



## EPISCOPAL YOUTH EVENT

A group of six youth, from various deaneries, represented the Alaska Diocese at the 2008 Episcopal Youth Event (E.Y.E.) held in San Antonio, Texas in mid-July. Attending were Joe Mighell, South Central Deanery; Lewis Peter and Clayton Nelson of the Interior Deanery; and Matthew Talley, Kate Lukshin and Michael Pollard from the South East Deanery. Accompanying the youth were Rev. Belle Mickelson, Rev. Hunter Silides and Pete Peter.

Rev. Silides summed up the experience: "It was just an awesome time. Our kids made a great impression there and there were 1200 kids there! The guitar workshop, which Rev. Belle and Pete Peter helped teach, was wonderful. People were reminded that there is a special spiritual gift for the church in this place. It's the kids."

More reports and pictures from the Alaska Diocese delegation will be posted in future issues of the ***Good News***.



## ***Monthly Report from the Office of The Bishop August 2008***



### **NEWS FROM REV. GINNY DOCTOR**

Well, it's berry-picking time, but the berries haven't showed up yet! I hope they do this coming weekend because I will be in Tanana and there is nothing better than berry picking in Tanana! It's been a weird summer with all the rain. I was in Phoenix, AZ last week for the Province VIII Commission on Ministry meeting and the subsequent network meeting of the Province VIII Ethnic Ministries and Peace and Justice. The temperature was over 100 degrees everyday and I couldn't wait to get back to the coolness of Alaska! Next week I head off to Salt Lake City for the Board meeting of the Indigenous Theological Training Institute and the Executive Council's Committee on Indigenous Ministry. From there I will go to New York for vacation. While I am gone, Suzanne Krull will be in charge of Denali Way. I will be available for any emergency situations and I will respond to email.

The really good news this month is that "Dancing with the Spirit," a music-teaching program coordinated by The Rev. Belle Mickelson, received a grant of \$20,500 from the Lutheran Deaconess Association. Belle and friends did three Gospel/Bluegrass music camps in Tanana, Beaver and Arctic Village. There was excellent participation at all of the camps. The grant will be used primarily for follow-up during the winter months. God is Good, Denahutoh Nizoon.



## **EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY**

The Rev. Katherine Hunt announces the following:

*We will have an on-line Education for Ministries (EFM) group, based out of Anchorage, beginning September 25<sup>th</sup> and meeting on Thursdays on-line from 5-6:30 p.m.*

*If you are aware of anyone interested in attending EFM on-line or want more information, please have them contact me at Mom3K@alaska.net or (907) 244-8182.*



## **SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE**

*By: Stacy Thorpe  
Search Committee Communication Liaison*

In July, all but one member of the Search Committee gathered together to discern the remaining Bishop candidates to decide who would be asked to continue in the process with us. An entire weekend was spent praying and discerning together as brothers and sisters in Christ. We prayerfully discussed candidates individually, providing time for each member to speak about each candidate and the information that had been submitted. Once a decision was made about a candidate, we prayed over that candidate and took a five-minute break. Other than a break for lunch, we continued this process for each of the candidates, well into the evening. By the end of July, all candidates

were notified whether or not they were being asked to continue in the discernment process with us.

The next step for the committee is to meet again mid-August in Anchorage to hold telephone interviews with the remaining candidates.

In September, members of our committee will be making on-site visits to our final nominees to witness their ministry first-hand.

October will find our committee meeting one final time to prepare our presentation to the Standing Committee of our final candidate names. God willing, we are hoping to have our number down to three candidates.

So much to accomplish in such little time! In less than six months, we will be celebrating the election of the 8th Bishop of Alaska.

Your continued prayers are greatly appreciated.

