

# Dear friends,

Admittedly, in Global Recording Network's quest for reaching "the last, the least, and the lost," Point Barrow Iñupiat, is not priority number one. However, I make no apology for standing with Molly Pederson to claim Isaiah 42:3 as a promise that her language will not be lost.

In fact, Project Flickering Flame has become a project focusing on all of Alaska's languages, which are to a large degree fading away. Sociologists affirm that it is no coincidence that dying languages, fading cultures, loss of individual vocabulary word count, alcoholism, domestic abuse, child abuse and suicide are part of a mosaic that is singular. And sadly, it is a well-established fact that Alaska leads the rest of the United States in almost all of these areas.

With today's technology, however, we can give these people's languages back to them and hopefully a degree of distinction and dignity. For example, within this last year the whaling village of Point Barrow has changed the community's name back to the original Iñupiat name of Utqiagvik.

GRN's motivation is not primarily to preserve dying languages but to **support the people that speak those languages and the generations to come with a witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

## Preserving the Word

To accomplish the marriage of audio, video, graphics, and a second language subtitle, and keep it available on the Internet with 24/7 access, it takes a team of professional specialists and a lot of hardware that are often taken for granted. I am glad to tell you that most of that infrastructure is in place and at work, but it needs your prayer and financial stewardship to go the distance.

We anticipate in the future moving more intensely from audio only to graphic/video supported sound, which will compete in both the social media and the dedicated media. GRN will continue "telling the story of Jesus in every language," including that of the Iñupiat.



God Bless You,

*Larry DeVilbiss*  
**Larry DeVilbiss**

INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
GLOBAL RECORDINGS NETWORK USA



## PRAY

Please join us in praying for vision, provision, and faith to move into those "last" situations and languages with confident joy. And, **PRAY** for a new wave of technically gifted people to enter with us into these opportunities through "obedience of the Gospel." II Cor. 9:13

Sign up to receive Together in Prayer, our team's ongoing prayer requests, at [GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Pray](https://GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Pray)



## PREPARE

Do you have a neighbor with whom you could share the story of Jesus? Does your church organize short-term mission trips? Whether you encounter neighbors near or far, our website and 5fish app are designed to help you **PREPARE** for these key moments.

Access free, downloadable Bible stories today to begin telling the story of Jesus with us at

[GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Resources](https://GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Resources)



## PROVIDE

Our online recordings are given as a gift to churches, ministry partners, and people around the world free of charge. GRN has the economic provision to continue this work only because of people like you that **PROVIDE** ongoing, generous financial support.

You can donate securely online at [GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Donate](https://GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Donate)

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Telling the story of Jesus in every language

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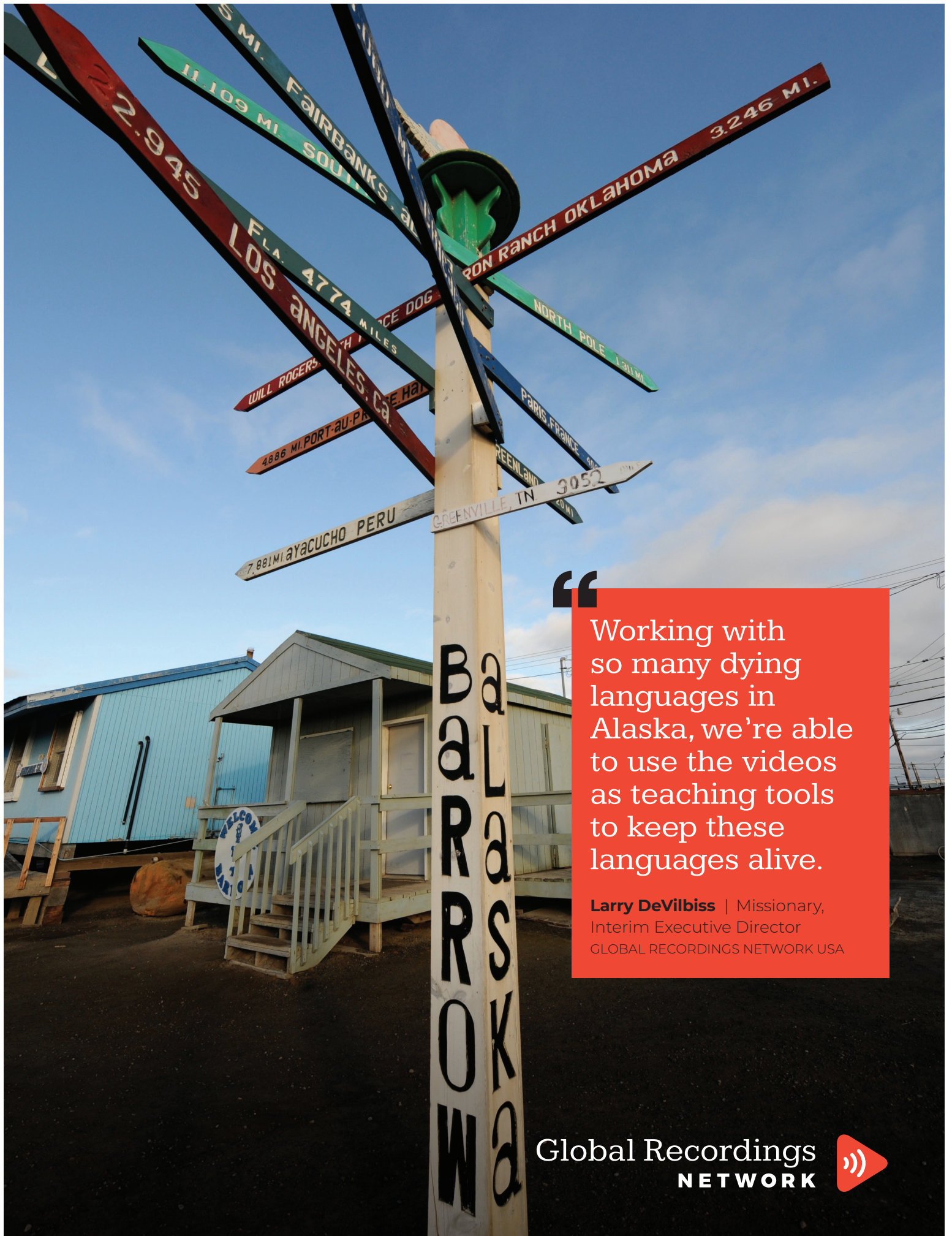
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We invite you to hear **Larry DeVilbiss** share his story about saving the languages of Alaska by telling the story of Jesus.

Listen at

[GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Stories](https://GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Stories)



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Working with so many dying languages in Alaska, we're able to use the videos as teaching tools to keep these languages alive.

**Larry DeVilbiss** | Missionary,  
Interim Executive Director  
GLOBAL RECORDINGS NETWORK USA

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# Saving a dying language



I'm **Larry DeVilbiss** serving with Global Recordings Network USA (GRN). I was raised on a homestead up in Alaska and so that's always been home. I've been involved with helping recording projects here in Alaska as well as in Siberia and South America.

One of my favorite stories is about the Iñupiat in Alaska. We were approached by Molly Pederson who was very concerned about the younger generations losing the Iñupiat language. She came to us and asked if there was a way that it could be recorded and put on video along with subtitles in English. Her hope was that their young people could hear the language, see the English, and the video would then become a teaching tool.

Along with GRN recordist Dan Rulison, we told Molly that we would do everything in our power to make it happen. So, I received some training, we prepared the script and planned to have the translation accomplished with Molly's help.

She flew out of Point Barrow, the farthest northern community in the United States, to translate the scripts and make the recordings during one of her annual trips to The Native Musicale.

During a performance at The Native Musicale, **she announced that their language would not be snuffed out and claimed the verse Isaiah 42:3, as a promise for their culture and language.** This verse has become the motto now for our recording projects for other languages in Alaska.

The location we used to record and videotape was the very same cabin that Joy Ridderhoff, founder of Gospel Recordings in 1947, had used to make the very first recordings in Alaska in the Dena'ina language.

Using the video with subtitles was pretty significant for GRN. **Working with so many dying languages in Alaska, and those languages not much in use anymore, we're able to use the videos as teaching tools to keep these languages alive.**

A bruised reed he will not break,  
and a smoldering wick  
he will not snuff out.

**ISAIAH 42:3 [NIV]**



Larry became a recordist and has been engaged with GRN for over 50 years in Alaska and South America.



Chief Alex's cabin was the original location where GRN's Joy Ridderhoff recorded the stories of Jesus in Dena'ina.



"The Native Musicale" is held each year during Anchorage's Annual Fur Rendezvous.

We anticipate in the very near future being able to produce the same Dena'ina language using this same video format running subtitles. And, we've been told that the Dena'ina language recordings will be integrated into the University of Alaska curriculum as a language learning tool.

There's a lot of different ways that Global Recordings can be used, and we're glad that we found a new one. ■

# A Flickering Flame

It was the **mid-60's** when Wallace Bays, the principal of a small Christian boarding school, encouraged students to **share their Christian testimonies and native lore**. They called the program **"The Native Musicale,"** and performed each year during Anchorage's Annual Fur Rendezvous held in late February.

In 2017, the final presentation of the week of the Native Musicale was performed by the Point Barrow Choir. Point Barrow, Alaska, the northernmost city in the United States, has a proud faith heritage and community choir.

The last verse of the last song, written by Warren M., was Isaiah 42:3, "A bruised reed will he not break, and a dimly burning wick will he not quench:"

At the end of the song, choir member Molly Pederson announced with praise to God that they were claiming this prophecy about Christ's behavior as **a promise that their language and culture would not be snuffed out.**

Just a couple years earlier, **Molly's devotion** to her language and her Lord, **led her to translate and record the "Good News – Point Barrow Iñupiatun"** with Global Recordings Network. It's people like Molly who help keep the story of Jesus in her native language, a flickering flame.



You can listen and watch **Molly's** recordings of the Good News by going online to [GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Molly](https://GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Molly)