

MINISTERIAL INTERNSHIP FOR CERTIFIED MINISTER

By

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Internship Final Report

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For Persons Seeking Ministerial Credentials

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Standard Summaries and Evaluation

Standard 1

Sacerdotal Functions

Raydonna Beachy's Memorial Service

Jonathan Barnes and Chelsee Martin's Wedding

Calvary Church's Baptismal Service

Calvary Church's Communion Service

Raydonna Beachy's Memorial Service

It had been at least seven years since I had been present at a funeral, so attending Raydonna Beachy's memorial service was essentially a new experience. Although I did not have the opportunity to perform any tasks during the service, I believe my observations were sufficient enough to detect potential areas of personal strengths and weaknesses for this sacerdotal function.

The opening statements, a welcome and prayer, would be fairly simple. "We are gathered here today to pay our respects to..." Much of it could be written down and simply read aloud from a note card or from inside a sleek black folder. The next segment of Raydonna's service was a time of singing. At this particular service there was no one leading the songs, and the minister did not know them well enough to be the key director. This is definitely something I would change. The lack of leadership left the group a bit confused. They certainly could have used the support from one strong individual, especially being as how most were already emotionally unstable due to the loss of their dear friend. Also, all verses of every hymn were sung, which seemed to drag out this portion of the service. I think a better idea would be to pick out certain verses; this would keep the service moving forward.

The first few rows of the sanctuary were reserved for the family, which I think is a good idea—in this way they are honored. However, I did not like the fact that everyone else sat toward the back of the room, leaving the grieving family sitting inside a large, empty barrier. I asked Pastor Ken about how I could go about changing this. He suggested that before the service I could ask the family how many people they expect to attend. I could put up ropes and "reserved" signs. He said that there should be ushers to help everyone to their seats. Then, as people come in and the room starts filling up, the ushers can remove the ropes and fill the seats

in the sanctuary from the front to the back. If there are no ushers, Pastor Ken suggested that I can ask somebody from the church to do this job.

The minister's message lasted for fifteen minutes at most, which I thought was a decent length. It was long enough to cover the subject and short enough to keep everyone's attention. The minister compared Raydonna to the woman described in Proverbs 31. He then told a personal story of a time spent with Raydonna soon before she passed away. I especially enjoyed this personal touch because I believe it helped the congregation connect to the speaker.

Another thing that someone should have done at the beginning of the service was remind everyone to turn off their cell phones and electronics. Someone's phone rang loudly at the start, causing a complete distraction. It was quite disruptive to the mood of the gathering.

Personal difficulties I might have with this function might come if I was conducting a service for someone I knew well (e.g. family member or close friend) or if the person was not a known believer in Christ. I am a very emotional person, so I might have a hard time keeping myself from crying or becoming too emotionally overtaken to continue the funeral service. If the person was not a Christian, then it would be hard to find a way to conduct the service without rejoicing that the person is in Heaven. Pastor Ken said that as a pastor I would most likely be too busy preparing for and conducting the service to be emotional. He reminded me, though, to be prepared for when the suppressed emotions do hit me, because they will, at some point. During the ceremony, he suggested that I tell a funny story or two to lighten the mood and help others relate to me as well as to each other.

Jonathan Barnes and Chelsee Martin's Wedding

There are many unique ways to conduct a marriage ceremony. The vows are the basic ingredient but the other parts of the ceremony can be arranged in different ways. The wedding I

observed seemed to involve the minimum amount of ceremonial tradition. In short, the ceremony was not religious. A friend of the couple who was getting married performed the ceremony, not a minister. The service was outdoors on a golf course, not in a church. When I discussed this sacerdotal function with Pastor Ken, he noted that a wedding is basically a step-by-step procedure. He added that when he conducts the service, he likes to do at least one thing that's original, which I think is a fun idea. When a couple asks him to perform the ceremony, he asks them a few questions: How long have you been dating? Are you staying pure? Do you want a traditional or contemporary service? Then, after these questions have been discussed, he gives a variety of ideas to the couple and let's them decide how they want the service to go. He then puts together a template of the events of the service.

Pastor Ken also gave me advice for what to do during a wedding rehearsal. He said that it is important to make an announcement at the beginning: "Thank you for coming to the rehearsal and supporting the couple. This is *their* time..." Throughout the process, he said there should be an emphasis on asking the bride what *she* wants and maintaining control of outside influences as much as possible. Others do not need to take over or have their way. As a minister, I am responsible for the signing of the legal paperwork, but not for obtaining the paperwork. I am also responsible for mailing in the documents to the city after the wedding is over.

One of my strengths is organization, so I believe I would excel at helping to plan a wedding ceremony and keep track of all the official paperwork that goes along with it. I might struggle with knowing how to cope with the couples' emotions as they prepare for their special day and with questioning the couple before agreeing to perform the ceremony.

Calvary Church's Baptism Service

For this sacerdotal function, I was able to participate in a pre-baptism class and observe a baptism service. The pre-baptism class was held with Pastor Ken in his office. I and the three candidates were present. Pastor Ken gave a short presentation about baptism while showing a PowerPoint on his computer screen. The presentation included the Assemblies of God belief concerning baptism, scriptural references, baptism's relationship to salvation, and its symbolism. He had each candidate share their salvation testimony as well as their Holy Spirit baptism testimony. Pastor Ken then explained how the service would take place and gave a "dry" example of how he would bring each candidate in and out of the water. He gave instructions as to what the candidates should wear. He also did a unique thing and let a father (the "priest" of his household) baptism his son. (Both were being baptized in the same service.) The function went as planned and Pastor Ken allowed each candidate to say something to the congregation before being baptized.

One thing I was concerned about in my future role as baptizer was what I would do if a larger person wanted to be baptized. I am a small woman so I wondered how I would counteract that type of situation. Pastor Ken said that I could have the person kneel in the water and then baptism them, making it within my strength to conduct the submerging. Other than that, I feel confident that I could conduct a pre-baptism class and successfully perform the sacerdotal function.

Calvary Church's Communion Service

I had the honor of conducting communion at my church in the Sunday morning service on July 26th. Pastor Ken and I discussed the entire thing thoroughly beforehand, until I was comfortable with what I was to do. During the service that Sunday morning, Pastor Ken

introduced me and had me come to the stage. The ushers came forward with the emblems. I prepared the people by telling them that we were about to partake of communion. I explained that at Calvary Church “we have what’s called an ‘open communion’ which means that if you have accepted Jesus Christ into your heart, that you are welcome to take the bread and juice with us. But if you are not, there is no embarrassment—just let the emblems pass by you.” I opened with 1 Corinthians 11:28, reminding the congregation that we were to examine ourselves before communion. I then allowed a few moments of silence for self-examination, and then concluded that time by saying a prayer for forgiveness. I read verses 23-26 of 1 Corinthians 11. I asked a member of our congregation to pray over the bread; he stood and did so. We took the bread together. I then prayed over the cup and took it along with the congregation. The whole thing lasted approximately seven minutes from start to finish.

I made a small error during my presentation of communion, which I calmly and immediately corrected. When introducing the Corinthians passage, I named Jesus as the author and then quickly pardoned myself and named Paul as the author of the biblical book. With more practice I know that any words I tripped over this first time around will be smoothed out and my presentation will be perfected with experience. One aspect of this function that I take very seriously is the fact that it is a privilege to stand before God’s people and lead them in remembrance of Christ’s sacrifice through the act of communion. May I always make sure my life is right before the Lord prior to conducting this function and not take the privilege lightly.

Standard 2

Discipleship

Lattis Campbell's "Local Church Leadership Development Series"

The “Local Church Leadership Development” Series is a CD/computer-based program which is meant to define and teach church leaders their role within the body of Christ. There are five lessons: (1) What the Bible Says about Ministry, (2) What the Bible Says about Our S.H.A.P.E. Part 1, (3) What the Bible Says about Our S.H.A.P.E. Part 2, (4) What the Bible Says about Leadership, and (5) What the Bible Says about Equipping and Empowering Others for Ministry and Leadership. The series includes various assessments which aim to help leaders detect their areas of strengths and weaknesses. The series also gives instructions for developing values and missions statements.

There is a definite emphasis on servant-hood in this series, following the example of Christ’s life on Earth. The acronym “SHAPE” stands for the areas in which God has prepared every believer for ministry: Spiritual gifts, Heart, Ability, Personality, and Experiences. Team leadership is also discussed.

I am the type of person who likes to do everything myself. I act under the theory that “If I do it, at least it will be done right.” This is not how the body of Christ is created to function. I struggle with delegating tasks, though I have improved in this area in the last couple of years. My main struggle in discipleship is to teach others how to do ministry and remember that my job is to equip others, not to do all of the work myself. Sometimes I allow pride to make me think that my position in leadership makes me more important than others. This is certainly not the case! Every part of the body is just as important as another, and the main focus of true, Godly leadership is servant-hood. On a more positive note, one of my passions is personal leadership—teaching others to lead themselves so that they can successfully lead others. I like helping others discover their gifts and give them opportunities to utilize them in ministry (inside or outside the church). Without action, the church body is useless. We must put our talents and gifts to use.

Standard 3

Pre-Marital Counseling

Review of “So You’re Getting Married” marital counseling videos

Pastor Ken allowed me to borrow a premarital counseling VHS-tape series entitled, "So You're Getting Married." Norman Wright was the main speaker in the program and I found his insights to be absolutely outstanding! The series began with a discussion of reasons why you marry. Mr. Wright brought up the point that very few people put in the time preparing for marriage like they do a vacation or safari trip (etc.). Couples who go through premarital counseling, he stated, are better at bracing storms and have lower divorce rates than those couples who do not. "It is better to break off an engagement than to break off a marriage." He suggested that the goals of premarital counseling are to: (1) identify major problem areas, (2) learn some marital skills, and (3) teach couples to be realistic. Mr. Wright talks about how it is important to ask the hard questions, such as "Why won't our marriage end in divorce?" He asks the couples to write down "ten indications why this is the time to marry" and "twelve reasons why you want to marry this person." These types of exercises would be extremely beneficial if I implemented them in my future premarital counseling sessions. He lists the three keys to a quality marriage as commitment, communication, and conflict resolution. Poor reasons to marry, he says, are pregnancy, rebound, rebellion, guilt, and pity. "Your spouse is God's gift to you." "Commitment is the glue that holds a marriage together, *not love*." These truths set the stage for his discussion of the different kinds of love (phileo, friendship, agape etc.). The importance of focusing on what you can do for your spouse and not what they can do for you is stressed in these videos. Along with the positive aspects of marriage, Mr. Wright warns of the stages of marital death: disillusionment, hurt, anger, and ambivalence. "You have a choice about what you focus on in the other person."

I discussed premarital counseling with Pastor Ken and through our conversation received unique insight. He said that finances and arguing are two things I should know to focus on in the

sessions. The top two reasons for divorce, he shared, are problems with finances and problems with sexual intercourse. “Understand how the different sexes operate in conflict, and you’ve pretty much mastered the game. Teach these truths in counseling, talk about these differences and ways to compensate, and you will give them the keys to win in their marriage.” His last piece of advice was to lighten all counseling with a sense of humor.

My struggles with conducting premarital counseling sessions in the future will be dependent upon what I have experienced in my own life. If I am not married, or have not been married long, I will find some difficulty in sharing marital truths with others simply because I will not have lived through them. People are more apt to listen to you when you have gone through the same experiences they have.

Much of premarital counseling, I believe, is prompting the couple to discover the things about the other person that will affect how their spouse will act within the marriage relationship (e.g. family of origin dysfunction). To admit these potential problem areas help to identify and implement possible solutions. Couples’ counseling is meant to be preparation for the reality of marriage; it is supposed to help them understand what marriage *really* is before they commit themselves to each other for life.

Standard 4

Personal Evangelism

Evaluation of Self

I made a trip to Wal-Mart by myself one evening this past May. As I was walking out with my bags, I thought I heard a gentleman asking for bus money. I walked on by, ignoring him at first, but the Holy Spirit told me to go back and give him some change. I fumbled in my purse and pulled out some quarters. I approached the man and asked him if he'd been requesting some money for the bus. He said yes and I gave him the coins I had, which did not nearly match the amount he had told me a ticket cost. The man mentioned something about karma and how he hoped good would come to my life because I had helped him. "God bless you," was my measly reply. I walked to my car. "*Why didn't I say something about not believing in karma? I could have shared Jesus with that man,*" I thought regretfully. I looked in the coin drawer in my car and saw I had a few dollars worth of quarters. I pulled my car around to the front of the store but the man was nowhere to be found. As I was leaving the Wal-Mart parking lot, I saw him walking toward the bus stop near the Dimond Center Hotel. I drove into the hotel parking lot and yelled out my window at the man. He turned around, I offered him more quarters for the bus, and we ended up in a conversation where I had the opportunity to talk to Him about God and invite Him to church. I didn't share the "Gospel" with the man, but I told him how important God is in my life and how he should give God a try if he was really looking for truth like he said he was. I wrote down Calvary Church's information and gave it to him. He has not come to my church, but I know that situation was a divine appointment and I was glad I heard the Holy Spirit and obeyed. Often I am too scared to approach strangers, especially adult men, but when God tells you to do something I truly believe He puts His protection around you. That is what He did for me that night.

I have been a leader in the youth group at my church this summer because of the lack of a youth pastor, and perhaps the Sunday school unit I have spent most of the summer teaching

would count for post-conversion discipleship. I taught on biblical interpretation, the history of the Bible, and the importance of being able to explain our faith. The last few weeks of the summer the group did an activity where they had to answer tough questions (e.g. Why do you believe in the Bible? Why should I go to church? What does it mean to be saved?) in front of their peers. The exercise was meant to test their ability to stand up for their faith and answer questions that their peers at school or work might approach them with. It was a means of preparing them for the future by solidifying their faith in God and His Word.

Standard 5

Personal Spiritual Growth

June Prayer Journal Report

July Prayer Journal Report

August Prayer Journal Report

June Prayer Journal Report

Weekly personal devotional times: Daily

Summary of Prayer Journal for this Month:

In my first entry, I prayed (in ignorance) “May I trust God in times of confusion, even when His will seems to be illogical.” My first few entries focused on a foreboding feeling of difficult times ahead, and what do you know? “Times of confusion” soon followed. God proved Himself once again by trying to prepare and warn me before the hard days began, though I truly did not anticipate the things which were about to happen. The night before my boyfriend broke up with me, he was the focus of my prayers in the journal: “God, take unrelenting control of his heart.” The end of that dating relationship brought many tears, times of crying out to God while driving my car...Music helped soothe my soul and gave me an outlet for the expression of my frustration, anger, and hurt. Some lyrics are shared in the journal.

The month of June was when I started teaching the youth group Sunday school, so many of my prayers center on God giving me unique ways to connect with the students and for the students to be present in class.

I felt that God gave me a few sermon ideas along the way as well, which I wrote about in the journal.

As far as Bible reading, I read Jeremiah 32-52 and Ezekiel 1-40.

August Prayer Journal Report

Weekly personal devotional times: Daily

Summary of Prayer Journal for this Month:

Bible reading: 2 Kings 8-25, 1 Chronicles 1-2, Ezra 1-10, Nehemiah 1-13, Acts 1-4

Although July was “tough,” August could be considered worse, though on a different scale than the previous month. While July was challenging due to school, August tested my relationships. More than any other relationship, it confronted the one I have with myself. I struggled with mixed emotions concerning my leaving for Colorado Springs at the beginning of September. I often journaled my feelings to God, asking Him to make clear what I found confusing, especially concerning His plans for my future. I found myself wanting to attach to strong relationships I have here in Anchorage, which I knew would not be wise considering the condition of my heart because of what had happened in June. I asked God’s forgiveness for any lack of commitment to Him on my part.

One particular connection I made while reading His Word was between a “cliché” verse and the battle of condemnation versus conviction. For the past year I have been learning how to accept conviction and reject condemnation. While reading Nehemiah chapter 8, I came across the line, “The joy of the Lord is your strength.” I have heard this verse quoted many times, but God shone a unique light on it for me one evening this month. The journal entry I will share sums up what I believe God wanted to show me during this season of my life. I wrote: “The text surrounding [the verse] describes a climactic scene: Ezra is standing on a platform high above the people, so they can all see him. He is reading the Law of Moses, and the people begin to worship God and weep and mourn—I assume because of the guilt and shame they are feeling as they realize that they have not been following God’s law. Then the people are told to stop

mourning and weeping, and are instructed to enjoy choice food and drink and to celebrate.

“...This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.” What about this thought: the joy of the Lord is our strength to overcome sin! And the joy of the Lord comes from accepting God’s correction as conviction, not condemnation! We are to rejoice at God’s instruction, and the fact that He loves us enough to tell us what’s right and wrong. But often we condemn ourselves, and live in mourning. God wants us to celebrate and change instead!”

Standard 6

Ministerial Relationships

Evangelical Minister's Lunch Meeting

In August I had the opportunity to attend an Evangelical Minister's Lunch meeting. That particular week's gathering was held at Crosspoint Community Church. There were over twenty ministers present, both men and women. The first 10-15 minutes was a time to eat lunch and chat with the other ministries. The next 30 minutes was set aside for a discussion. The open discussion that Thursday was guided by the reading of an excerpt from a book co-authored by Cally Parkinson, *Follow Me*. Within this excerpt was a table—"What People Say They Need from the Church." There was a list of "What People Say They Need," followed by percentages of "Importance," "Satisfaction," and "The Gap" (between Importance and Satisfaction). What I found motivating is that people say, "Help me understand the Bible in depth" is 87% important to them, but they are only 62% satisfied with how the church has met this need, leaving a 25% gap between importance and satisfaction.

Even more interesting than the topic of discussion was the discussion itself! I was so encouraged to be among a group of ministers who were willing to share their opinions and experiences in order to challenge one another. I had never been in such an atmosphere before and was excited to find out that ministers in Anchorage are willing to take down denominational barriers and come together as one body in Christ. They were all willing to learn from one another in respect and love. What an example that is to me as a prospective minister!

I was not able to attend any Assemblies of God local, sectional, or district events being that there were none available during the summer months. I attempted to set up interviews with district leaders, but no one was able to meet with me.

An area of self-improvement in ministerial relationships would be my need to accept criticism and questioning of my beliefs with a positive attitude. I tend to take correction harshly, but I know I would benefit greatly from other ministers, especially in mentoring relationships.

Standard 7

Public Ministry

Critique of Personal Sermon

“Just say no!” This was the title of my sermon to the Calvary Church youth group on Wednesday, August 12th. I used a PowerPoint presentation as a visual aid, as well as freshly baked chocolate chip cookies in an attempt to leave a lasting impression in the memories of the students.

I opened with a short reflection upon the history of the slogan “Just say no,” which was used by first lady Nancy Reagan in an advertising campaign for the U.S.’s “War on Drugs.” It eventually expanded to saying no to violence, premarital sex, and other immoral habits. I put a twist on the well-known phrase and chose to link the quote to the topic of temptation.

The morning of the day of my sermon, God gave me an illustration from work to use in my message. I told it as the “Resist the Donuts” story: A coworker brought a large box of donuts to the office. When other coworkers walked by the box, I could see the internal struggle—they knew the donuts were unhealthy and that they shouldn’t eat one, but most of them decided to eat one (or two!) anyway. This was a point in my sermon: We so often say yes to our flesh when we know it isn’t good for us. I then asked the questions: Why is that? How can we stop? Why should we stop? What good does it do us? Some of my scripture references were Romans 5:5-8, James 1:12-15, and 1 Corinthians 10:13.

I attempted to bake cookies and then write words on the tops of them with red icing (“all mine” “sexy” etc.). One weakness of this idea was that I didn’t test it ahead of time, so the cookies were really crunchy and the icing wasn’t thick enough so it melted and many of the words were unreadable. My point was that we “eat” temptation because it looks good even when we know that it is unhealthy for us.

Pastor Ken observed my sermon and said that it went well, and that if I gave it my best, it was excellent. I wanted more critique than that, but he refused to say much else. He wanted to be

encouraging and I know that clarity and transition in my sermons will come with experience. I am aware that I have greater potential than I have reached with any sermon that I have ever preached in my life. This is due to my lack of sufficient preparation time. My goal is to focus on and improve greatly in this area.

Standard 8

Required Reading

Evaluation of Robert Foster's *Celebration of Discipline* and of Personal Finances
and Stewardship Practices

Robert Foster's book *Celebration of Discipline* discusses spiritual disciplines in depth for the purpose of spiritual growth. He divides the disciplines into three categories: inward, outward, and corporate. For each discipline he gives a definition and detailed suggestions for that discipline in action.

The inward disciplines consist of: meditation, prayer, fasting, and study. Meditation "is the ability to hear God's voice and obey his word" (17). Prayer has to do with "attuning ourselves to divine breathings" (39). Fasting "refers to abstaining from food for spiritual purposes" (48) and "in most cases [is] a private matter between the individual and God" (50). Study "is a specific kind of experience in which through careful attention to reality the mind is enabled to move in a certain direction" (63).

Celebration of Discipline lists the outward disciplines as: simplicity, solitude, submission, and service. Simplicity "is an *inward* reality that results in an *outward* life-style" (79). Solitude "is more a state of mind and heart than it is a place" and "can be maintained at all times" in the heart (96). Submission "is the ability to lay down the terrible burden of always needing to get our own way" (111). Service is an attitude of servant-hood that "ministers simply and faithfully because there is a need" (129).

According to Foster, the corporate disciplines are: confession, worship, guidance, and celebration. Corporate confession is powerful; "God has given us our brothers and sisters to stand in Christ's stead and make God's presence and forgiveness real to us" (147). Corporate worship "is to know, to feel, to experience the resurrected Christ in the midst of a gathered community" (158). Corporate guidance prompts us "to encourage groups of people to fast, pray, and worship together until they have discerned the mind of the Lord" (178). Corporate

celebration is a “decision to set the mind on the higher things of life” and “is an act of the will” (195).

The one spiritual discipline which I was particularly challenged by was that of fasting. After reading what Foster had to say, I don’t think I have ever whole-heartedly or seriously fasted! I appreciated how he gave specific instructions on how to maintain good health and the symptoms that I could expect to feel while fasting. He stressed the importance of fasting in Jesus’ life and ministry. Due to this book, I am going to start implementing fasting in my Christian walk.

Another discipline which I think I will struggle to put into practice is that of simplicity. Even though I live on a fairly tight budget, I probably place more significance on keeping my closet “up to date” than I should. Such material things are trivial, and I know this. I will just have to maintain the attitude that there are many things I don’t “need.” Remembering that I am a steward of God’s monetary goods will keep my heart in check.

My personal finances and stewardship practices are in good condition, but there is certainly room for improvement. I have never truly lived on a set budget because it is difficult to do so when I don’t have a fixed income for the entire year. This should not be an excuse, however, for not keeping tighter reins on my finances. I *am* in a good habit of tithing on my gross salary and on all monetary gifts I receive. I keep a detailed log of all money I spend (when, where, items purchased, how they were purchase [VISA, check, cash, etc.]). Stewardship is not merely a matter of finances, but a lifestyle of taking good care of the things that are in your possession. I feel I do a decent job of this as well. I keep my car and room clean, my paperwork organized, my clothes clean and stored, etc.

Reports

Mid-Term Reports

Halfway through the Internship

Student Report

Pastor/Mentor Report

50% Update on the Progress of the Internship

My ministerial internship began on June 1, 2009. It is now halfway through the three month period, and I am wishing I had more time to spend under Pastor Ken's leadership. The meetings he and I have are extremely insightful. He and his wife Sherri are a fantastic couple, always willing to answer questions and give advice.

During the internship thus far, I have been enrolled in four other courses—two night classes through UAA and two online classes through SAGU. This has put a damper on what requirements I have been able to meet thus far. My SAGU classes ended on Friday, July 17 and my UAA classes will be over in a week and a half. Therefore, my internship is starting to pick up speed and I am able to finally start reading the text *Celebration of Discipline* and complete other assignments.

Pastor Ken and I work together on a consist basis. We have meetings as often as we can, which has been as close to once per week as possible. Besides specific internship meetings that we set up, we work constantly in ministry together at Calvary, including the worship team on Sunday mornings. I play piano and sing under Pastor Ken's worship leadership. Our practices are held on Saturday nights and Sunday mornings.

In addition to my specific internship duties, I have been volunteering my time to help with other various church activities and projects. I am in the slow process of creating a website for Calvary Church, which includes collecting data from our different ministries and learning the "ins and outs" of computer codes and web construction. Due to the fact that Calvary is currently without a youth pastor, I have been stepping up into leadership in whatever ways I can. Yesterday was my sixth week of teaching the youth group Sunday school class. I am writing the lessons myself, instructing the teenagers on biblical history and on issues with/methods of

biblical interpretation. I have been cleaning small areas of the church, such as the youth sound booth and youth room foyer area. I have begun painting that foyer area as well under the guidance of Pastor Ken. .

I just attended a funeral on Saturday, July 18 and will be conducting communion in Calvary's morning service on July 26. I am trying to arrange meetings with Sectional and District leaders in order to conduct interviews for this internship. I am keeping up with my prayer journal on a daily basis. This internship is going well so far and I am excited about all that I am going to be involved in during the next month and a half.



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Senior Pastor's Report Regarding the Mid-term Progress of Intern Heather Fison

For a young lady, Heather Fison brings a lot to the table. She has good input and fresh ideas, while definitely respecting the leadership and traditions of the church. She also receives input, meaning that she is very teachable and listens to advice. Heather takes a lot of initiative in seeing what needs to be done and doing it. For instance, she asked if she could clean-up, rearrange, and repaint the foyer outside of the fellowship hall. It was quite the undertaking for her but she did it. In spite of her busy schedule, she fulfills her ministry tasks well and frequently asks how else she can be of assistance.

We are in a place of transition this summer with both our worship and our youth ministry. I, as pastor, have added both of those "hats" to my own hat rack. Thankfully, Heather has helped in both of these areas. For worship, she assists me by choosing out several songs from which then I can select the ones I would like for the Sunday morning worship service. She plays piano every Sunday and sings on the worship team from the piano. I appreciate her flexibility in this ministry and her willingness to yield to my opinion as Senior Pastor in regards to certain songs and style of music. In youth ministry, Heather has preached for me in the Wednesday night service a few times. She leads the youth Sunday School class and has created her own curriculum about Bible study methods. Her quality of teaching is phenomenal. Her enthusiasm for the subject has been contagious as evidenced by the positive feedback from the students.

Heather has had the opportunity this month to participate in several of the sacerdotal functions of ministry. She observed a funeral with the goal being observation for the eventual day when she might have to be involved in a funeral. She also observed a wedding rehearsal and the subsequent wedding ceremony. Finally, she conducted communion last Sunday morning. She was very reverent and the one little stumble she had, she covered graciously and just moved forward.

Finally, I must comment on Heather's work on our church's website. There was a church website in days gone by, but at present, we do not have one up and running. Of her own initiative, Heather offered to create one for the church. She has done all the research and legwork that is necessary in the initial stages – checking out prices, services, and website providers. She has had to overcome some technical hurdles as well.

I have been very pleased with Heather's ministry thus far and have every reason to believe that she will finish not only this coursework but her ministry with excellence.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Buller", written over a white background.

Rev. Kenneth L. Buller
Senior Pastor

Final Reports

Completion of the Internship

Student Summary Report

Prayer Journal Summary Report

Pastor/Mentor Summary Report

Signature: Heather L Fison

**Alaska District School of Ministry (AKSOM)
CERTIFIED MINISTRY INTERNSHIP REPORTS
Student Summary**

When you have completed the required internship standards, fill out this report form and return it to the AKSOM Internship Coordinator along with the reports required for each standard.

1. Sacerdotal functions:

	Date	Duties	Mentor/Coach
Baptism	8/23/09	Participated in class, Observation	Ken Buller
Communion	7/26/09	Performed function	Ken Buller
Funeral	7/18/09	Observation	Ken Buller
Wedding	8/22/09	Observation	Ken Buller

2. Discipleship

Standard	Yes	No
Disciples/mentored a lay person(s) in a local church or evaluated a manual of discipleship:	✓	

Person or persons disciples: _____

Areas of discipleship taught: _____

**Manual evaluated and reported on Lattis Campbell's Local Church Leadership Development Series

3. Premarital Counseling:

Standard	Yes	No
Conducted a session, observed a session conducted by pastor or other counselor or reviewed a pre-marital counseling resource:	✓	

Pastor/mentor monitoring/conducting session or resource reviewed: "So You're Getting Married" video series

4. Personal Evangelism:

Standard	Yes	No
Presented the gospel to a non-believer:	✓	
Engaged in pre-conversion and/or post-conversion discipleship:	✓	

5. Personal Spiritual Life:

Standard	Yes	No
Consistently kept a prayer and devotional journal for three months:	✓	

6. Ministerial Relationships: (must complete at least one if possible)

Standard	Yes	No
Attended Section Council:		✓
Attended Sectional Fellowship:		✓
Attended District Council:		✓
Attended Ministerial Association meeting:		✓
Participated in Cohort Group: <i>Evangelical Ministers' Lunch</i>	✓	
Participated in peer mentoring group (small group):		✓

7. Public Ministry: One message/teaching critiqued by pastor/mentor.

Topic	Text	Date	Pastor/mentor
1. "Just Say No" - Resisting temptation	7	8/12/09	Ken Buller

Romans 5:5-8, James 1:15-17

8. Required Reading:

Book Read	Yes	No
"Celebration of Discipline" by Richard Foster	✓	

Intern: *Heather T. Faison*
 Date: *9-7-09*

Pastor/mentor: *[Signature]*
 Date: *9-7-09*

100% Completion of the Internship

My three-month internship with Pastor Ken Buller was undoubtedly a major time of growth in my leadership gifts and in my walk with the Lord. Throughout the summer I felt challenged to check my heart attitude before performing leadership functions. I would ask God to test my thoughts before stepping into a position where I was instructing other Christians in the Lord's service. This is an essential part of leadership by example and of servant leadership. This internship has given me a foundation for further development in my future ministry roles.

I completed all of the internship requirements and am walking away from this experience having been involved in many diverse aspects of pastoral ministry. I now feel adequately prepared to take on my role as a certified minister with the Assemblies of God.



Senior Pastor's Report Regarding the Final Progress of Intern Heather Fison

Heather Fison has continued her work this summer as an intern. Of all the remarks I must make, I want to say that her stamina is surprising. She is days away from her return to college, but still working on the church website. She is trying to get it fully up and all pages complete by Sunday prior to her flight on Monday! The website is beautiful. She built the pages from a very contemporary template and took many photos herself for the site. Her eye with a camera is tremendous. I did not know she had such a gift in this area.

Heather's work with the youth in the month of August greatly increased, once she finished her university courses. She planned weekly social events including a youth camping trip. She even organized the youth to cut down the brush in the back parking lot of the church, a physically tasking event for all of them. She preached a couple of Wednesdays also, giving her more experience in sermon preparation and giving me a break during what has turned out to be a busy month.

Additionally, Heather had the opportunity to attend a teaching I conducted for baptismal candidates. I have given her a copy of this teaching for her further use.

Heather's work with Calvary Church was so timely, coming to fill the transition time when we were without a youth pastor and worship leader. She has now turned over her responsibilities in these two areas to Pastor Joel, our newly hired staff member. Her handling of this hand-off was gracious and made the path smooth for him.

I am grateful to God for this energetic, bright young woman who has labored with a cheerful heart all summer for us. It is with reluctance yet our blessings that we release her to return to her studies. She is a blessing wherever she goes.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth L. Buller", written over a horizontal line.

Rev. Kenneth L. Buller
Senior Pastor



Senior Pastor's Final Comments regarding the Leadership Qualities of Heather Fison

First of all, I must say that Heather is a born leader. It is something that comes naturally to her, although of course, such qualities can then be honed and developed. Heather has a depth that is unusual for someone her age. This makes it a pleasure to work with her because the relationship really does become one of mentoring a capable adult. Her depth shows that she processes the events of her life to learn from them rather than just let life "happen". I know that she journals a lot and I believe this assists her greatly in thinking and praying things through.

Beyond this, Heather's strengths as a leader are numerous. She is very detail-oriented, handling the coordination of large events with ease (e.g. youth camping trip). She has great enthusiasm to take on a lot of responsibility and it seems that nothing is too challenging for her. She is able to carry on a great multi-tasking juggling act: choosing songs for worship, taking classes at UAA, working, assisting with the youth group, spending time with friends, etc. She takes on so much but still gets it all done – and done well. Additionally, she is a great motivator, getting others to participate in even the difficult projects (e.g. clearing the brush behind the church) as well as the fun, social events. She is also good at expressing gratitude to those who help her! Finally, Heather's "take charge" attitude is coupled with an energetic cheerfulness that makes following her a joy rather than a burden.

As to her areas for further development, I would say that she could learn to delegate more since she does taken on so much. And perhaps she is underchallenged. Since nothing seems too difficult for her, perhaps she needs to find some area of study or ministry which really stretches her.

All in all, Heather is a fine Christian young lady that will excel in all she does. We are so proud to claim her as "ours" at Calvary Church.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Buller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ken" and the last name "Buller" clearly distinguishable.

Rev. Ken Buller

July Prayer Journal Report

Weekly personal devotional times: Daily

Summary of Prayer Journal for this Month:

Bible reading: Ezekiel 41-48, 1 Samuel 1-31 and 2 Samuel 1-14.

July was a tough month. I prayed constantly for the release of stress and times of rest. I wrote often about needing motivation and strength. Not only was I preparing for and taking final exams for my summer classes, but emotional stress from my boyfriend breaking up with me in June still weighed heavy on my heart. These issues gained momentum as the end of the month drew nearer, but God provided what I needed and answered my desperate cries for help. More often this month than last, I commented on the chapters I read in the Bible, sharing my thoughts and sermon ideas.