



Rivers of Living Water

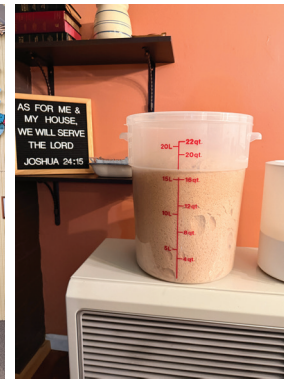
We are back in Alaska! We are thankful we had the opportunity to see some of our friends and family for some time. So grateful and blessed for all the love they showed us. We came back just in time to be part of some of the community events around here this time of year. It's a small community, especially in the wintertime, and we want to be part of their family.

We're on the home stretch of winter here in Alaska. There's been a lot of sunshine, almost as if it's nature's attempt to redeem for lost time during the long winter nights of the last four months or so. Spring is on its way! Still, it's hanging around the 0-degree mark, and things are more difficult to do because of the cold.

We've been blessed with a generator purchased by the Alaskan Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists for our use in warming up the plane before flights. We have to

preheat the airplane to thaw everything out so it starts easier and all the controls operate. I've been putting a little space heater under the engine cowling to warm the engine and limber up the engine controls. It's a constant battle to keep things going up here, fighting against the elements to make progress or even for survival itself. Yesterday I flew some cabinets to the parsonage in a village about 60 miles away called Togiak.

I also flew some folks from the Hope Channel, so they could see and record life in an Alaskan Village. As we got in the air, we could see snow machine tracks across the frozen tundra, where locals travel to the villages. It's dangerous, and sometimes people are hurt or killed because of accidents. People can fall through ice while crossing a river if they're not careful, crash if they lose control while traveling at a higher speed, or there's even



these things called “hot holes” where geothermal activity creates a pocket of warm water rather randomly out on the tundra which can spell trouble if you’re traveling on a snow machine and don’t see it in time.

We made it to Togiak, unloaded the plane into a waiting pickup truck, and then I waited for passengers to take me to Dillingham. I needed to take one of the missionaries and a local church member into town to go to the bank so they could talk to the banker. They had been talking about going to town for about a month, but even going to the bank is quite the ordeal when you live in a remote village.

Once they arrived at the airport, we loaded up and headed back across the mountains and tundra. After we parked the plane in Dillingham, I drove them to the bank to drop them off, grabbed a homemade burrito from my wife, and went back to the plane to make sure it stayed thawed and loaded up the remaining cabinets.

Once our friends were done at the bank, we took off back to Togiak through some light snow. As we flew, we talked about some of the challenges of wilderness Alaska. In a way, it’s like life here on this earth. We’re at odds with the darkness and cold of this world of sin. God has His people in this world who are not of the world. Jesus wants to have ambassadors in this world who experience Him and share their experience, joy, and love with others. He says in John chapter 7, “If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink. He that believeth on Me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.” We live in a world like a barren wilderness, and people are looking for a place to rest. An oasis. Jesus is that oasis, and we can be conduits for the living water that flows from Him. As we receive His Spirit, we can bear fruit that people can enjoy!

We pray that we can be part of that oasis for the people around us here in Alaska and, through the gifts and tools we’ve been given, come into contact with those in need.

Once we landed back in Togiak, we unloaded our passengers and cargo, loaded up the two folks from the Hope Channel, and flew back to Dillingham, through mostly clear skies. It feels like we live on the edge of the earth sometimes, as we fly from village to village, and you see wide expanses of wilderness. Still, God is working here just as surely as anywhere. Sometimes it feels as if He’s closer here in the quiet.

Keep us in prayer that we can help people see that God sees them, cares for them, and wants them to feel His peace that passes all understanding. He wants them to take His invitation to “Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28)

—Josh Fix

ALASKA PROJECT NEEDS:

- \$50,000 for Avionics Upgrades
- \$5,000 for winter heating oil for the missionaries’ home.

PRAYER REQUEST:

- For God to provide some hanger space for the remaining cold months.



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