December 18, 2014

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Delta Junction, Alaska. We continue to see spiritual growth in the ones that have been coming faithfully to the services. We have a new young lady that has been coming off and on for a few months. We ask that you please keep her and the many others to whom we have been witnessing in your prayers. The devil is working overtime trying to break up families, to get people discouraged and to deceive so many with false teaching. So-called Christians are falling into the trap of "let's all work together, we are all Christians and we need to work together." They are not concerned at all about doctrine and what the Bible really teaches. "Surely if you believe there is a God, you must be a Christian." James 2:19 says "Thou believes that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble."

We praise the Lord that we still have the privilege to go to the clinic each work day morning to share a devotion and prayer. Please keep the staff in your prayers. Many are struggling with family needs as well as physical needs. Pray that I can be a help

to them spiritually and an encouragement also. Not only do I have the privilege to visit the clinic each day, but also to visit the senior assisted living center. It has been a real blessing to visit with the staff and residents. One lady we made sure we saw was Kathleen Scott. We got to know her many years ago when she lived in a little 3 room house down the Alaska Highway about 10 miles outside of town. We visited her daily and would bring her groceries, as well as Bible lessons on Sunday after church. A few years ago, she had some questions and was not sure of her salvation. We praise the Lord that we were able to take the Bible and help her. She got it all settled with her Lord and Savior. Kathleen's health for the past few years had begun to decline. About 3 weeks ago as she laid in her bed at the senior care center, not able to speak much, I was able to read John 14:1-4, & 27 to her. She had the biggest smile on her face and we had prayer with her. A few days later she went home to be with her Lord and Savior. It was a privilege and honor to be able to share the Gospel to about 45 to 50 people that gathered there at the senior care center for the celebration of the life our dear friend, Kathleen.

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We just want to praise the Lord for all He has done. It has been just over a year since Nancy was diagnosed with leukemia. Nancy has written an update on page 2 to explain where things are now with the leukemia treatment. In September we were told that there may be a heart valve replacement for her in the near future. We should know more in March. But through it all, God's grace has been sufficient and the peace only He can give has been wonderful. We appreciate all the prayers and words of encouragement that we have received from so many. They have been a blessing. "O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: For his mercy endureth for ever." Psalm 136:1

Your Missionaries,

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As most of you know, in September 2013 I was diagnosed with Chronic Myeloid Leukemia. The bone marrow and blood tests found that I have the PH Chromosome (Philadelphia Chromosome) that is a shortened chromosome number 22 and the translocation (or exchange) of 22's genetic material with chromosome number 9. When this translocation occurs, CML is the result. CML is a rare form of a slow-developing blood cancer. I was diagnosed in the chronic phase and began taking Gleevec, which binds to the enzyme of the PH chromosome and inhibits it. Gleevec does not cure CML nor does it cause a "remission". Rather, it causes a response.

I have reached the CCR (Complete Cytogenetic Response), which means no PH+ cells were detected in my last bone marrow test. But PH+ cells are still detectable in the blood. The reason for this is that the bone marrow test samples 20 cells but the blood test samples thousands of cells. The next goal is for no PH+ cells to be detected in the blood. When this occurs, there will still be some PH+ cells present, but the number will be too few to detect. I will continue to have the blood test for the PH chromosome every 3 months. As long as I continue to respond, I will take Gleevec for the rest of my life. If things change, there are other drugs that can be used to try to inhibit the disease.

We praise the Lord for the response to the Gleevec. God has worked out so many things for us in the last 15 months. The Lord has spared me thus far for a reason. It is my desire to serve Him faithfully and to fulfill the tasks He has for me.

Thank you for your words of encouragement and love gifts to help with our many medical expenses, but most of all, thank you for your prayers. I am also thankful for my loving husband who is a tremendous blessing through all this. He keeps me from getting discouraged and reminds me so often that God is in control and everything happens in our lives for a reason. Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Please continue to keep me in prayer. There is always an uneasiness each time the blood is tested for the PH+ chromosome. But God is faithful and we continue to trust Him every step of the way!

In Christian love,

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