

THE POLAR News Flash

Winter 2013

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Sorry for the late newsletter: life in Bush Alaska has unique challenges. Last winter we had no running water, and this winter we've had mail problems. The only postal worker got sick and then her mom had health problems. Long story short - we have not been receiving mail regularly, which included our Christmas cards to send out. Sometimes God has a way of teaching us patience.

Fall brought about many blessings. People in Unalakleet are gracious to help fill our freezers with fish, moose, caribou, and berries. Adam's parents and Shirleen's best friend also came to visit us this fall to enjoy God's creation in fishing and berry picking. God always provides!

In September, Adam began watching Toby and Talia while **Shirleen taught in Thomas' classroom for 3 months** while the regular teacher was on maternity leave. Shirleen taught 23 energetic three and four year olds Monday through Friday. She came home exhausted everyday but never lacked funny stories to share. It was a great ministry opportunity for Shirleen. Shirleen also led ladies Bible Study for a few weeks. Ladies were reading through the book Power of a Praying Parent.

The youth group has been doing well. There has been around 15 High School and around 20 Jr High students each week. Additionally, the youth group Bible Study saw as many as 20 Jr and High School students at the start of the year. With the busyness of sports the number has been around 10 students. The youth group is studying the Book of Hebrews. In the beginning of October Adam also program directed the regional High School retreat in Golovin.

We added overseeing Children's Church this fall to our duties. Previously, Shirleen was a co-leader and Adam was a volunteer. Our model is still having the students who attended Christian Youth in Action training lead the services. We have had 10-30 kids each week. Our ministry partners from Child Evangelism Fellowship, came in November to do a lock-in and training.

We have had a weird winter and freeze up. In November Adam had the opportunity to attend workshops led by Luis Palau in Anchorage. During that same weekend, there was a big storm throughout Western Alaska. In some villages entire homes were lost. During the CEF lock-in, we packed 30 boxes of clothes, jackets, and food to send to our neighboring village, Stebbins.

It seems we are always busy but we are always in awe of how God is working in and thru our lives. **God is doing great things in Alaska!**

Getting to Know the Londons



We (Adam and Shirleen) celebrated our 7th anniversary in Hawaii this Thanksgiving. Hard to believe it has been that long! We went to a luau and were recognized with all of those who had December anniversaries (our's is the 16th). All of the couples got to dance on stage as everyone else watched. Shy Shirleen thought that was especially 'fun'. Seriously though, our trip was awesome.

Shirleen's dad grew up in Hawaii and still has tons of family there. We do our family 'duty' of visiting Shirleen's family when we can (about every other year). We always especially look forward to Shirleen's 84 year old Popo taking us to Chinatown in Honolulu. We also love to see the many uncles, aunts, and cousins. This was our first time spending Thanksgiving with our Hawaii family. We were blessed to also have Shirleen's dad, brother, and sister-in-law join us on this trip.

We stayed on the North Shore and the kids loved seeing wild sea turtles, cruising on a pirate ship, feeding fish at the Dole pineapple plantation, and swimming on the beach. Aloha!

Prayer Requests

- Praise God for our water situation. All summer we were on water conservation, and in August one of our supporters partnered with the city workers to find major leaks. Thank you, Brian Rodriguez! During a winter storm our transmission line broke again, but it was quickly patched this time.
- Pray that God would raise up leaders among the youth. Pray that the mature Christians would develop a passion to mentor younger ones.
- Pray that the youth intern, Thomas, would lead humbly as God leads him.
- Pray for Tommy & Talia, especially as Tommy is in school from 9-2:30, Mon-Fri

Thank you for your prayers! They DO make a difference!



Happy Birthday Talia! We celebrated Talia's 3rd birthday in September! She just missed the cut-off for school.

Snapshots



Adam leading singing during Children's Church. We are blessed with many dedicated teens to help lead the service.



Tobias is so sweet. He has 5 teeth and crawls everywhere! He can stand with support and walk along furniture.



Hippos in the zoo during a fundraising trip! Hippos are Talia's favorite! Tommy said hippos are stinky.



Tommy is holding leaf lettuce and Talia is holding a kohlrabi that we grew in our garden this summer.



Adam baptized John in the cold Bering Sea. John Henry gave his life over to Christ during Bible Camp.



Adam's parents were able to come visit us this past fall. We put them to work while they were here!

Financial Donations

We rely on financial support for 66% of our salary. Is God leading you to support this ministry? Giving by Credit Card, Debit, or Check is easy online. Just go to:

www.PolarNewsFlash.com/donate.html

If you prefer to donate by mail, please send your checks made out to CYAK to:

The Londons - c/o CYAK
PO Box 372
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**Thank you for being a part of
our support team!**



Toby and his newest cousin, Naomi. We were able to meet Naomi when she was just minutes old.