



Greetings, in the name of our Lord.

The days are growing longer and the sun is getting warmer. Spring is almost upon us here in the Great North. Soon this land of darkness will give way to the land of the midnight sun. Even though it will be a couple of months more before the ice and snow disappears, this time of year always brightens our spirits as we anticipate the coming summertime. We are now gaining around 7 minutes of daylight per day.

Sadly though, for a number of folks here in Alaska, the dark days of winter have taken their toll. The hopelessness brought about by alcoholism, domestic violence and abuse, when combined with the lack of sunlight produce a crushing depression that for some is simply too much to bear. Suicide, especially among youths, has become an epidemic in Alaska. This winter has been no exception. While these issues are not unique to Alaska, the harsh environment here has had the effect of amplifying a bad situation.

We know that true hope, healing, and forgiveness can only come from a relationship with Christ. There have been no social programs or secular counseling that has proven effective. The only thing that can cause a lasting change in our villages is the Gospel.

Please be in prayer that more people will answer the call to come to minister to the people of Alaska. The various reality shows that feature Alaska have called attention to the Last Frontier, but not always in a good or accurate way. The need here is great, but the workers are few.

Pray also, that God will give us more opportunities to share the Good News using the medium of radio as well as in person. We have a busy summer of ministry and outreach ahead of us, do pray that God will give us the strength and the resources to accomplish the task.

As always, we are thankful to God for your prayers and support of the ministry of VFCM. Your partnership is crucial to us being able to take the message of hope and salvation in Christ to rural Alaska.

Blessings,

Art Thompson  
VFCM Executive Director

