

Valeria Sherard
State Mission Offering

Week of Prayer
September 3-10, 2023



Sunday

What is the Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering

The Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering was established in honor of Valeria Sherard who gave her life in ministry to Native Alaskans in their villages.

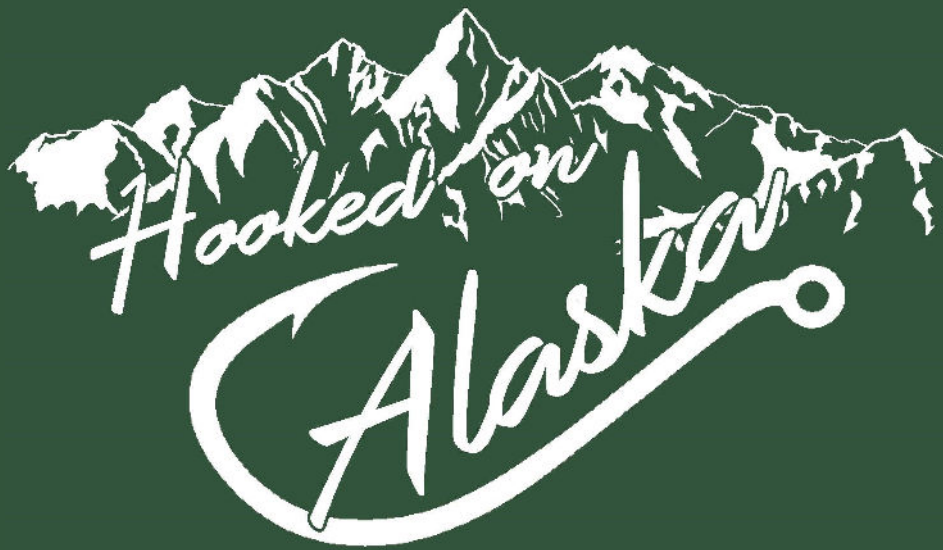
The state mission offering is allocated as follows:

- *50% to state missions
- *20% to state-wide camping
- *10% to associational missions
- *10% to Birchwood Behavioral Health
- *5% to 2000 club promotion
- *5% to Alaska Disaster Relief

Each year when we emphasize the state mission offering, we are reminded of the sacrifices of our early missionaries such as Valeria, the hard work of our current missionaries, and the great need for prayer and financial support for the mission needs here in Alaska. Join us this week as we pray for just a few of the missional works that benefit from your generous giving to the Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering.

This years goal:

\$75,000



PRAY

GIVE

GO



Monday

Jeff & Shelly Sulfridge
Northern Lights Missions

Here in the eastern Interior of Alaska, God is at work! Northern Lights Missions and our staff work and live here in the remote area, and we like to say "Do life with the people that God has given us to minister to".

Please keep us in prayer as we meet the needs of these communities and share God's love through discipling and helping with other needs.

Northern Lights Missions, Tok Alaska



CAMP BALDWIN
A little camp with a BIG GOD

Camp Baldwin

We have been very blessed by God this summer! We have had completely full camps each week and several salvation decisions. Our campers are coming from as far as Glennallen and Healy and everywhere in between. We also started a go cart track and a mud run. These additions to our program areas were a big hit with our older campers. We are thankful for Gods provision and protection through this ministry season. Prayers for us would be:

1. The discipleship and evangelism that was given would be bearing fruit in the campers lives.
2. The spiritual growth and equipping of the counseling staff as they return home to the states and locally.
3. God drawing and providing counselors and cooks as needed for next year.

We are a little camp with a Big God.



Tuesday **Jordan and Hannah Rowe** **First Baptist Willow**

We praise God for His faithfulness and goodness over the last three years in Willow. God has continued the work that he began at FBC Willow in 1977 and is seeing us through a season of revitalization with a gospel-centered culture and new families. Please pray that the Lord will give church leadership wisdom in future plans and decisions. Also, pray for the opportunities the Lord gives us to serve and reach Willow. Lastly, we would ask for prayers for the current people/families at FBC to commit to serving in this local body for the glory of God.



Stephen Simmons
Operations Manager



Laverne Griffin Camp

God is restoring LaVerne Griffin Camp and it's ministry to children and teens in the aftermath of the pandemic. We are seeing exponential growth to surpass pre-Covid levels and with the incredible work of several mission teams in 2023, we are on the edge of God sized vision for the future. Pray for our Operations Manager, Stephen Simmons; our board, and the hundreds of campers we will see in the 2023-2024 season.



Wednesday **Josh and Katie Seely** **Restoration Church**

"God has truly blessed Restoration Church! We have been focusing on outreach this summer, as evident from our Spenard Farmer Market booth and our Church in the Parking Lot events. We hosted our second mission team from Fellowship Church in Royce City, TX thanks to our partnership with them and they helped us in June with these events, as well as door to door canvassing and prayer walks. We started last winter with one discipleship group and are looking forward to several members of that group launching discipleship groups of their own this fall! God has been blessing us with slow but steady growth. We are currently praying for continued growth as the community becomes more aware of our presence, and that our members involved in the discipleship groups this fall would truly grow in their walk with Jesus. We are also currently on the search for a permanent committed worship leader."



Birchwood Behavioral Health

At Birchwood Behavioral Health, we strive to create a nurturing environment for the youth of Alaska, empowering their relationships with family and peers. It is our goal to respect the unique identity of every individual and make them feel accepted, loved, and included in our mission, while embracing spirituality and the values of faith through Jesus Christ. Our team is dedicated to guiding youth in understanding themselves and their place in this ever-changing world, providing support in time of need. For the past 80 years, we've been a trusted sanctuary for Alaska's youth, adapting to meet the challenges of the times. Today, we provide a supportive network, comprising compassionate mentors and professionals, to help our youth navigate the journey to adulthood successfully.

Prayer requests:

*Please continue to pray for our youth, families and staff.

*Pray that we find volunteers and staff that are willing to support, guide and mentor our youth.



Thursday **Mario and Migda Morales** **Rescate Church**

God has been so good with Rescate church in Juneau. We have been in our new building since February with an average attendance of 25. God has showed his goodness to us in ways we couldn't have imagine. One of our newest families is a result of my daughter Lucy posting a table for sale in Facebook marketplace. When she realized the family buying the table were from Honduras quickly called my wife to her garage to meet the family and they ended up praying in the garage and giving the family the table. They are now part of our church! Another great thing that happened is that my manager in Home Depot and his family are now part of our church and last month I had the honor of baptizing his wife and we had dedication service for his daughter. We are praising God for the things he is doing and are open to the challenges he will bring so that we can celebrate victory to glorify his name in Juneau!



Partnerships

The partnerships with Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina, Arkansas and Virginia have and continue to be a tremendous blessing to the work of the Kingdom here in our state.

This year we have hosted 30+ Mission teams and vision teams here in Alaska from all over the U.S.

Partnerships between Associations and our churches are beginning to form to enhance Leadership Development, Deacon Ministry, continuing education and prayer cohorts and camp ministry.

A special word of thanks to First Baptist Church Bentonville, Arkansas for bringing a tremendous team to help host and lead our Minister and Spouse Retreat this April 20-21, 2023, at the Hotel Captain Cook. What a tremendous blessing the church, its leaders and members have been to us!

Ten Alaskans traveled to Alabama to participate in the Send Relief Serve Montgomery Tour March 10 & 11. Over 50 projects took place in 10 schools, 8 churches, and included 29 community projects. 901 volunteers participated over the weekend. 1390 Gospel conversations took place, and 13 salvations were recorded, Praise God! Over 1380 hours of Hunger ministry were performed as well as 3647 hours of construction. Many Alaska Churches are working together on various community and Gospel projects together this year in a united effort to reach our state with the Gospel. We will continue to highlight the exciting work of God through our churches and partnerships across the state in our Milepost Articles and Moments. Please send pictures and information as events and projects happen in your church this season, www.alaskabrn.com



Friday

Milton and Emily

Williwaw Church

Over the last 5 years, Williwaw Church has ebbed and flowed. The majority of our original group of students have graduated and started careers, joined the military, or started college. We've gone from being mostly high school students to currently consisting of young adults and a couple of small families. God's been faithful to answer prayers and allow us opportunities to bless our community. We have partnered with the Alaska Native Cultural Charter School the last four years to provide backpacks for junior high students, shared the Gospel with our co-workers, and are always looking for ways to spread the love of Christ. We appreciate all the prayers and support from believers around the state!

Prayer praises

- *A couple of our young women spent this summer serving at Laverne Griffin Camp.
- *Milton led a student to Christ last summer.
- *Faithful families that are growing in Christ.

Prayer requests

- *Wisdom about the future of the church.
- *Spiritual growth for church members.
- *New leaders willing to open their homes to Bible studies.



Mosaic Campus Ministries **Brock and Megan Langley**

God has been SO FAITHFUL. And He proves it every single day to us. There are days we don't see it as clearly but then there are days where He just shows off. This pretty much sums up the past two years of ministry for us. We can see it in all the answered prayers and I just want to say, thank you so much for praying for us! God has heard it, received it, and answered.

From student leaders, wisdom and guidance, and mentorship, he's heard it all and been faithful to provide for our needs!

We had college interns from the lower 48 as well as two local students join us for the Summer Discipleship Program. This program was designed to train disciples how to make disciples and teach them relational evangelism. We saw our students gradually gain confidence to share the gospel with the people they were meeting in the Anchorage community. We practiced sharing the gospel using the 3 Circles method and also practiced having a gospel conversation. It was a great summer and we were able to meet many new young adults who are very interested in getting plugged into Mosaic this fall! We have been blessed with great resources to be able to teach these methods to our students as well as ourselves!

PRAYER

-Pray for God to raise up new student leaders. We have several opportunities for students to be more involved with the planning and preparation for the Fall 2023 Semester.

-WELCOME WEEK. Beginning August 26th, we will be meeting brand new students!!! Please pray that freshmen would have the opportunity to meet Mosaic staff and students. We have a mission team coming up from Georgia to assist with the Mosaic Welcome Week activities! The extra help will be SO beneficial.

-Pray wisdom and discernment over our staff as we continue to lead students to become disciple-makers on this campus and in this city.



Saturday **Roy and Amy Phillips** **Foundation Church**

God has been showing Himself faithful as always! Since our launch on Easter, we have been seeing new faces each week, baptizing believers, and loving on our community! Thank you for praying and supporting the work God has called us to here on the Kenai Peninsula at Foundation Church!

Pray that we will effectively minister to and engage our communities while sharing the Gospel and love of Christ! Also, we are praying for a church van/bus, trusting that God will provide the perfect vehicle for ministry!



The Ministry Apprenticeship Program (MAP) serves Alaska Baptist Churches through recruiting, placing, and training future pastors through an apprenticeship program. We have been blessed to see numerous individuals come into the program and serve churches while apprenticing and then to graduate from their apprenticeship to meet the needs of other churches. Such was the case this year in Southeast where an apprentice served for a period of time having been recruited from the lower 48, and just recently he became the pastor at one of the pastor-less Alaska Baptist Churches in the area. This is the goal of the apprenticeship program, to train prospective pastors to be suited for ministry in Alaska so that they can either fill a vacancy at another church or to plant a church in a needed area. In the coming year, please pray that we would see an increase in apprentices among Alaska Baptist Churches and that this would result in fewer pastor-less churches and more church plants.

Sunday

What Now?

What now you ask? Pray and ask God how He is leading you to participate.

Giving to the VSSMO is just one way you can ensure that mission work

continues in our great state. As a

church, establish a faith-based goal of giving to the state mission offering. Pray and ask God's leading about joining the 2000 club.

The 2000 club is our opportunity to partner with churches and

ministries across the state on capital improvement projects. As a

church look around, where is God leading your congregation to

serve? What is He calling you to step out in faith and do?



Pray. Give. Go.

Together we can achieve our goal of a gospel centered church or missional family in every community of Alaska!



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