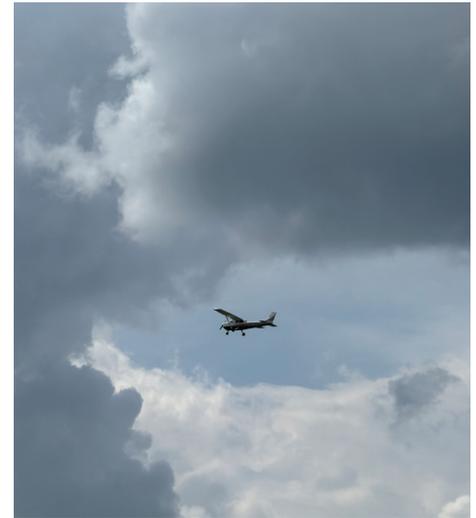




Alaska Mission Project Update



Challenged to Trust

Friends and family, we are happy to tell you about God's faithfulness. As we have been preparing for our departure for Alaska, there have been times when the mountains to climb have seemed too high, bringing us to our knees and requiring us to ask God for the strength to bear them. We have been living off tree jobs since February, and God has supplied us with jobs as we've needed and had a chance to do them.

The other month, we had the opportunity to do a couple of jobs, one particularly big one, for which we needed to put some money in the bank. Money was getting spent, but I started getting nervous when the money was mainly flowing out and not in. A friend

from church texted me while we were in Alaska and said that they had a neighbor who needed some tree work done. We swung in to give that person a quote on our way home from Alaska. The quote was accepted, and we started planning around schedules and weather to complete the work. The location of the job was over an hour's drive away and was a big job with over 10 trees to drop around buildings and fences. These jobs can be intense, but the homeowner probably wouldn't call for help if they were easy. The job took us three days, and it wore us out a bit, but our client was so lovely and pleasant to work for, even helping with their tractor to move the debris. God is so good!

Sometimes, at least for me, but for some of you, we can overthink situations and worry about things that won't happen, for instance, if the money is getting uncomfortably low. There is an expression that talks about worrying ourselves out of the hands of Christ, which I find easy to do. So many times we don't trust God. We'd rather do what we think we must and don't bother to labor in prayer, asking for His guidance and deliverance. This reminds me of the story when the disciples and Jesus were in a boat and a storm came upon them. They lost their minds for a while and finally remembered their master, also in the boat. Here is a beautiful paragraph that speaks about this thought.

“How often the disciples’ experience is ours! When the tempests of temptation gather, and the fierce lightnings flash, and the waves sweep over us, we battle with the storm alone, forgetting that there is One who can help us. We trust to our own strength till our hope is lost, and we are ready to perish. Then we remember Jesus, and if we call upon Him to save us, we shall not cry in vain. Though He sorrowfully reproves our unbelief and self-confidence, He never fails to give us the help we need. Whether on the land or on the sea, if we have the Saviour in our hearts, there is no need of fear. Living faith in the Redeemer will smooth the sea of life, and will deliver us from danger in the way that He knows to be best.” (The Desire of Ages)

As we move to Alaska, with all the logistical challenges involved, we are challenged to trust and know that God is on our side. We are about His business and that He will supply all of our needs according to His riches in glory. Alaska has its unique challenges, and one of them is the cost of living, which is high, especially compared with the other places that AWA has projects. As I've been getting numbers together for the prices of moving to and living in Alaska, I've had to deal with a bit of sticker shock. But at this point, can I turn around and say the souls in Alaska aren't worth the expense, or that God can't provide for the needs of the project? Can I deny God's providence we've seen so far in His leading us to this project? Now is the time to lean hard into God and trust His sufficiency.

We are in Kentucky, house-sitting for our friends, doing some more tree work for old clients, and doing a couple of church presentations here in our old stomping grounds. We traveled to AWA headquarters to present

at AWA's home church in Wilson, NC. While there, I saw a stack of boxes containing copies of the book “Steps to Christ” that I had bound while working at the press! That was encouraging to know that my time at the press was not wasted. Also, I got a little flying in with AWA's chief pilot Jarrett Moss, which was great. I hadn't been flying for some time, so he was able to help me knock some rust off in preparation for Alaska. Things are moving forward!

Please join us in prayer for the work in Alaska. We pray that God's plans, not ours, will become a reality and that we will daily align ourselves with Him, trusting in Him through every storm.



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**Josh, Yosiday, Isaac and Caleb Fix
are your AWA Missionaries
preparing to serve at
AWA's Alaska Mission Base**