

October 6/18, 1897<sup>1</sup>

Report to the Alaska Consistory



I have the honor of appealing to the Alaska Consistory [the rest of the sentence is illegible but basically the priest is discussing the need to have a bell sent for the Hoonah church from San Francisco; the cost is \$15]. One of the Hoonah Indians, a 32-year-old pagan by the name of Tunakh, who is very sympathetic to Orthodoxy, having seen that his fellow villagers' hopes of having a church built in Hoonah have not materialized, expressed his wish to satisfy at least one of their many desires. In one of his conversations with me he expressed a wish to pay for a church bell for Hoonah. This is the first case of a pagan making a donation to the Orthodox Church in Hoonah. This kind Kolosh [Tlingit] Indian wants to hang this bell near the largest house in Hoonah, where the Orthodox Kolosh could gather for collective prayer. Tunakh himself, along with his entire family, will soon be baptized.

Priest Alexander Yaroshevich

**Translation by:**

Sergei Kan  
Professor of Anthropology  
Dartmouth College

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<sup>1</sup> The date on this report lists day according to the Julian Calendar and then the Gregorian Calendar. The Julian Calendar was used by the Russian Government until its abolition by the Soviet Government in February 1914.

Alaska Switched to the Gregorian Calendar for secular affairs in October 1867 while the Russian Orthodox Church continued to use the Julian Calendar. In 1897, the Julian Calendar was 12 days behind the Gregorian Calendar. In 1901, the Julian Calendar became 13 days behind and will remain 13 days behind until 2100.