



NORTHERN
LIGHTS
MISSIONS

ALASKA NEWS LETTER

Jan 2024



Temp, low -27° High -18° partly cloudy



What will 2024 bring...

As we start the New Year, we want to say thank you for the continued support and prayers.

A quick look at 2023 would show you that God has blessed us with a great year of ministry, using the teams of volunteers, the staff & board members at NLM and all of our partnering churches.

In 2023, we had work teams, VBS, student activities, youth camps and so much more. We are especially excited about the salvations and baptisms and the continued growth of the village churches as we see the members stepping up to help plan the summer of 2024. , we believe that this will be an exceptional year!



What will 2024 bring?

Shelly and I would like to share some news and ask you to pray with us as we have been thinking about our future and how God wants to use us going forth. This year I turned 57 and Shelly....well anyway! We have prayed and feel that for now God wants us to continue serving here in Alaska. So what do we do? Or how can we do more? As we have prayed about this, our focus has been not only on the churches, but on the communities and as you have heard me say “we do life with the people” so how can we help them more and especially the younger generations in their 20s and 30s. God has placed in our heart to start a vocational school...That’s right a school at NLM where in a Christian environment we can help men and women learn trades along with basic maintenance and home skills, remember much of Alaska is in remote areas and we simply don’t have the convenience of resources close by. The building will be the single largest investment that we have had to make, remember the building at NLM was an old Southern Baptist Church that had closed and was owned by FBC Delta Junction, who so graciously donated it to NLM two years after we located here in Tok. This past spring after six years of prayer and work we purchased 2.3 acres of land joining us on the west side of the NLM building, believing that God would show us how to use that property and so we now know step one for that property will be the NLM Vocational School and Multi-purpose building. For now, we will pause but there will be more news and progress to share as we go through the summer, but for now, pray for our financial needs to be met, for our teams of volunteers that will help with this project and for us as leader (NLM Board and Staff) as we plan forward.

Our Verse to pray about this project is Proverbs 16:3 *commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established.*

January 1, 2024

Updates, Well its Jan 1st so that means we have reached the midway point of winter and darkness, today the sunrise is 10:07am and sunset at 3:55pm but each day we will see a few more minutes of daylight until one day the sun will stay in the sky long enough to bring warmth and the melting of snow, and eventually no more darkness just sunshine and mosquitoes!

This Thanksgiving & Christmas, our giving of gifts was a great success and we appreciate each of you that helped in so many ways. If you didn't see our Thank you video and would like to receive it, just send me an email and we will email you the link. We gave out over 1200 gifts, so many warm socks, PJ sets, winter hats along with toys and other gifts. Everywhere we went, people greeted us with smiles and hugs of appreciation, and you played a big part in these blessings. Shelly really enjoys this project, so thank you on her behalf.

We have filled our summer schedule for teams and interns, and we are actively working to have all the supplies and resources on hand here in Tok, so that we can have a great time together this summer. We are also excited about the first-time visits from several new church partners and the opportunity to reconnect with our old friends.

Throughout the rest of the winter, we are focusing on the local churches, with some travel to a few of the remote villages. Each village church is doing so good, growing and learning about God...in 2025, we are planning to take some of our church members to do missions and serve others.

Winter is also a time when we really enjoy being invited to the local schools to bring in the bouncy houses and have afternoons filled with fun and activities with the children. And a time when we join with the local villages in their many winter activities, dinners, games, sledding, fishing and dog races!

Prayer Request and Praises

- Travel plans for family and church visits in March.
- The new converts and the churches as they grow in Christ
- Pastors, Jeff Sulfridge, Bryan Watson, Ben McGatlin
- For our Partnering Churches along with NAMB and the generosity of our individual supporters for the financial support in 2023&4



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