



December 2020

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*When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. - Luke 1:41*

What a response to the greeting of the one who was carrying the Lord of Glory! How do we respond when we hear the true story of Christmas — the incarnation of the Holy One — to redeem humanity? Are we filled with the Holy Spirit? If you grow up in the faith, or even Western culture, it is easy to believe you understand the Christmas story. But, the truth of who Jesus is must be inside of us, and not only a story we have in our minds. The God that holds all time and space, and created the reality we live in has manifested Himself in Christ Jesus, the anointed Messiah, and that anointing is to set us free from the power of sin and death. Now, that is Good News!

This is the last month of a year that most of us would like to fast-forward through: isolation, sickness, social unrest, election chaos, shortages, etc. Even in the midst of this we can know Emmanuel, God with us. I also went through two weeks of suffering with Covid 19, as have many of my friends and ministry associates in Alaska. It has been difficult to accomplish ministry of any kind. But, we have kept on through calls and video, small meetings and prayer groups, to be that example of God's presence in

the Native and Interior Alaska community.

*Winter is in full effect as you can see from the picture of my house.*



#### Prayer Requests:

- Travel During Holiday for Staff and Family
- Provision During Winter Months and Health for those recovering from Covid

I recently had to purchase special studded tires for my vehicle that are better suited to all the ice and snow we have had this year. Otherwise you can't get in and out of your own driveway without getting stuck. One of our helpers, Norbert, has kindly used his own snowplow to help keep Faith Christian Mission, YWAM and my own driveway clear of snow. That is a huge blessing.

I plan to travel to Texas to see my children and seven grandchildren on December 14th through December 31st. Although I am recovered, Alaska requires a negative test before you can fly, no more than 72 hours before your flight. I am believing for no positive aspects in my test when I take it again. It has been a year since I have seen my family as I was not able to go in the summer during the lockdown.

We do need to remember in prayer so many who have lost family to this virus and those still suffering with it. We have had so many funerals for people in the church, and we all need the encouragement of the Spirit that comes from God's comforting presence.

Thank you to all who gave to repair the oil boiler

furnace for Faith Christian Mission. Extra money was raised as well and we are setting aside these funds, since we will soon have to replace the heating system in full to be more efficient. Remember what Jesus has done and be filled with the Holy Spirit that brings overflowing joy!



*Merry  
Christmas,*

*Joyce Thurlby*