



*"The steps of a man are ordered by the Lord." (Psalm 37:32)
Submitted by Mary Ann Khoury – August 2013*

I returned from this year's Alaska travels on May 28 after being there for nearly 2 weeks. This year produced new challenges for our Adopt a Seminarian project and changes are being made in the criteria. No longer will any student entering the second year of seminary automatically be sponsored. There will be certain criteria they must meet for the sponsor program. For example, substance abuse is a big problem in Alaska. If a seminarian at SHS is found to be abusing alcohol or other drugs, they will be placed in a treatment program and any sponsor fees will be held until they are back in their studies and in good standing with the seminary. Once they are reinstated to the seminary, all back fees will be paid and they will be back on schedule to receive monthly payments. We also will be having a 2 tier sponsoring program. Single students will be \$100 per month/\$1,200 per year. Married and families will be as it has been at \$200 per month/\$2,400 per year. The lower fee schedule will make it possible for more people to participate in this program but they must be prepared to go to a married sponsor fee if the single student marries. More news is that the St. Julianna Food Pantry at St. Herman Theological Seminary is being used more often since there are increased families attending seminary. This program helps the families meet the monthly food and baby supply needs – providing groceries, diapers, formula, etc. Now each shopping trip is more than \$700. They shop about 6 times a year. I am told that they need more. I will be trying to raise \$5,000 this next year just to meet the projected needs of the St. Julianna Food Pantry.

One week after returning from Alaska, my brother Jad Wolf and I traveled to Kansas City for the Parish Life Conference where he helped me with our **"Outreach Alaska"** booth. Also at this time, I announced the Alaska Pilgrimage travel for next year. "Walking the Path of the Saints" is being planned with FOS Tours to go to Alaska the first 2 weeks of August 2014 with the main focus on the Spruce Island Pilgrimage in Kodiak August 7-9. Next year will be the 15th anniversary of my first trip to Alaska and the 220th anniversary of when the first missionaries arrived. There are great things being planned. Besides Kodiak, we will go to Sitka then to Bethel – where we will attend church at St. Sophia Russian Orthodox Church with our sponsored seminarian, Father Elia Larson. Fr. Elia is now attached to the Bethel Church. The new St. Sophia Russian Orthodox Church was one of our first projects. We will travel by skiff up the Kuskokwim River to Kwethluk to visit the grave of Matushka Olga Michael – being considered for glorification. We will be in Anchorage, Eagle River, Eklutna, and Denali as well as other wonderful once in a lifetime experiences. If you would like to be informed as plans develop, please email me at maktoob@cox.net. Thank you all so much for your prayers for this mission and for me, that I may continue in the path that God has ordered. A wonderful friend sent a donation after our article in the last issue of The Scroll. For information on donations, you can also go to my email address. The **Outreach Alaska** website is www.outreachalaska.org. I look forward to keeping you all posted on what is being done and plans for the 2014 Pilgrimage Tour.



St. Sophia Russian Orthodox Church, Bethel, AK

**Outreach Alaska is an institution of the Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of Alaska,
Mary Ann Khoury, Coordinator
2421 N. Perry Avenue, Wichita, KS 67204 • (316) 832-0734
maktoob@cox.net • www.outreachalaska.org**