



# RCA Missionary Update

from Brian and Elizabeth Bruxvoort

As a pilot, mechanic, and flight scheduler for the Mission Aviation Repair Center (MARC), Brian Bruxvoort helps make evangelization and church ministry possible in Alaska's remote villages. He transports pastors to and from their congregations; brings missionaries, students receiving mission training, and work teams to their mission sites; flies children to Bible camps; and helps maintain MARC's airplanes. He also connects people with the goods or services they need and helps Alaskan Christians feel connected to the rest of the body of Christ. His wife, Beth, participates in a women's Bible study and an after-school club called Child Evangelism Fellowship, volunteers in her children's classrooms, and reaches out to women around her who need a friend. The Bruxvoorts have four children: Brianna, Michael, Lucas, and Jonathan.

## Alaska facts:

- Population: 620,000
- Size: 570,833 square miles (largest U.S. state)



### MINISTRY

Mission Aviation

### LOCATION

Soldotna, Alaska

### PARTNER

Mission Aviation Repair Center

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Dear Praying friends,

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We are back home! Our family traveled for three months this summer. During that travel, not one flight was delayed or missed, coming or going. We **drove** 15,000 miles in 90 days without a single break down or flat tire! There were a few close calls during all of those miles, but none resulted in even so much as a fender bender. The vehicle we purchased way back in January has now sold, so we praise the Lord for that as well. In this entire summer we saw the Lord orchestrate hundreds of hours of wonderful contacts with supporters, friends, family, and churches. We were privileged to present the work we do here in Alaska to eighteen churches. We were seldom in any place for more than 1 or 2 nights, and yet we only had to purchase a few nights in motels! We saw our Father move, direct, protect, encourage, and shepherd us down so many "roads" this summer, often with unexpected encounters that left us very blessed. It saddened us to have missed some of you. We desired to see all of you, yet our time was too short.

We did arrive home exhausted, yet filled to overflowing. We are now finally beginning to feel a bit of normalcy coming back into our lives. Elizabeth and the boys arrived home with one day to get ready for school. Brian came home two weeks later, finishing up the speaking itinerary. He had one week on the ground at MARC to take a 6-month flight review, and then back on the flight schedule

full time. Elizabeth jumped right back into the routine of ladies' Bible studies, CEF clubs, listening to women, and helping where a helping hand is needed. We returned to a much improved home—what a delight! Elizabeth's cousin and her husband, family, friends of theirs, and friends of ours here, worked to bring about astounding and beautiful changes while we were gone. We still walk around looking in wonder. **Thank you** for blessing us beyond our imaginings.



So yes, we **are** back. Thank you to all of you for your prayers for this summer; it is because of them that the Lord blessed us so tremendously.

38/8/3/170—these numbers may seem rather strange, but let me decode them for you:

- 38 safe take offs and landings in one day. Some of these were on wide (150') and long (7000') runways; others were on narrow (30' wide - the wing tips of the airplanes are 50' tip to tip) and short runways (2400' to 1700'). Almost all of them were very icy with little braking action.
- 8 hours of daylight to get it all done in!
- 3 airplanes to accomplish the above tasks.
- 170 teens and chaperones moved to a youth retreat.

As we flew on this particular Friday, all of the pilots were amazed because we literally were flying in the eye of a storm with bad weather back home and just off the coast to the west of us. And yet there we were, watching flight after flight go better than planned, with eager passengers converging on a small village for this event.

And what an event it was. For 2½ days the teens were challenged to see that many of them were in bondage, and then given the spiritual tools in Jesus Christ to be free of those bondages. As we brought them all back home, Brian had the opportunity to talk with some of the speakers. They were very encouraged by what had happened. Many youth had accepted Christ as Savior, and many others had been taught how to live a more victorious Christian life.



Goodbyes...how often we said those words this summer! Sometimes we had to say them after 1 or 2 days; more often we had to say goodbye after only a few hours. This was difficult. The desire to stay and visit longer was great. Your fellowship encouraged us so very much. We found it even harder to say goodbye to those older and dearer

**PRAISES:**

- Safety in a long summer of travel
- Visits with people we had not seen in years
- Michael is a senior this year
- Safety thus far on very icy runways
- Michael is seeing a long time dream for a mission trip to Africa come to fruition next summer.

friends. Since we have come home we have had three long time friends die in the lower 48 states. Elizabeth went to one funeral, a woman who was like a second mother to her. We tearfully say goodbye to Marie Howard and the others. As we age we know this will happen more and more. How grateful we are that all of these friends were devout Christians. How **joyful** will be the reunion at the resurrection of the saints when Jesus comes for His Church. As we approach Christmas with all the joy and wonder and goodwill the season brings, may we remember that Christmas had a purpose—that of Good Friday and Easter! Death, resurrection, and redemption. All for us who believe, so that we truly do not have to say goodbye with **no** hope. All of our good-byes can have hope, the hope found in Jesus the Redeemer.

We pray that your Thanksgiving was filled with family, friends, and gratefulness, and that your Christmas will be overflowing with joy, peace, love, and the awareness of God's precious gift to us—Jesus.

We thank each of you for your love, for praying and giving through our years here. You are a blessing and a gift to us and we thank God for you continually. Thank you for being equal partners with us here in this great and beautiful land.

Because of His Grace,

*Brian & Elizabeth*

The Bruxvoorts

P.S. If you would like a copy of the presentation we showed this summer, just drop us a line and we will burn you a DVD and mail it to you.

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**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- Safety in flight
- Strength for the Christians in the villages
- Wisdom for Michael as he decides about college and future
- Prayer for finances for the mission trip to Africa for Michael