

Alaska Conference Special Sunday



This Special Sunday offering will support the ministry of the Alaska Conference of The United Methodist Church.

The Alaska Conference comprises 28+ churches and ministries spread across more than 600,000 square miles of the Last Frontier. There are urban, rural, and remote ministry locations, each offering great opportunities for spreading the Good News. These include locations such as:

Nome, where the Nome Community Center is a lifeline for community members.

Unalaska, where the "2nd Blessings Sales" recycle and reuse goods 800 miles from Anchorage.

Ketchikan, where the United Methodist Church provides a Homeless Shelter and Warming Center.

Fairbanks, where the church is a base for UMVIM teams building a housing community for the homeless.

And **Anchorage**, where a new United Methodist Church plant is reaching a diverse neighborhood.

To learn more about the incredible ways God is working in Alaska, please visit our Conference blog:

<https://alaskaumc.org/blog/>

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Mission Highlight: Unalaska



Unalaska United Methodist Church comes out of a Methodist Mission started in the late 1880's. With the help of donations from United Methodist churches and individuals from all over the country, the late 1990's saw the construction of a parsonage and new church building, making it a center for mission in rural Alaska.

"Remote" is one way to describe this isolated wilderness in the Aleutian Islands 800 miles from Anchorage. "Challenging" may best describe ministry in this place where every 2-5 years 80% of the congregation changes as people move in and out of jobs requiring 60-80 hour workweeks. Partner churches around the U.S. help stabilize the church's finances, making ministry possible.

For those who live here, God is experienced each day in creation -- from the awesome power of the ocean, to the dynamic and volatile weather, and into the vast abundance of sea and tundra life.

And God is also experienced through Unalaska UMC, where this small church provides support for a fragile social safety net on the island. Their "2nd Blessings Sales" keeps items in the community to be recycled and reused with the changing population. They work to reduce bullying in schools. They provide community education for financial and consumer health. They do all this while providing regular worship services and opportunities for fellowship, whether it's with the Senior program or through their "Family Fridays."

A gift to the Alaska Conference Special Sunday keeps ministries, such as Unalaska United Methodist Church, vital in "The Last Frontier." Thank you for your support.

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