## KICY

## Manager's Mic

We are beginning to emerge from the dark days of winter. This year has seemed even a bit more dreary as we have had multiple snowstorms with very few hours of clear skies in between. But even in the darkest days, God is faithful. He provides little glimpses of His light and His
 glory through others, and that light shines brightly in our volunteers. I am so thankful for the commitment and passion each of the KICY volunteers brings to their job.
Recently, George had to hold down the fort for a week while both Lon and I attended the Covenant Midwinter Conference in Chicago. And it wasn't an easy week. Nome's basketball teams were at a four day tournament, and George handled the in-studio responsibilities for each and every game. I am grateful for his willingness to pitch in and go the extra mile.
Our volunteers are often called upon to do a little extra as we function with a skeleton staff, and willingly do so. Volunteers are the heart of our station. We are always on the lookout for people who have a heart for missions, are willing to raise their own support and come to Nome. If radio ministry in any way piques your interest, please contact me. We have a place for you!

## Midwinter Conference



Lon hosts the Midwinter display

In late January, Lon and I traveled to Chicago for the Covenant Midwinter Pastor's Conference. This was my first time attending the Midwinter conference, though KICY has had a strong presence there over the years. We have display space, giving us a good opportunity to meet pastors, youth pastors, and other missionaries, getting the word out about the ministry of KICY. Sometimes called "the best kept secret in the Covenant," it is always good to make our station and mission more known. I was able to have our display at the Sunday morning Youth Workers' gathering as well.
Though I was only able to attend
the first two days of the conference, I left feeling encouraged, challenged, and blessed by the speakers and connections I was able to make.
Lon attended the event as a pastor, but also helped man our display in the exhibit hall. Between the two of us, we were able to broadcast the evening services live on KICY so our listeners in Western Alaska could experience a bit of the conference.
CareForce was also live from Chicago much of the week. In this small way, we are able to connect our listeners to the church at large, and we are all enriched because of it.

# Consider Serving at KICY 



Ian's Support Display

When our son, Ian, an nounced that he was going to serve as a missionary at KICY Radio after college, my wife and I were a bit concerned. We had expected him to start his career, and we hoped he might live a little closer to us than Nome, Alaska. Questions poured out of us. "Do you realize how far away that is?" "Do you realize how cold it is near the Arctic Circle?" And of course, "How do you expect to pay for this experience?"
What followed that announcement became a faith story not just for Ian, but for his family and his entire church. He needed to find sponsors to pledge a total of about $\$ 700$ per month for one year to make his plan work. For this effort, he used social media and
made phone calls. He gave a presentation to the local Rotary Club. He made an appeal to our church during a Sunday service and set up a display table in our fellowship hall. In a few weeks, Ian's goal was reached and the adventure of a lifetime was about to begin.
That August, we said a tearful goodbye at the Kansas City airport. In the year to come, our church and other sponsors enjoyed reading Ian's newsletters describing his work. He found warm fellowship at the Nome Covenant Church. There were new friends to be made and many skills to be learned. The work was often hard, but deeply rewarding. His first year of service was so meaningful and exciting that Ian asked sponsors to help him extend his service commitment. God provided many generous and supportive folks to

# Prayer Requests: For each of our staff members 

George Bard

Patty Burchell

Kathy Horner

Bertha Koweluk

Luda Kinok
Lena Mathlaw
Josie Stiles
Lon Swanson
keep Ian well supplied. Ian's time of service became a defining season of life and helped him become the adult God intended.
I now serve KICY as a board member. One of the needs that we have is for more adventurous and sturdy people to consider a year of missionary service. An excellent candidate would be a young, single, college-aged adult with a heart for mission, although volunteers are not limited to that demographic. If you would like to consider devoting a year of your life to this mission, please contact Station Manager Patty Burchell, or myself. We would also be blessed if you passed this invitation to anyone you think might be interested.

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\sim \text { Mike Coglan }
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## Host Your Own Wild Alaska Salmon Dinner

## Help Wanted

TThe time has come. KICY's computer automation system, while functional, is 18 years old and needs to be replaced. The upgraded, streamlined system will interface more easily with our music and program files. In addition, the aging lights on the towers need to be replaced. We have the opportunity to do both this summer, and you can help. Please consider a special donation to our Capital Campaign fund toward these projects. A combined $\$ 65,000$ will get it done, and as you can see, we already have nearly half of the funds. Thanks in advance for your help in putting us over the top.


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## KICY Virtual Mailbag

In this edition of The Virtual Mailbag we highlight a Christ mas Tradition. Each Christmas Eve, for a couple hours in the afternoon, KICY opens the phone lines for the Talking Christmas Card. People call in from all over Alaska and the Lower 48 to send Christmas greetings to friends and family members in Western Alaska. Our staff mans the phones, and at times all lines are lit with people waiting to share their greetings. This year we also got several calls from college students or others in the Lower 48 who were not going to be able to travel home for Christmas. And a

first for me, we got a call from Provedenya, Russia. Fortunately, Luda was helping field calls and was able to let me know when the greetings concluded!
The Talking Christmas Card has been a part of the holiday programming at KICY since the early days. In fact, as I posted the event on Social Media, there were comments posted from former volunteers who remembered participating when they were on staff. The Talking Christmas Card is one more way KICY provides connections and encouragement between the villages in both Western Alaska and the Russian Far East.

