

North Star United Methodist Church Summary

North Star United Methodist Church remains committed to serving its community with faith, love, and outreach, striving to grow and sustain its mission in Nikiski.

I. General Profile

- **Name:** North Star United Methodist Church
- **Address:** PO Box 8122, Nikiski, AK 99635
- **Pastor:** Janice Carlton
- **Date Organized/Chartered:** 1968
- **SPRC Chairperson:** Bonita Miller (Term expires 2027)
- **Contact:** (Home) 907-776-8555 | (Cell) 907-440-1636 | Email: bonitajane@yahoo.com

II. Church Membership

- **Members:** 66
- **Average Worship Attendance:** 25
- **Sunday School (Adult):** 8 attendees
- **Non-Members Participating:** 14
- **Community Served:** ~2500 annually through food pantry, community dinners, shelter outreach, and firewood ministry
- **Membership Trend:** Stable (0% change)
- **Worship Attendance Trend:** 4% increase

Demographics:

- **Age Distribution:** 65+ (75%), 41-64 (10%), 19-40 (5%), Under 18 (10%)
- **Occupations:** Retired/Homemaker (63%), Service/Government (22%), Oilfield/Construction (9%), Education (6%)
- **Ethnicity:** White (94%), Alaska Native (5%), Asian (1%)
- **Community Population:** 4,556 (72.9% White, 9.67% Native, 11.92% Two or More Races)

III. Finances and Budget

- **2023 Operating Budget:** \$72,810 (Income: \$64,750.89 | Expenses: \$71,806.94)
- **2024 Operating Budget:** \$63,329.66 (Income: \$11,261.89 | Expenses: \$3,796.52 through Feb)
- **Apportionment Paid (2023-2025):** 100%
- **Pastoral Compensation:** \$16,037 (Quarter-Time)
- **Other Staff Compensation:** \$6,865.66
- **Building Fund:** Managed by trustees with church family living in the parsonage as caretakers
- **Staff Costs as % of Budget:** 31.15%

IV. Community Issues & Church Response

1. **Houselessness & Economic Hardship:** Food pantry, community dinners, holiday food baskets, firewood ministry, moose roadkill meat program
2. **Mental Health & Addiction Support:** Hosting Alcoholics Anonymous meetings for 50+ years
3. **Senior Outreach:** Home visits, meal deliveries, rides, and support for shut-ins
4. **Community Engagement:** Partnering with local fire departments, schools, and organizations

V. Future Goals (1-5 Years)

1. Strengthen faith-based witnessing and lay ministry development
2. Grow membership, particularly families and younger individuals
3. Expand mission outreach in Nikiski
4. Maintain financial stability and responsible stewardship
5. Ensure proper maintenance of church and parsonage

VI. Pastoral Leadership Expectations

- **Engagement with the Congregation:** Active presence in worship, Bible studies, and church events
- **Community Involvement:** Partnering with local schools, agencies, and service groups
- **Shepherding:** Providing compassionate pastoral care and outreach to homebound members
- **Effective Communication:** Utilizing electronic, social media, and in-person engagement
- **Understanding of Rural Alaska:** Adapting to the unique challenges of a remote, spread-out community

VII. Church Staffing

- **Ministry Assistant:** Rachael Craig (\$6,865.66/year) - Supports worship planning, plays piano, and assists with missions