



2013 – Moose-in-ary Christmas Letter



The Year in Review



In addition to our regular monthly simulcasts, in January I also taught AKSOM classes in Kotzebue, Point Hope, Dillingham, Togiak and Tok; in March it was Kotzebue and Point Hope, and in April it was Togiak and Dillingham.

During the summer months Susan and I traveled to the "lower 48" to itinerate in Michigan and the Peninsula Florida District. Our churches are the absolute best when it comes to receiving Missionaries and we are much closer to reaching our budget requirements. We would like to express our deep felt thanks to all the churches who gave us the opportunity to share how AKSOM is helping to meet the great need for pastors and leaders throughout Alaska.

When we arrived in Eagle River in August it was time to get ready for another busy academic year and Simulcast classes started again on September 7th. October was a very busy month, traveling to the Annual DSOM Summit held this year in Nashville, Tenn., followed by trips to Kotzebue, Point Hope, Emmonak, and Kotlick. In November I was back in Togiak and Dillingham before the Thanksgiving Break.

The head of the Alaska Prison Chaplains asked Dr. Lattis Campbell and me to teach an eight week course at the prison on "Comparative Religions." We chose to have the class on Mondays, which is our normal day off. Our students were both attentive and appreciative for the instruction, and the preparation work was a great refresher course for the two of us. We are looking forward to teaching another class after the first of the year.

With all of the traveling I am doing this year it is great to know that Susan is maintaining the calls, course registrations, and paperwork at the AKSOM Office. It has been enjoyable working together in the ministry.

I just finished up another set of classes in Kotzebue and Susan and I are now

preparing for the holidays. We are looking forward to enjoying a quiet Christmas at home, with a fire in the fireplace and a view that helps you understand why people dream of a "White" Christmas.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our deep sense of appreciation for your prayers and financial support over the last year. We thank God for your faithfulness and without you this ministry could not continue. Your sacrifice enables us to prepare ministerial leadership for Alaska.

We hope that as you enjoy this calendar over the next year that it will serve to remind you that you are a vital part of this ministry. Merry Christmas!



Note from Susan

This has been an exciting yet difficult year. More villages than ever have been open for Wade to teach and mentor men and women for ministry which is exciting. The travel however is sometimes difficult and always there is the possibility of danger. The weather can change quickly, and plane accidents can and do happen. So I am especially happy that so many of you have shared that you are praying for Wade's safety.

While Wade is gone, I maintain the office as paperwork is a fact of life in ministry as in every other vocation. It may not be as glamorous, but the work is important and not strenuous.

The difficult part I mentioned is that I've struggled with some health issues this last year, including chronic pain. Wade and I are trusting in God for my healing and I praise Him for His help each day. His grace is truly sufficient.

I mention this only so you will know how to pray for me. I want to thank you again for all your prayers. I cannot say this enough -- **Your prayers are greatly appreciated!** May our Lord bless you and your families with a wonderful Christmas and a Very Happy New Year!





For our friends in Florida, this is what a White Christmas looks like.



Taking a Break:

We had an opportunity to take a break from our studies while I was in Korzebue. Native Alaskans will easily exceed 100 miles per hour on the frozen rivers. I have really enjoyed my rides on the snow mobile but take it a little slower.

(That is Kotzebue in the background – yes that is Wade under all that gear.



With few roads, it's Snow-machines, or you can go "Old School" with dogs.



Of course the main mode of travel to the villages is by bush plane – Wade is riding in the co-pilot's seat and took this picture while coming into Dillingham.



This gives you an idea of the true size of Alaska – It's a lot of ground to cover.



We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!