

Greetings to all our friends:

We want to update you on our summer activities. Our summer work teams have come and gone but work remains to be done on several projects. The Moravian Seminary in Bethel needs help re-roofing one building—they train Alaskan Natives to be pastors. Tanalian Bible Camp also needs help completing a duplex that will house some of their staff. Ranada's brother Paul and his two oldest sons came to work on the housing at Tanalian Bible Camp and spent time with us before and after the project—we always enjoy having visitors. Contact us if you would like to help with one of the projects!

During July, Ranada helped cook at Tanalian Bible Camp for one of their kid's camp weeks and I went out to help them build the staff housing. After that week, we took a little time to get our fish. In one day, we netted, cleaned, vacuum sealed, and froze thirty-five 6-10 pound red (sockeye) salmon. We eat fish once or twice a week and see that provision as a blessing. The rest of our time was consumed with a variety of ministry including preparations for this fall's Ministry Family Retreat. I (Mike) lead the team that plans and prepares our ABM staff to host this event. We spent time with visiting ministry families, hosting some at the home we are in and debriefing others as they look back on their ministry experience. Ranada spent several days in a remote village visiting a pastor and his wife to encourage them as they minister where some of the people come to church, some won't, and the rest would rather steal the pastor's gas and fuel oil.

Some of you know that we bought a lot on which to build a home in Alaska. The lot is within the city Soldotna but in a more rural area. Since buying the lot in March, we have designed a home, had the plans engineered (think 20 or more earthquakes per week), had an energy rating done, done cost estimates, gotten bank approval for construction and long term financing, started moving dirt, and built a greenhouse. That's it. The caveat: the bank loan requires that our house in Wisconsin be sold first. That house is back on the market and there has been a little interest but no offers. Please be in prayer for us that the Wisconsin house would sell soon. We look forward to having our own home. As a staff, ABM needs a place where ministry families coming in from the remote villages can stay for periods of rest, debrief, conflict resolution, and more. Right now, no one on staff has that room or capacity. Our house is designed with a guest area where we can care for such families.

Thanks again for partnering with us in ministry. We appreciate all of you and covet your prayers. Do keep in touch and let us know how we can be praying for you too!

Mike and Ranada



Working with a crew on the Tanalian Bible Camp housing project.