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## ***Introduction***

St. Herman Seminary orientation began on August 29. We welcomed two full-time incoming students Noah Andrew from Kwigillinok and Nicholas Brueggen from the state of Georgia. Classes began on August 31. We recently joyfully celebrated our patronal feast day of All Saints of Alaska on September 24 with His Grace, Bishop DAVID. The day included matriculation of new students, a faculty breakfast and evening ice-cream social for seminary families.

## ***The Students***

This year the Seminary has seven full-time students including Linda Amodo, Noah Andrew, Spyridon Ash, Nicholas and Seraphina Brueggen, Joseph Evon, Timothy Jacob and Deacon Stephen Wood. We have four students who attend lectures or are part of our online classes cohort. Fr. David Rucker is offering online classes to those unable to be physically present at the seminary.

We have others who participate in our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Church School program. Shelley Finkler, one of only two

Orthodox Catechesis of the Good Shepherd certified trainers in the U.S., is an adjunct faculty member, resides at St John's Antiochian Cathedral . Shelley and Matushka Bea hosted an active display at this year's All-American Council in July which garnered great National interest in the program from both clergy and laity.

This semester the seminary will offer CGS training Level 1, part 2 for ages 3-6 from November 12-17. It will offer Level 2 part 1 for ages 6-9 from March 18-25. These trainings are open to all members of the Diocese of Alaska. In May we will also offer RADACT training to our students.

### ***Summer Activities, Faculty and Staff***

This summer the seminary again hosted a very helpful mission group from Central Indiana. The team helped with projects throughout campus including new doors for our atrium space and a walkway next to the married seminary dorm as well as painting projects. A friend of the team, Craig Renzio also produced our seminary film for the All-American Council in St. Louis which was written by faculty members during the summer. Fr. John gave a seminary presentation at the Kuskokwim conference in Kwethluk where he met with deanery clergy and faithful. He also participated in the Nushagak deanery conference

in New Stuyahok where he presented on the seminary to clergy and faithful. The seminary housed approximately 30 pilgrims during this year's annual St Herman Pilgrimage from August 7-9 which was blessed with beautiful weather.

We have added a new Instructor this year with Matushka Marilyn Kreta assuming the duties of chapel choir director and Liturgical Music instructor. His Grace, Vladyka DAVID is offering an independent study on Spirituality and Ethics. Fr. John and Matushka Dr. Bea Dunlop are offering classes in Pastoral Theology, Liturgics, New Testament, Christian Education and Patristics. Fr. David Rucker is offering courses in Missions, Theology of Marriage (with Matushka Rozanne, LMFT), Introduction to Orthodox Doctrine and Theological Reflections. Deacon Irenaios is offering courses in Old Testament and Church History. Matushka Mary Madsen Daria Simeonoff, Seminary Archivist is offering courses in Russian, Russian Church History and Slavonic. As noted before Shelley Finkler offered certified training in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Christian education program.

This year Deacon Innocent Philo and along with Dr. Patricia Wilson-Cone continue to coordinate the Seminary's field work program at Kodiak Island Providence Hospital. Clinical Pastoral Education is a

fantastic addition to our curriculum which truly increases the value of our diploma. This year Priest Michael Fredricks is taking the course in Anchorage. Fr John (myself) has been asked to sign up and apply for this year's cohort. Dr. Patricia has asked if I can take CPE to bolster local enrollment and with Vladyka's blessing I will join the cohort.

Michelle Ash, the wife of a seminarian has been working as our office assistant this year. She has a Bachelors degree in Business Administration and a Bachelors degree in Yupik Studies from University of Alaska Fairbanks.

### ***Outreach Alaska and Finances***

While at seminary second, third, and fourth year students also have received material support from Outreach Alaska which is transitioning to be administered by the seminary itself. During this year's All- American Council in St. Louis Matushka Bea found sponsors for all of our eligible seminarians. Outreach Alaska also supports the St. Juliana Food Pantry for married students trying to meet the materials needs of our seminarians who have left jobs in order to study and serve the Church.

Mr David Witiak has established a new scholarship fund for the seminary with Vanguard Capital. This Scholarship fund will be available

for incoming students. Sponsors have agreed to contribute a minimum of \$100,000 in support of the scholarship.

### ***Buildings and Maintenance***

The seminary recently purchased the recently reposed Justine Hartman's house on Sargent Drive which may serve as faculty housing in the future. The seminary has just hired Michael Hoffman as a full-time maintenance man.

Generally our chapel also needs to have wooden shingles replaced and the building examined due to aging and log deterioration. The former mortuary and brown house are in critical need of being torn down. The former mortuary actually had a fire last summer caused by drug using vagrants. Both buildings are boarded up eye-sores and continue to deteriorate.

Because of our constant stream of summer visitors we feel it may be helpful to hire an outside "cleaning team" to clean dorm rooms and prepare beds for guests. We have tried to do this between faculty families and are finding it difficult to do a good job.

In closing, we thank all of our seminary supporters throughout the Diocese of Alaska for their love, support and prayers. We thank those who financially support the educational mission of the seminary.

This work ensure a bright future for our Diocese of Alaska where the harvest is truly great but the laborers are few.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Archpriest John Dunlop (Doctor of Ministry), Dean