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St. Herman Seminary classes resumed on August 30, 2016 for the 2016-7 school year. This year the seminary has 4 full-time and 1 part-time student. Our enrollment is dangerously low due to an absence of any incoming students. This year we did not have a single applicant for seminary. I am sure we have many men and women in the diocese who would attend seminary but it takes us all to encourage potential students to make application and make good use of the seminary's tremendous educational and spiritual resources. We have a tremendously gifted faculty who is eager to teach willing students. As in the past all diocesan students receive a scholarship for seminary.

Help us to overcome this lull in vocations by encouraging qualified applicants. The seminary urges diocesan clergy to continue to locate, encourage and recommend suitable candidates for seminary. We all know the shortage of man power in our Church to accomplish the work which we are called to do. The seminary exists to "equip the saints" for ministry and service. Our graduates extend pastoral care, teaching and guidance to an underserved flock. Students can train as choir directors and readers if they cannot attend all four years of seminary.

As always the seminary had a very busy summer hosting mission teams from OCMC and other Pan-Orthodox organizations. OCMC held a Youth camp in

Old Harbor. A Pan-Orthodox Team from Indianapolis replaced our aging board walks and steps in the Administrative building over a week long service project. The seminary also hosted Dr. Mikhail Malakov and his group of Ryazan explorers who are making a documentary for Russian TV about Kodiak Island, St. Herman and Fr. Tikhon Shalamov. St. Herman Seminary sent representatives to the Yukon, Kuskokwim and Nushagak Summer conferences in order to spread word about its work and encourage potential applicants. Seminary staff also participated in the St. Seraphim of Sarov Youth Camp in Lower Kalskag. Our 2016 St. Herman pilgrimage welcomed groups of Orthodox parishioners from the “Lower 48” including California and Washington state.

This year our seminary instructors are the same as last year except for the departure of Mr. David Young whose courses have been taken over by Matushka Bea and Matushka Mary Madsen. His Grace, Vladyka DAVID is offering a class on Pastoral Theology. Fr. John and Matushka Dr. Bea Dunlop offer classes in Pastoral Theology, Liturgics, New Testament, Christian Education and Patristics. Fr. David Rucker offers courses in Missions and Spirituality. Deacon Irenaios offers courses in Old Testament and Church History. Doctoral Candidate (Ohio State University) Daria Simeonoff, Seminary Archivist offers courses in Russian, Russian Church History and Slavonic. Daria also continues to work on several

translating and publishing ventures including the works of former Alaskan missionaries St Seraphim of Uglich, Fr. Paul Shadura and Fr. Tikhon Shalamov.

This year Deacon Innocent Philo continues to coordinate the Seminary's field work program both at Kodiak Island Providence Hospital. Deacon Innocent is the Chaplain and Administrator at Providence Kodiak Island Hospital. Under Deacon Innocent's supervision, students work over a hundred volunteer hours at Providence Hospital in Kodiak. Fourth year students are completing Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Courses at the hospital thus acquiring valuable and marketable job skills. Clinical Pastoral Education is a fantastic addition to our curriculum which truly increases the value of our diploma.

This year the Seminary will also offer RADACT training courses with Janet Carter again offering valuable and marketable skills in the area of Substance Abuse. We will also host Floyd Frantz of OCMC who will present on the relationship of Orthodox theology to recovery and addictions.


The seminary is truly blessed with a dedicated, hardworking faculty who cares for its students and their spiritual growth. We hope more suitable, mature young men and women will be called to study the Holy Orthodox faith with such dedicated and skilled teachers to replenish the ranks of our clergy and lay leaders.

St. Herman Seminary continues to offer scholarships to diocesan students. Students do not pay anything to receive a theological education at seminary.

While at seminary second, third and fourth year students also receive material support from Outreach Alaska sponsored by Mary Ann Khoury. Outreach Alaska also supports the St. Juliana Food Pantry for married students again trying to meet the materials needs of our seminarians who have left jobs in order to study and serve the Church.

We are thankful to the parishes and individuals who financially support the work of St. Herman Seminary within the diocese. Each year we struggle to meet our rather bare bones budget. We ask parishes and individuals to financially support the educational mission of the seminary. This work ensures the future of our beloved Diocese of Alaska where the harvest is truly great but the laborers in the vineyard are few. We also thank our clergy and parishes for their continued prayers and spiritual support. Your prayers truly keep us inspired and hard at work.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light green background. The signature reads "Archpriest John Dunlop" in a cursive script.

Archpriest John Dunlop (D.Min.), Dean