

LIGHTSHINE MINISTRIES IN ALASKA

P.O. Box 777 Mount Joy, PA 17552

www.lightshineministries.org

email: lightshinealaska@comcast.net

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

December 2008

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

At this time of year, much of Alaska is sleeping under a lot of snow. Temperatures persuade many to stay inside and the warmth of the sun is only a distant memory. Some Alaskans travel during this time of year but many spend lots of time visiting and spending time with friends.

This is an awesome time for the ministry of the local church. Native villages in rural Alaska are facing extremely high fuel costs this winter. Many people have chosen to move to larger cities like Anchorage and Fairbanks because they cannot afford to live in the rural villages. People are living with a lot of stress - this is an awesome time for the local church to minister to them and help them focus on God's great love. Relationships are built when people come together in hard times.



Would you please pray for the churches we have worked with? Please take time right now to pray that God strengthens the pastors and staff people of these churches:



1. **Copper Center Community Chapel**
- Wilbur Joe and Ken Johns
2. **Kenny Lake Community Chapel**
- Len and Brenda Richison
3. **New Destiny Church** in Anchorage -
- Mike & Barbara Curtis
4. **Freedom in Christ Church** in North Pole - Rick & Ruth Sikma

Our goal as a ministry is to come alongside these churches and help them by providing tools that enhance their ministry. **Kenny Lake Community Church (KLCC)**, for instance, is looking to plant churches in places that currently don't have one. The small town of Chitina is their first goal. Please pray for the people of Chitina and pray that KLCC can purchase a building that we could help them refurbish and put into use. **Copper Center Community Church** desperately needs a pastor. Please pray for them as they continue to look for one. It's tough to find a pastor that can work with minimal pay and still be self-sustaining in rural Alaska. **Freedom in Christ Church (FICC)** really needs your prayer that God would give them wisdom in how to connect with people who are struggling to heat their homes this winter. They are close to Fairbanks which is the most northern city in America; it is very cold there. Please pray for the leaders of FICC that God would supply all their needs and help them give generously to the people God brings to them. You could pray for **New Destiny Church (NDC)** in the same way. As people have their way of life challenged by a changing

economy, stress follows ... and with stress comes all kinds of needs. **Pray for New Destiny Church** as they also look for a permanent building. **Pray** also for wisdom - they have been talking to us about starting a brand new Bible camp near Talkeetna for native children and families. Our goal is to help them build and establish this camp.

So could you join us in 2009? We need team members and people to support our teams. We also need people who want to be part of our growing staff. Have you visited our website lately? Some people get worried about the future and wonder if Jesus is returning soon. I can't think of a better reason why you shouldn't serve people in places like Alaska. Never forget what missionary Jim Elliot once said:

He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose!

Jim Elliot was one of the 5 men murdered by the very people they were seeking to save from eternal separation from God in hell. Please don't forget that the Bible teaches that hell is a very real place. **All have sinned and fall short of God's glory** (Romans 3:23) and **the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord** (Romans 6:23). Don't ever forget God's deep love for people (Romans 5:8). He died for us so that we could be with Him forever! **But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name** (John 1:12). Those simple but profound truths are the heart of the Gospel. We are compelled to help the churches in Alaska and proclaim these truths. **People need to confess** (Romans 10:9) **the Name of Jesus Christ, repent of their sins and yield their lives to Him**. All of us need to do this. And once we do, **Jesus told us to GO into all the world and make disciples of all nations** (Matthew 29:19-20).



Now it's an obedience issue. Honestly! LightShine Ministries is growing and more and more people are contacting us and asking for help. We know of several churches that need to be built. **We need skilled people who can help to make this happen.** We know several pastors who struggle to find time to do basic repairs on their homes and churches during the crucial summer months before the extreme Alaskan cold sets in. Lots and lots of people also need firewood cut. Would you help us? The needs go on and on. **Could you help us?** LightShine Ministries is about finding those needs and meeting them with people like you!

One thing we really need to work towards is purchasing our own property in Alaska that could serve as a hub of activity for our work teams. 2009 will be the 14th year of taking people to Alaska to work. Our goal is to eventually take teams every month that will help build the facilities of the Body of Christ all over Alaska. But in order to do that we need to establish a base of operations where we can house and train teams, store vehicles and tools.

As many of you know, someone offered to match every dollar that is donated before March 2009 up to \$20,000. **As of the writing of this newsletter, we have raised \$4,712.34 that will be matched dollar for dollar.** Thanks to all of you who have helped us get this far. But we are only a quarter of the way to our goal. **Please help us maximize this matching fund.** This money will be used to build our ministry and help it become more self-sustaining. And please consider volunteering your time and getting involved in one of our Alaska teams in 2009. Visit our website and make some plans today. Thank you so much!

April Work Team April 1-10, 2009

Mountain Home Fellowship Palmer, AK

Carpenters, insulation, metal roofers, and general laborers are needed to complete a large room for housing future teams.

September Work Team Sept. 19-28, 2009

Globe Creek Camp Fairbanks, AK

Natural Rock Veneer specialist, sanding and oiling cabin logs, and finishing any uncompleted jobs from previous teams.

May Work Team May 23-31, 2009

Globe Creek Camp Fairbanks, AK

General carpentry, roofing cabins, laying tile flooring in kitchen, sanding and oiling exterior logs, and general labor.

CONTACT US TODAY!
www.lightshineministries.org