

**ALASKA 2010
MISSIONS TRIP**



JUNE 18-29, 2010

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WHAT IS THE PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE OF THE TRIP?

1. To glorify God by spreading the gospel as a unified team, assisting the students and staff of Tanalian Bible Camp during their primary summer camp. We will use our spiritual gifts and talents of service, teaching, camp-counseling, cooking, music, technology and “whatever it takes” to have a high-impact week of sharing the love of Jesus.
2. To raise up potential adult short-term mission trip leaders for the future mission endeavors of Village Bible Church, and the broader Kingdom of God, through prayer, study, equipping, and encouraging one another through our preparation for and participation in this opportunity.

WHO WILL WE BE WORKING WITH?

We will be working closely with James and Sharon Walsh. They have lived in Alaska as missionaries for nearly 19 years. James received his ministry training at LeTourneau University in Texas. After moving to Alaska to assist in the aviation support of the mission work in progress there, James began working for many years through the ministry of Tanalian Bible Camp. He has been the director of the camp for over five years. The Walsh's have four children; the oldest two have begun their studies at LeTourneau College in Texas and the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. Their other two are still at home. Interestingly, Sharon Walsh is the daughter of our very own Dave and Ginny Hartman, who attend Village Bible Church!

WHAT WILL WE BE DOING?

Though Alaska is a beautiful part of our country, this in no way is a “sight-seeing” trip. We will have a very full ministry schedule for the week that we are there. Those who the Lord calls to participate in this trip will see much of God's beautiful country as we fly into Anchorage Alaska, and travel around. We will then charter several smaller 6 - 10 person aircraft to travel the final 200 miles southwest to the town of Port Alsworth, a small town on Lake Clark where there are no roads. The camp primarily reaches out to the native people who live in the villages surrounding this area, again, where there are no roads. Nearly all of the students who attend this camp will need to be flown in as part of the outreach. We will be working with the primary campers, which are the third and fourth grade children.

WHAT ARE THE DATES OF THE TRIP? *

The dates of the trip of June 18 - 29th, depending on when we can attain the most affordable airfare to Anchorage. We will be arriving to camp 2 days before the students arrive in order to orient ourselves and to attend training provided by James Walsh and the staff of Tanalian Bible Camp in preparation for our ministry there.

WHERE WILL WE BE STAYING?

We will be staying at the Tanalian Bible Camp cabins. There are 14 cabins that sleep 8 persons each. For those serving in the camp-counselor role, there will be 2 adult counselors for every 6 students. Those on the cooking, cleaning, and other support functions will stay in adult only cabins. There newly upgraded bathroom facilities, which are in a separate bathhouse. There are coin-operated laundry facilities for the volunteer staff. You can see a You Tube clip of an airplane landing at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hnSid7jawiU> though we will be landing on the runway, not in float-planes. In this video clip you can see the TBC chapel during the last few seconds of the video.

HOW SAFE WILL I BE?

Very safe. You don't have to worry about safety from other people or bears (though they are up there). It's rare that we will see bears or other dangerous wildlife, and they are very non-aggressive and keep away from human activity. There will be a registered nurse on-site at the camp, and a sub-ministry to Samaritan's Purse is providing a doctor to be in our town of Port Alsworth during the entire time of the camp.

WHERE'S THE CLOSEST MEDICAL FACILITY IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY?

The closest medical clinic is about a 20 minute airplane ride away. The closest hospital is about a 90 minute airplane

ride away. However, Samaritan's purse provides a nurse on-site at all times, and there is a doctor in Port Alsworth - at all times during camp as well. If you have any nursing or medical education, please note so on your application.

WHAT ABOUT FOOD?

There will be a cooking crew who will prepare all of our meals for us. One thing you don't have to worry about at camp is going hungry. The food is great! If you would like to be considered for the cooking team, please note that on your application.

WHAT'S THE STUDENT TO ADULT RATIO?

2 Adults to 6 Students.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS?

1. Actively participate in church life at Village Bible, including a service role, and small group if at all possible.
2. Know how to share your personal testimony of your relationship with Jesus.
3. Be able to share the gospel clearly and simply.
4. Pray for and share the gospel with 3 people before the trip.
5. Send out 30 (or more) prayer support letters.
6. Pray for this ministry experience daily.
7. Participate in all scheduled training dates.
8. Read Before You Pack Your Bags, Prepare Your Heart by Cindy Judge and complete assignments.

WHAT ARE THE TRAINING DATES?

There will be 4-5 training sessions / team meetings on Sunday afternoons prior to departure. These dates will be determined once a team in place.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS & IMMUNIZATIONS?

There are no documentation requirements, or passports required for this trip. There are no immunizations required to traveling to this part of the country.

WHAT IS THE COST OF ALASKA 2010?

\$1,200. This includes all training materials, transportation, food, and ministry supplies. Each person going on the trip will be required to send out thirty (30) letters to family and friends to raise support. We will also try to have some fundraisers to help raise money for the trip. Each team member is responsible for the full amount of the trip. This will be a faith-endeavor, we will strive to raise funds together, and we have never *not* seen the Lord provide.

APPLICATION FOR ALASKA 2010

Fill-out the application online at: www.villagebible.org/missions then click on the short term missions tab.

We prefer these applications submitted electronically, but if you prefer paper applications are available at the Welcome Center

TURN PAPER APPLICATIONS IN TO THE CHURCH OFFICE:

missions@villagebible.org

630-466-7198

By April 18, 2010

Thank you for **prayerfully considering** what the Lord may be calling you to do to spread his glory to the ends of the earth!!