



December

Prayer Focus

January

Hooper Bay, Alaska

In a modest little Yupik village on the coast of the Bering Sea in Alaska a disastrous fire wiped out the school and a lot of the homes in the summer of 2006. Mark Ebert, of the Moravian Board of World Mission, joined Samaritan's Purse as they worked to build five houses before the winter weather set in. The government sent in 18 modular homes, for which Samaritan's Purse provided furnishings. All of the homes were completed and the families moved in on Thanksgiving Day. In response to Samaritan's Purse's inquiry as to the needs of the village, one request was for a Teen Center where the youth of the village could gather for recreation and fellowship.



Hooper Bay is a "dry" village, meaning that possession or consumption of alcohol is illegal in the village, yet alcoholism remains a prevalent problem among youth as well as adults. None of the homes have sewage or running water, only a few businesses and the school and teachers' quarters do. There is very little entertainment to the youth except that provided by the church. Pastor Grant Funk of the Evangelical Church and his family are

doing a phenomenal job of ministering to the people of the village, especially to the youth. That is one reason it was such a blessing to me to see Samaritan's Purse backing Hooper Bay this summer with a construction crew building a new church/teen center and a new home for the pastor.

Summer has come to a close and autumn is almost gone. The snow is beginning to flurry. The distant hills are white and Samaritan's Purse is almost ready to pack up the tent city on the boardwalk and leave

Hooper Bay. Having had the awesome privilege to spend the month of August in one of those tents, my heart longs to be there for the opening of that church and teen center. The most amazing thing about that month was for me to witness the love that so many of the young people craved and the way that various members of the team filled that need with the love of Christ. After ten or twelve hours of hard physical work, team members could be seen walking the three miles to the beach with a number odd teens



in tow. Others could be found outside the kitchen tent just hanging out, talking and showing them the love of Christ. We had so many young people showing up for our devotions in the mornings that we ran out of room and moved the meeting place to the construction site. The new church/teen center is being constructed just across the road from the school so the kids could join the devotions and then go directly to school.

Hooper Bay needs your prayers to combat the satanic influence of drug and alcohol abuse, he fight against physical, sexual and emotional abuse, additional leadership to help shepherd the large number of youth who have come to know Christ in the last few years, the youth who go out to further their education and epically for the youth who will miss the presence of the Samaritan's Purse team and the presence they have played in their lives.



Did You Know?

The Moravian Institute, a project of the world-wide Moravian church provides education, food, clothing and medical care to approximately 300 children. It extends the outreach ministry of Christian love and grace to all people through the English language based school where God's Word is taught daily.