

Meet our Seminarians...



ASKOAK Family — Deacon Simeon and his wife, Mat. Tatiana, are from Russian Mission and have three children: Trinity, Katya and Tikhon.

Dn. Simeon is a 4th year student.

"I'm in seminary because I would like to serve the church."



CHOCKNOK Family — Jason (Sergius), from New Stuyahok, and his wife Christine, from Chefornak, have three children: Cael (Nicholas), Annie Belle (Katherine), and Shane Emerson (John) who have grown up in New Stuyahok and Kodiak. Jason is a 3rd year student.

"I asked our parish priest and the dean of the seminary for a blessing to apply for seminary so that I may learn more from the irrefutable Theologians who were bold to preach the Christ as revealed by Himself. This boldness from two parish priests was inclusive of all aspects of a complete Church. This inspired me, because many "denominations" only emphasize elements of the True Faith."



ISAAC family — Fr. Dn. Jason and his wife, Mat. Theresa, from Marshall have six children: Mary, Tatiana, Stephan, Michael, Isabelle, and Leah.

Dn. Jason is a 4th year student.

"We came to seminary so we can learn more about our faith and to serve the Orthodox Church and the faithful."



KUDRIN family — Ana, daughter of Fr. Victor and Mat. Lena Nick, from Dillingham, and John, son of Molly Kudrin, from Anchorage have both been Orthodox Christians their whole life. John and Ana were married before God on Sept 8th, 2013 and are expecting their first child in July.

Ana is a 2nd year and John is a 3rd year student.

"We came to seminary for the sole purpose, God willing, to serve God's church and do this work to further the Alaskan people in the word of God. One day, God wiling, we will be ordained into God's priesthood. "



LARSON family — Alexander J. (Joseph) Larson, Sr. and his wife, Fannie E. (Sophia) Larson, from Akiachak, have five children and two grand-children: Katherine (Catherine) Larson-Joseph and her husband Damien Joseph have two children, Gracelyn Annie (Alexia) and Sophie; Kristine (Christine); Alexandria (Faith); Alexander B.; and Kiiya R. (Sophia).

Alexander is a 2nd year student.

"I came to seminary because I wanted to learn more about my faith and my calling to come here. To help people out in the villages who are struggling for their faith even though they aren't Orthodox."



TREFON family — Michael, from Newhalen, and his wife, Tamara, from Nunapitchuk, have one child, Joachim.

Michael is 4th year student.

"I am here attending seminary to get more education about the Orthodox faith and for possible ordination to the diaconate."

Nicholas Montiegel

Herman Madsen

Oscar Olsen III

John Larson, Jr.

David Young



Elena Levi

Gulga Levi

Erika Johnson

Erika (Mary) JOHNSON — Erika (Mary) is a 2nd year student.

She is a lifelong Alaskan, having spent most of her life in Anchorage and five years in Fairbanks.

“Prior to coming to Seminary, I worked in the field of Disability Services. I worked for two years as a direct care provider for individuals experiencing intellectual and mental health disabilities, then for four years as a case manager specializing in serving individuals who experience Autism, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, and individuals with behavior health challenges. I was drawn to the Seminary primarily because of the Substance Abuse Counseling program. After graduation, I hope to combine my experiences in social services with the theological knowledge I gain at Seminary to serve the Diocese of Alaska.”



Elena LEVI — Elena, from Lower Kalskag, is a 1st year student.

“The reason I came to seminary is to learn more about the Orthodox faith. What I learn here will be brought back to the surrounding villages.”



Gulga LEVI — Gulga (Luke), also from Lower Kalskag, is a 2nd year student.

“I felt there was a need for my community to learn more about Orthodoxy and its teachings. I feel it was my calling by God to come to St. Herman Seminary to learn and to teach.”



Herman MADSEN — Herman, from Kodiak, is a 1st year student.

“I am here to serve the church however I can. “



Oscar OLSEN III — Oscar, from Koliganek, is a 3rd year student.

“I came to seminary to live, learn and share the Orthodox faith.”



Nicholas MONTIEGEL— Nicholas (or “Uppa Bert” to many young people) is a 3rd year student.

He is from the Lower 48 via Nome, Anchorage and Dillingham.

“Following my retirement after nearly forty years as a teacher, college professor, and professional psychologist, I am at seminary in order to grow more as a person in service to God. After graduation I want to combine what I've learned at St Herman Seminary with the skills I've acquired over a lifetime in order to assist others along their paths of becoming closer to God. One never knows for sure the big plans God has for us, yet right now, I'm comfortable feeling that I am in the process growing ever closer to our Resurrected Lord and am becoming ever increasingly able to share with others all that has been given me.”