

*Our 14th Year!*

# LIGHTSHINE MINISTRIES IN ALASKA

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Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

September 2009

## ***RADICAL GENEROSITY!***

We have seen God work! We have seen the fruit of our labor. We are changed people! There is much **joy** in giving and we will never go back to a lifestyle of living merely for ourselves.

*Let them shout for joy and be glad, who favor my righteous cause; and let them say continually, "Let the LORD be magnified, Who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant." And my tongue shall speak of Your righteousness and of Your praise all the day long.* Psalm 35:27-28 NKJV

This has been an awesome year and we thank God for His direction and provision. **There are so many opportunities to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in Alaska!** Has God given you the spirit of a pioneer missionary? Have you ever cultivated that longing to do something for the Lord that really stretches you and accomplishes something that truly blesses people? Do you need a challenge in your life? Even more importantly, **are you lacking true joy?** Jesus said that the thief only comes to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10). I am convinced that much of what is taken by the enemy is our **joy**. Instead, many people live under a weight of guilt and self condemnation. But remember, Jesus went on to say, **"... I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly"**.

Just sit and think about how much of our lives are wasted doing things that divert us from what God chose us to do before the foundation of the world. And think of the people that are not blessed by our obedience to God's calling!



I recently talked to a man who has everything he will ever need to live out his life "comfortably" (*as he put it*); but during the conversation I realized that he is not a happy man. Why? Because he has been diverted by the enemy of our souls to build his own kingdom here on earth and not the Kingdom of Jesus Christ - and the result? ...he is not fulfilled. He is not a "joyful" man. **Please pray with me that God would move in the hearts of His people to lead them out of a selfish, hoarding mentality, teaching them to give more of their time and talents in order to better equip local churches and Bible camps with tools for leading people to Jesus Christ.** This principle is not even about building a particular ministry. This is a deeper **"Kingdom Principle"** that should permeate the entire Body of Christ - the Church. This is what ultimately brings glory to our Creator and destroys the work of Satan in this world.

Have you ever been tempted to think about who "deserves" to be blessed and who does not? Some have

*Discipling children and strengthening families is the primary focus of Globe Creek Camp in Fairbanks, Alaska*

been raised to think that before we give to people they should show signs of “deserving” it. While some may think that is a harsh statement, I believe many in the church do not give more to ministry work because they think this way. Some of us have been tempted to think, “But what if we give to someone and they don’t properly manage what we gave them? What if they don’t show signs of being a good steward or *manager* as Jesus pointed out in Luke 16? Should we still give to them? What if we give a house to someone who isn’t a believer and they don’t show signs of giving their lives to Jesus Christ? What if they use what we give them for themselves?”

Please allow me to be bold with you. **Think of how much God has given His Church; we sin when we hoard it for ourselves.** The grace of God is displayed in how much He gives us regardless of whether or not we “deserve” it. The fact is we don’t deserve anything He gives us. He is holy and we are not. But He continues to give us health and wealth, beautiful families, and a land of freedom to live in. The question is: what do we really **need** to live on? What if God gives us more? **Can we maintain our current lifestyles and give the rest away?** As His children, God’s desire for us is that we mirror His grace to others and be **radically generous!** Consider comparing your level of giving with your level of deep and lasting joy. I have experienced true joy when I live a lifestyle of service and giving to people. And I want to encourage you to explore that principle in the future in whatever ministry God has called you to help.



Do you know any of these men? Every one of them knows the meaning of giving of themselves - *servant as Jesus did*. They are currently working in Eagle, Alaska giving of their time to rebuild buildings after a devastating ice flood in May destroyed part of the village. **Let me tell you, they are experiencing the joy of giving!** And many of you who sent them should feel their **joy**. Thank you for sending them. Thank you for answering the need they presented when they sent you their letters requesting support. Because of many of you, they are currently blessing the people of Eagle, Alaska. Please visit our website in a week and see some photos of the work they accomplished. We also want to thank those who gave to Jason Hamilton’s bike ride fundraiser which raised about \$2900 toward the work in Eagle!

### LightShine Alaska Staff

Tom Denlinger - *Director*  
 Jeff Zimmerman - *Treasurer*  
 Scott Shenk - *Administrator*  
 Teri Newell - *Bookkeeper*  
 Kris Polizzi - *Administrative Assistant*

Mel Miller - *Team Leader*  
 Rob Paire - *Team Leader*  
 Jerry Polizzi - *Team Leader*  
 Jeremy schmoel - *Team Leader*  
 Dennis Schlossman - *Team Leader*

*General Volunteers*  
 Ruth Denlinger  
 Larry Newell  
 Brian Shaffer

Please consider your involvement in this ministry in the future. **Will you please pray for me and our staff** as we solidify more team assignments for next year? **We need your prayer.**

God is the One who grants us favor and His mighty provision. He is also the One Who gives us wisdom. We need His wisdom - not just in running the “*business*” of ministry but also in hearing His voice and following His lead. **Please pray for us.** Thank you so much!

Tom Denlinger - *Ministry Director*



**Transporting our teams is a major concern for our ministry. Would you consider helping us purchase a large vehicle or donating a large vehicle like a Passenger Van or Chevy Suburban for carrying our teams and supplies? Smaller SUVs, pickups and cars are also needed. Donating a vehicle can be used as a tax deduction. Contact us for more information!**



Please consider serving with us. Visit our website and ask God what He would have you do!

[www.lightshineministries.org](http://www.lightshineministries.org)

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