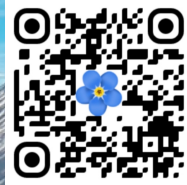


Pray for Job and Bethany Hale



Church Planting Missionaries In:

Napakiak, Alaska

March 2025 Update

Dear fellow-laborers –

This past month we have seen a lot going on in Napakiak. Thank you for your prayers as we deal with different things that come up in ministry, in the community and in our personal lives. One morning last week we were woken up by a knock on the door. It was a man, a member of our church, coming with the news that his nephew had **passed away a couple hours earlier by overdose**. This man was someone for whom we've been praying for years and who was bound to a drug addiction. He was the last surviving son of a faithful couple in our church after they lost their other son to cancer five months ago. We have been ministering to the family as we are able.

It can be hard to know what to do or say in the face of such tragic circumstances, but we are so glad that we serve the God of all comfort and that the Christians in this family are clinging to Jesus' hope. Our prayer is that the ones who are non-believing will be drawn to Christ through this, and that the devil's bitterness will not take root in any of these dear ones' hearts.

There were two other deaths and subsequent funerals here in town in the past week. **The community is struggling with grief**, and many are turning to alcohol and other substances to try take away the pain. There is hopelessness, anger, fear, and heartache gripping villages all over Alaska – depression and suicide are widespread, families are wrecked, and lives are mired in despair. The light of Christ is a bright ray of hope to these people if they can just take hold of it. We need more laborers here to reach out and touch these people for the Lord. **Pray that God will send more helpers for his work here in Alaska**. The field is white and ready for harvest.

Due to the recent deaths, our scheduled missions conference did not go quite as planned; we amended the services in order to be there for the bereaved families but still put a focus on missions. One of the missionary families we had coming needed to stay in their village and handle some deaths that had happened there as well, so they were unable to visit. The other family was Elijah and Natalie Helms - they have four children and have planted a church in Cordova, Alaska. We enjoyed having them here for a week and showing the people more of the concepts of Biblical mission work and giving. The Lord is using the Helms to carry out his will in Cordova and they need your prayers as well.

God has blessed us with the opportunity to hunt several moose out on the Yukon and **distribute the meat to households of Napakiak**. This is a major outreach because it's a way for us to give to people without enabling what vices they may be involved in – meat is food and can only feed the hungry mouths in their home instead of going towards buying more booze or drugs.

Earlier this month my wife had the opportunity to attend a bush missionary wives' retreat hosted by a church in Anchorage. They brought ten ministry women in to Anchorage for a few days of fellowship, meals, shopping, and Bible sessions. Bethany greatly enjoyed that time and came back refreshed and encouraged. We're very grateful for people and churches who invest in us and in the ministry.

We can't do this alone; again, thank you for your prayer support, we need it! GOD IS GOOD!



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