

THE ALLEN'S ALASKA NEWS

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WINTER'S STILL HERE

Mountains of snow are around us and it is still snowing. The wind is blowing about 25 miles per hour. I would say we are in a blizzard **again**. This is the most snow we've seen at this time of the year since we've been here. One of the good things about it though is it's warmer. This time of the year we usually are at our coldest but we are having 20 degrees above zero weather. That probably doesn't seem warm to you but it is here. This morning I shoveled a path out to the street in front of our house. It was over three feet deep. **GOOD EXERCISE!** We are nice and cozy here though.

The fire is burning with a crackling sound and the 2 cars are being lazy. There's no place to go anyway. If you're going to live here in the winter, you've got to be a home body. I want to thank you for sending encouragement notes and letters. They mean so much to us, so please keep them coming. We also appreciate all of your prayers for us and the Village of Elim. We know God is intervening in people's lives. People's lives are being changed because of your prayers. You are our partners. We could never do the ministry here without your help.



SNOW MOUNTAIN



PARKING THE CAR



DIGGING A SNOW CAVE

A WORD FROM TERESA

As you can see from the pictures of our hearth, there are now two cats. Cathy (the grey tabby) has lived in our house for about 8 years now. This makes her about 12 years old. Hazel (the calico) is about 4 years old. We adopted her a couple of months back from a family in Nome who were unable to keep her. What fun it is to watch the two cats play, chasing one another around the house and generally creating a great deal of amusement for Terry and I.

We have included pictures on this page of 3 darling little boys too. Notice that little Keelan has his puppy all bundled into his sled too.

Little children, cats, and puppies all have something in common: The total lack of worry about the economy, world health issues, natural disasters, and other such concerns. They are fed when hungry, warmed when cold, and protected naturally. The rest of us all live daily with great concerns that often weigh us down until we become less than productive. How much better would it be if we would take the words of our Savior to heart?

His words can be found in Matthew 6:25 thru 34. It's verse 34 that really sums up the whole thing. "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

Just for today try to be like the cat by the fire or the child at play. DON'T WORRY! GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU.



HOW THEN SHALL THEY CALL ON HIM IN WHOM THEY HAVE NOT BELIEVED? AND HOW SHALL THEY BELIEVE IN HIM OF WHOM THEY HAVE NOT HEARD? AND HOW SHALL THEY HEAR WITHOUT A PREACHER?

PASTOR TERRY & TERESA ALLEN — P.O. BOX 110 ELIM, ALASKA 99739

TeresaTerryAllen@yahoo.com

(907) 890-2365

ENDURANCE

This is the time of Iditarod. Twelve hundred miles by man, dogs, and dogsled that starts in Anchorage and ends in Nome. In unbelievable weather and incredible terrain of frozen ocean, mountains, and trails that are barely visible at times. This is my fourth-time to watch the Iditarod come through Elna and I still cannot believe that they do it. How do they do it? Endurance Training. They work hard at it. You just don't gather together the minimum \$55,000 that's needed to be in the race, get your dogs and sled, then decide tomorrow I'm going to compete. It takes years of training and hard work. Without day to day working with the dogs and running in smaller races you would not only lose the race but you might even lose your life.

Sometimes in our lives we get disappointed with ourselves because we make mistakes and sometimes even fail. We want to serve God with our whole heart but sometimes we mess up. Sometimes we might even feel like giving up because we feel like we just can't do it any more. Paul, in Hebrews 12:1 talks about our Christian

walk with the Lord being a race of endurance. In the MESSAGE version of Hebrews 12:1 it says:

Do you see what this means - all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Slop down, start running - and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no permissive sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race with us. Study how He did it, because He never lost sight of where he was headed - then exhilarating finish in and with God - He could put up with anything along the way. Cross, shame, whatever. And now He's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourself flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility He plowed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your soul!

We are not in this race alone. The Holy Spirit is right there when we need strength and power. All we have to do is ask. We work on our walk with the Lord day by day and when we stumble He is there to pick us up and forgive us. We will not be perfect until we meet Jesus face to face. RUN THE RACE



WE NEED YOUR HELP

Everyone is having a hard time in the downturn of this economy. It's the same here in Elm. Last Fall Teresa and I went to the lower 48 to help raise support for the ministry here. We went to 39 churches in the Central Conference. After the first of the year we sent a letter to every church in the Central Conference asking them what they could do to help support us on an ongoing basis. We received only a few replies back saying that they could help with support on an ongoing basis. It is not the Churches fault. Every Church and every Conference is having financial problems in this economy. We do have other people and a couple of other churches that help on an ongoing basis but with the funds that are coming in, we are only at about 50% of our ongoing budget. The Alaska Conference helps out whenever possible but there are very little funds available. Without help, Teresa and I may not be able to minister here in Elm any longer. What we need is a one time donation of \$50. (some might be able to afford more) from each one on our mailing list. With that help we will be at our full budget for the next year. I know this will be a sacrifice for some of you but maybe there is some kind of project your family could do together to raise the fifty dollars. Please pray that our budget would be met. Thank you for praying, caring and loving us so much as we minister to the Native Alaskans in Elm.

There is no home or foreign in God's missionary vocabulary.



Evening View



Before the Blizzard



THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS

PRACTICAL NEEDS

