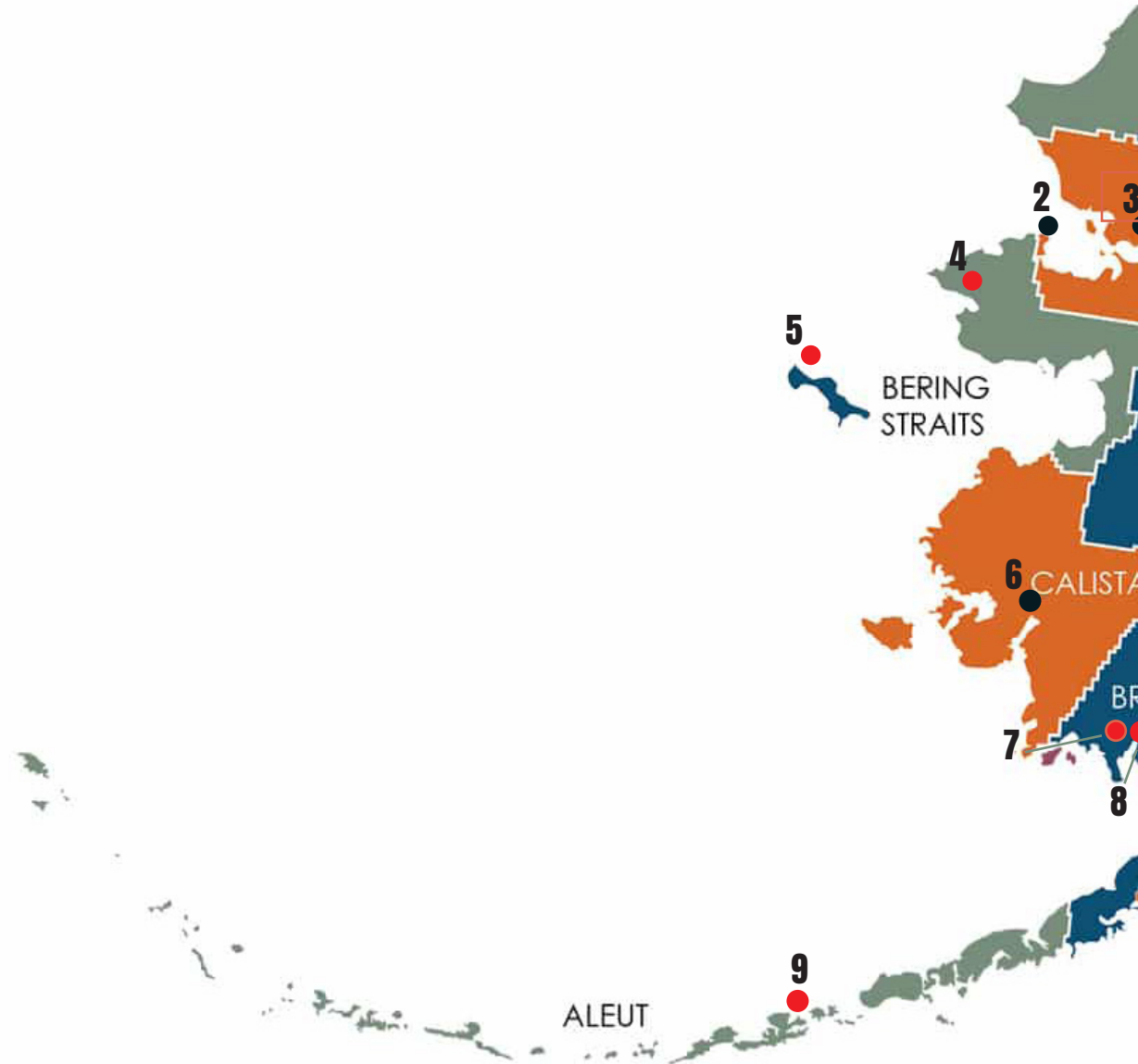
5 Languages & Dialects



5 People Groups



10 New Radio Stations



1. Utqiagvik

2. Kotzebue

3. Selawik

4. Nome

5. Gambell

6. Bethel



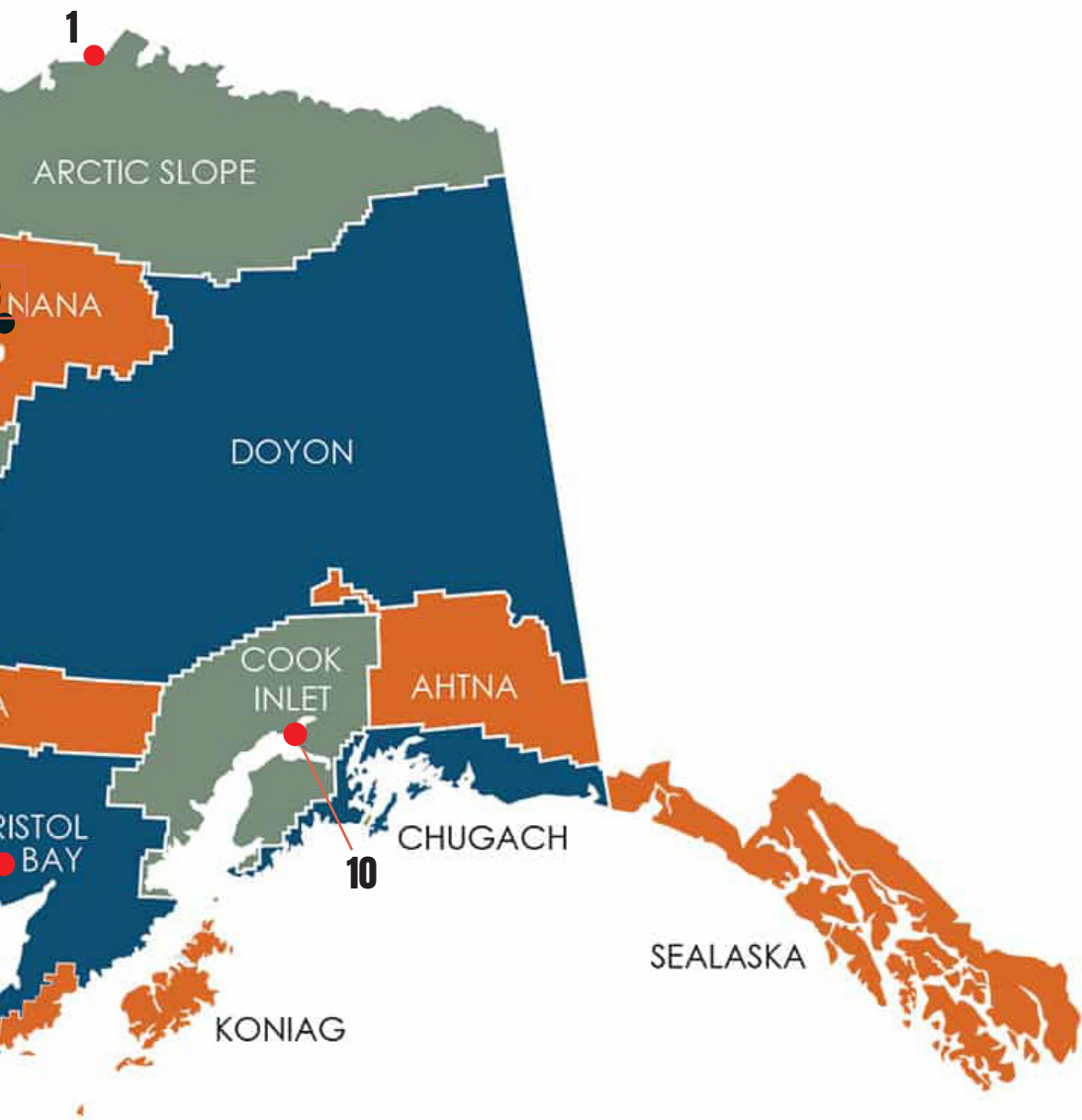
**309 Bible Studies**

*Your word is a lamp for my feet,  
a light on my path.*

Psalm 119:105



**1,374 Prayers**



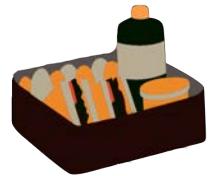
2,060 Meals Served



231 Clothes Distributed



1,500 PPE Packets



1,211 Food Boxes

6. Bethel

7. Togiak

8. Dillingham

9. Dutch Harbor

10. Anchorage

## Prayer Requests

*Hear my cry, O God;  
listen to my prayer.*

Psalm 119:105



## 11 Baptisms

*One Lord, one faith,  
one baptism.*

Ephesians 4:5

# ARCTIC MISSION VILLAGES

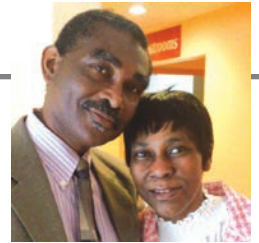
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## BETHEL

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Over a long period of Bible studies and house visitations spanning several years, one of the native brothers who was invited to attend the “Prophecy Unsealed” seminar along with two others, gave their hearts to the Lord in baptism. Although the doors of the church had been closed to in-person services, we continued our commitment to share the word virtually. From recent testimony, we learned that some who never came to the church, including a pastor from the Sunday worship congregation, have been joining virtually and are being blessed.

In addition to the miracle of hearts converting to the Lord, a native girl who was trying to turn her life around left her home in the village and traveled out of the state in pursuit of a better life. Unfortunately, she was abandoned by her partner and was left on the streets of Chicago to suffer. She remembered the SDA church back in her village of Bethel, Alaska. She called the church and after explaining her desperate situation, her needs were accessed for emergency help right away. With much prayer and swift response, phone calls were made, and donated funds were received. These funds, along with what we had on-hand, enabled us to arrange her travel expenses to return to Alaska. We immediately booked her flight and got her flown into Anchorage in less than 48 hours. When she arrived in Anchorage, she was admitted to the Native hospital for medical treatment. After her injuries were treated and her condition improved, she was discharged and flew back home. At the end of it all, she thanked us for helping her at a time in her life when she needed help so badly. This is just one of many stories that, without the heart of the mission, this young lady might not have been alive to tell her story of what the Lord has done for her.



**Vecous and  
Loretta Waite**  
AMA Workers

## DUTCH HARBOR

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Since the time Dutch Harbor was established as a fishing village many decades ago until now, there has been little to no SDA believer/s here except for me. The island has an average population of 3,500 and they need to know or at least hear about Jesus from a SDA perspective. Unfortunately, most establishments, houses and even public buildings are in lockdown due to COVID-19 and I have been restricted in reaching out to the community. But God works through a pandemic, connecting me with four residents for Bible studies. The group has been meeting regularly and it is so exciting to see the Gospel moving in people’s hearts. Please pray as God continues to speak to the hearts of those in Dutch Harbor, a new church plant.



**Epher Caroro**  
Pastor





## GAMBELL

Our village is very reliant on subsistence living. We hunt and depend on the bounty of the Bering Sea resources. Because we are such a small community (roughly 700 people), we depend on each other when food resources run low. One of the biggest food opportunities is when the village is able to harvest a whale. The whole village comes out to help haul it in and harvest the meat to be distributed to all. This year the village had not harvested a whale and food was very much needed. We got a call that a whale was harvested in Utqiagvik and they asked if we could use whale skin and meat. I was given the opportunity to share this important food to over 500 people including elders and to all the boat crews out there and it was all given from the SDA church.



**Petu and Jess  
Koonooka**  
AMA Workers

## UTQIAGVIK

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Due to the lockdown, our ministry this year has been mainly to the members of the church. We had planned outreach and Pathfinder activities, however we had to modify them to either be virtual or a display instead of the in-person activities that we wanted to do. For example, our Pathfinder club has been meeting on Zoom to do honors and we had a virtual investiture service. We had planned to do what is called a “Blue Christmas,” which is a time when the community can come together to mourn the loss of loved ones at Christmas time. Because of the lockdown, we opted instead to decorate the windows of the church with a beautiful verse from Isaiah and lights so that anyone who drove or walked by the church would see them lit up in the dark and read the Christmas message. This way the community would still receive something, even if it was only a nice thought, over Christmastime.



**Zack and  
Celesta Babb**  
Pastors

## TOGIAK

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Our parsonage provides a “safe” place for many young people to come when they are in trouble. They can get a meal, shower, do laundry, hang out and stay when needed. Three times this last year, we did suicide watches here until the young person was able to go to the hospital the next day for help. When a young person comes to us, it is often in a hurry. They are often in need of a shower and they don’t have the items needed with them. Providing them with toiletries, towels, and something to wear while we wash their own clothes is so appreciated. Often, they choose to take the clothes they are given to wear. We take for granted having a bathtub or shower in our homes. A lot of the village homes do not have that luxury, but thankfully most have running water and sewer now. The villagers use outdoor saunas for bathing but not all the young people get the opportunity to use one. We find meeting basic needs is a huge part of our ministry.



**John and  
Lynette Goude**  
AMA Workers

While visiting the village, a person asked a young teen what church she attended. I heard her answer, “I go to the Seventh-day church every Monday. They have a special church for teens.” She was referring to our teen nights where youth come, eat a meal together, have worship and play games. They also find opportunities to learn about leadership, teamwork and that Jesus is their best friend. God is blessing our teens. We have seen young people grow in Christ and even attend our educational institutions.

**Empower** • *Encourage* • **Equip**

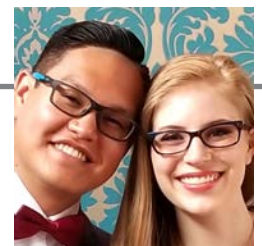




**KOTZEBUE**

Kotzebue became part of our district right before COVID-19 hit. We have a very small group of believers with no physical church to meet in; but that has not stopped this faithful band from worshipping. We are so happy to have them connect online with our Nome church every week with the sermon and the weekly prayer meeting, which members from the church faithfully attend.

Kotzebue members tell me that they look forward to prayer meeting every week because it's a time in which they are able to decompress and refocus back on Jesus from their weekly struggles.



**Chad and Elizabeth Angasan**  
Pastoral Couple

## SELAWIK

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We are seeing a spiritual awakening in the village. Due to COVID-19 cases in the village, we had to close our church temporarily, but the Lord opened another door: VHF radio. Every Wednesday and Saturday we preach and get anywhere between five to seven homes that respond with positive feedback such as, “Thank you”, “God bless you” and “Thanks uma” (friend). Even the pastor from the Friends Church goes on VHF and says, “Praise the Lord for the message.”

Most recently we received the book “Personal Revival” from a friend. As a result, we created a list of specific people in the village and pray every day for them. One in particular (an elder from the Friends Church) called us one night and said, “I just read in the Bible that we should do communion, but we never do it in our church. I want to do it” We invited him to come the next day and he, Jose, and I had communion. We could tell that he was fighting his tears as he said, “We need to do what the Bible says, right?” He was so happy and wants his church to have communion! We offered to help him organize it should he decide to talk to his pastor. Due to the prayers, this gentleman’s wife has been sober for a few months now—another answered prayer.



**José and Edna  
Estrella**  
AMA Workers

## NOME

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In spite of 2020 being a COVID-19 year, God has kept us busy doing His work. From prayer meeting to church service to young adult night and Bible studies, we have been able to connect and uplift many people who are yearning to connect with their Savior, Jesus, during these uncertain times.

One of our favorite ministries is going to Seaside, a halfway house in Nome. This ministry has allowed us to connect with many people in our region that are transitioning back into society. Many would gather in a room in the facility to sing songs and hear me tell of the love of Jesus through the Word. Some have maintained a connection with us after they have fulfilled their time and transitioned back into society.

God has led me to witness across the radio waves in two ways: one is by holding Bible studies on our Adventist radio station in Nome every Friday. We have received reports from listeners that they really look forward to those Bible studies and that the studies have been a blessing. The other radio opportunity has come through the village commercial radio station KICY. Every month, I was allotted a half an hour to preach the Gospel to those all over the Norton Sound. This has been an incredible ministry and beacon of hope during dark times of COVID-19.



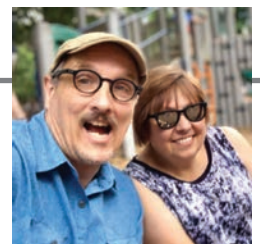
**Chad and  
Elizabeth  
Angasan**  
Pastoral Couple





## DILLINGHAM

During COVID-19, prayer has been the key in being blessed with peace when feeling frustrated. We started a Friday night prayer group and have an average of 10 to 30 people attending each week. The meeting consists of reading a short passage from the Bible and then people give their praise or prayer request. Anyone and everyone are welcome to pray. Praise God, since the group has started meeting, we have witnessed many answered prayers.

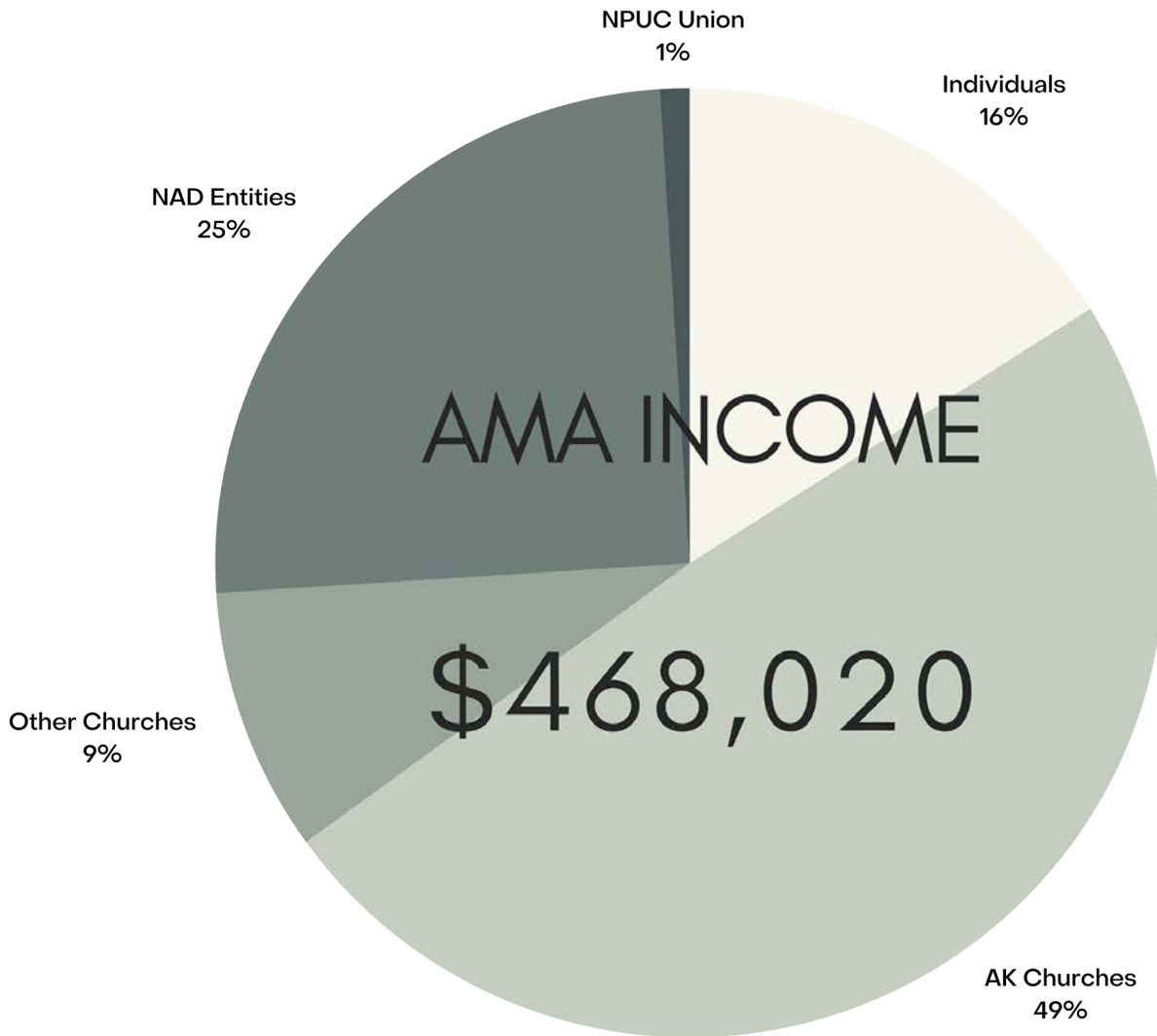


**Todd and Gina  
Parker**  
Pastoral Couple



# STATEMENT OF MISSION MINISTRY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DEC 31, 2020\*

## DONATIONS

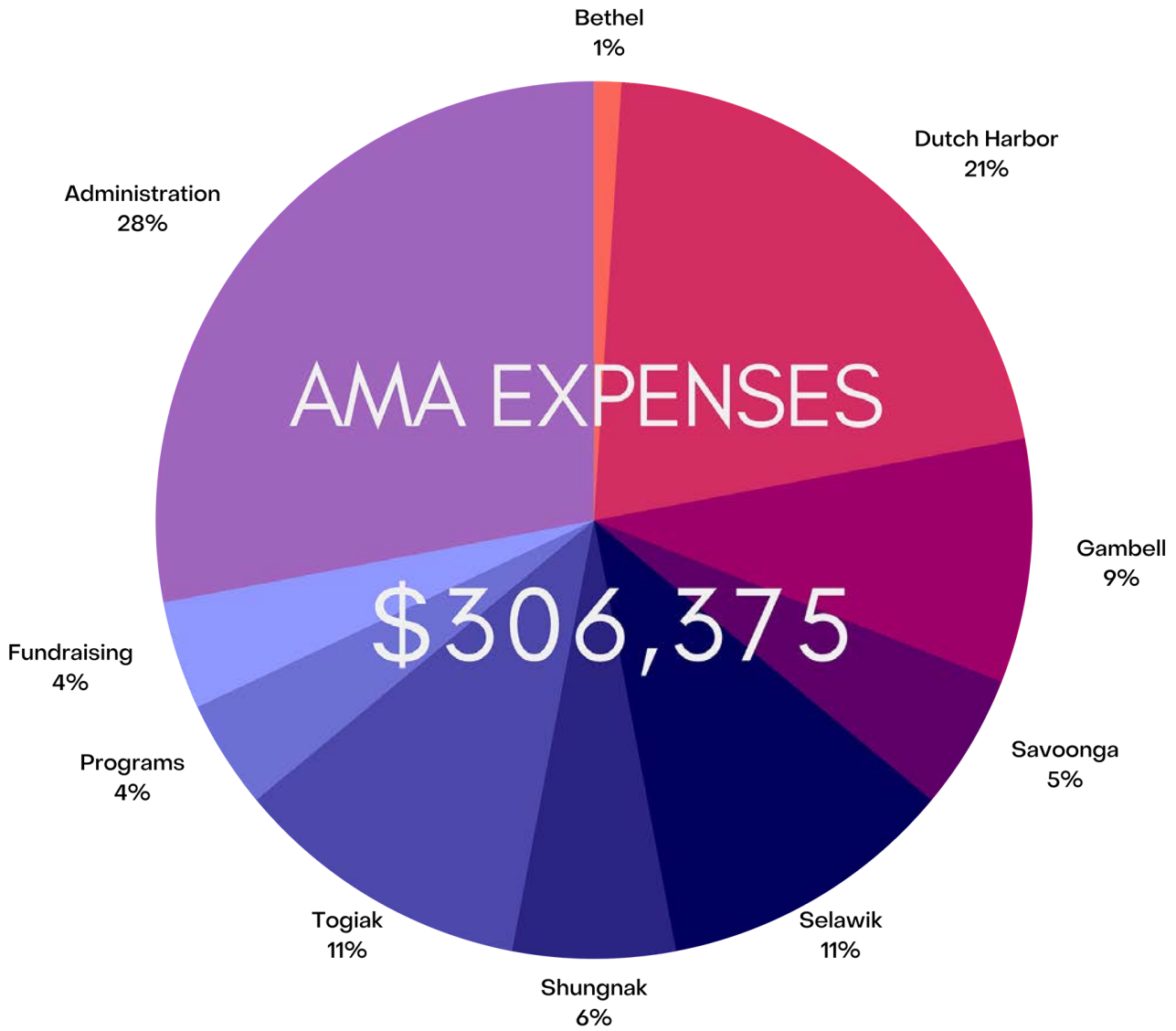


### REVENUE SUPPORT

Individual Gifts	74,345
Alaska & Other Churches	268,675
NPUC Native Ministries Department	5,000
NAD ACS Department	100,000
NAD Ministerial Department	20,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 468,020</b>

\*Unaudited

## EXPENSES



### EXPENSES

Bush Native Village Support & Programs	204,827
Administrative Support and Fees	86,957
Development & Fundraising	14,589
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$306,375</b>



## A NOTE FROM DEVELOPMENT

As I reflect on 2020, I am so deeply humbled by how God has provided for AMA, through each of you who selflessly gave of your time, talent and financial gifts. Thank you so much for supporting God's work in Alaska. Because of you, we more than reached our annual need to sustain our work.

COVID-19 limited much of our community outreach in Alaska Native villages this past year which is reflected in the lower-than-average spending on AMA programs. Slowly, these communities are opening up and we look forward to resuming activities such as VBS, day camps, kid's programs and church in our villages in 2021.



**Tandi Perkins**

Development

Director

[tandi.perkins@alaskaconference.org](mailto:tandi.perkins@alaskaconference.org)



# 2020 AMA PARTNERS

## INDIVIDUALS

Henry Aus  
Jessica Bailey  
Lyn Baker  
Lauren Barney  
Dale Bidwell  
Deane Bidwell  
Kristine Bunnell  
Juliana Burnette  
Angelina Cameron-Wood  
Paul and Elizabeth Campanello  
Brenda Campbell-Johnson  
Linda Caswell  
James and Lynda Cazort  
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Dolores Surdal  
Richard Teller  
Bobbye Thomson  
Shuree Torgerson  
Robert and Katie Underhill  
Drs. Lilya & John Wagner  
Joyce Watts  
Matt and Heather Webb  
Matthew Whitely  
Josephine Williams  
Renee Wilson  
Hannah Wood  
Melissa Worley

## CHURCHES

Thank you to our supporters who  
donated through their house of worship.  
Although we don't know you by name,  
your support is priceless!

Anchorage Spanish Church  
Arctic Adventist Church  
Bethel SDA Company

Centerville SDA Church  
Community SDA Church  
Craig SDA Church  
Delta Junction SDA Church  
Dillingham SDA Church  
Eagle River SDA Church  
Five Oakes Adventist  
Christian School  
Gambell SDA Church  
Hillside OMalley SDA Church  
Homer SDA Company  
Juneau SDA Church  
Ketchikan SDA Church  
Kodiak SDA Church  
Maranatha Spanish SDA Church  
Midnight Son Church  
Nome SDA Church  
North Pole SDA Church  
Northside SDA Church  
Palmer SDA Church  
Samoan SDA Church  
Selawik SDA Group  
Sunshine SDA Church  
The 2nd Mile SDA Church  
Togiak SDA Group  
Tok SDA Company  
Triadelphia SDA Church  
Valdez SDA Church  
Wasilla SDA Church  
Wrangell SDA Church

## ORGANIZATIONS

Adventist Community  
Services North American  
Division  
Maryland  
Men of Faith  
Ministerial Department  
North American  
Division  
Native Ministry  
North Pacific Union  
Conference

# ARCTIC MISSION ADVENTURE

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