

Pray for Job and Bethany Hale



Church Planting

Napaklak, Alaska & Villages May 2026



Hello friends!

It seems that spring has officially hit, with average daily temps in the 30's, most of our snow melted away and leaving mud in its place, and more rain than snow coming down. Now for spring cleanup - picking up everything in the yard that was hidden by the snow, and general tidying up so that we can be more efficient during our summer projects. This time of year is one of the biggest reasons why **having missions planes is such an asset** - we would be unable to go anywhere without them right now because of it being "breakup season". Since the the river ice is thawing out and the tundra is so muddy, it's almost impossible to travel around by anything but airplane. **Summer will be here soon**, and with it the very busy schedule that is coming together for the village VBS groups, putting an addition onto the church, and other things going on.

What a sweet time it was **celebrating the death-conquering power of our Saviour on Resurrection Sunday** last month. Our church had a special service that day with a focus on the new life given to us through Jesus' death, burial and rising again. Praise God for making a way for us to be reconciled to him, despite our sinfulness.

One low spot for our village was the occurrence of a suicide in early April - the first one in Napakiak for several years, which is a testament to God's life-changing light here but also of the hold of darkness still on many households. It was a middle-aged man, a member of a family that we've tried to reach into but haven't met with much reception. I can see God working to break through the apathy, and we are praying that he will be allowed to do so. There was another death in Napakiak recently - a man who froze in his home because he didn't get enough fuel for his heater - a sad highlight of the effects of alcohol usage and poor management of finances that are often seen in our villages. While these situations are not easy to walk through, **we are grateful for the comfort and peace found in Jesus**, and the opportunity to share that with families here who are going through a difficult time.

The Lord blessed us with the opportunity to go out **moose hunting** in the Yukon River area. Some friends came from Palmer, Alaska to catch moose for their families, and we got one for our freezer as well. It was a strange trip to the Yukon, because normally when we go there we see a lot of moose and can take our pick which ones we want. But this time we saw only two moose within range of our rifles, and thankfully were able to get both of them.



A very big "thank you" to everyone who prayed for my wife's surgery in New York City. We travelled down there a few days early to give her time to adjust to the time change (four hours' difference), and we enjoyed visiting the Empire State Building, the Statue of Liberty, and Central Park, as well as trying out some New York-style pizza! We were especially excited to attend two churches in the area and make some new friends. It's really amazing to go to different parts of the U.S. and find members of God's family that we can fellowship with. **Bethany's surgery went smoothly**, although she did have some trouble coming out of the anesthesia. The doctors are confident that this was the last surgery she'll have needed, and that the pain she was experiencing from the adenomyosis will be much less once she's all healed up. Her recovery is slow but steady, and she should be back to regular activity in a few weeks.

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