

Daylight, and lots of it—that's what we are enjoying right now. Never mind the temperatures because the snow is almost gone and the ground will thaw soon. That means we can start building a house. You heard right—no more house sitting, renting, and moving. We purchased a lot just outside of Soldotna proper but within the city limits. The plans are almost ready and we hope to break ground soon. The house is a little smaller than we have had, but will include two extra bedrooms and a kitchen/living area in the bonus space above the garage so that we can have guests. Ministry families often come out from the remote villages and spend time in our area and away from the 24/7scrutiny of their village. During their time out they often seek coaching, debriefing, counseling, and fellowship from our team. We don't have enough of this kind of short term housing available in our area and our house will help fill that need. We invite any of you to come and help us build the house. Homebuilding in Alaska is expensive. We are providing most of the labor to keep the cost down and the house affordable.

Thanks to all of you who prayed for us over the past months. I (Mike) spoke in April at a conference for pastors in Bethel on Spiritual Healing and Conflict Resolution. The pastors enjoyed learning from the material I presented as much as I did studying it. Here is a snapshot of what I presented:

Conflict began in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve sinned. We inherited that nature to sin and conflict is inevitable in this world. God gave us a model to resolve conflict. God reconciled us to Himself through Christ his son so we could restore our relationship (think fellowship or community) with Him. God meant us to be in relationships with people—not in conflict. The Bible outlines God's model of reconciliation and I chose a theme verse from Ephesians 4:32 to focus on: "...as God in Christ forgave you."

From Bethel I traveled back to Anchorage to meet with missionaries serving with SEND North. All of the SEND missionaries in Alaska and Northern Canada came in for a week of meetings and invited our staff to join them on the last day of the conference. I was able to meet with many of the families. From Anchorage I traveled to Port Alsworth for a weekend family conference. Ranada met me there. Together with a good friend from our church and another staff member, we helped the camp staff by preparing all the meals for 150 people. We enjoyed cooking but the time we got to spend fellowshipping with and listening to ministry families from that area was far more valuable. During that week, several families asked to spend time with us so they could debrief their ministry experience before they plunge back into another season of ministry.

Please continue to keep us in prayer for these items:

- As we begin to build our home, for lots of volunteers, and safety on the project
- For volunteers for all the work projects we have planned in the villages
- As we prepare to debrief ministry families during the summer
- For a June trip to a village asking for help resolving conflicts in their church
- For additional support partners.

Enjoy the attached photo of the sunrise we watched as we worked in the kitchen at Tanalian Bible Camp. Blessings to you...

Mike and Ranada

