

KICY Call Letter

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Manager's Mic

As I look over the articles in this edition of the Call Letter, they seem to follow a particular theme. While unintentional as I set out to put this issue together, the theme of praise seems to permeate.

This is, I think, no coincidence. God is moving in this place. I am constantly reminded, in both large and small ways, that God has His hand on KICY,



Patty Burchell

and always has. He provides for our financial needs, through generous individual donors and the occasional unexpected large gift or remembrance. He is providing for our staffing needs in ways that I couldn't even imagine a year ago. He provides for the physical needs of equipment and repair, putting together the right teams, with the right skills, at the right times. He provides protection, security, and comfort.

Our God is a God of abundance, and as I look back over the past months, I see His lavish, extravagant care and provision for KICY. Thank you for being part of the way God provides for us, financially and through prayer. What an amazing God we serve. It is indeed a privilege to serve Him in this place. ■

Luda Kinok: Permanent Resident



Luda at work in the dubbing studio

I came to Nome, Alaska, to volunteer at KICY as the Russian Programming Director in August, 2004, under the Bering Strait Visa-Free Travel Program. The United States and Russia introduced visa-free travel to the indigenous inhabitants of the Chukotka region and Alaska in 1991. Under this program, inhabitants of Chukotka and Alaska were allowed to stay in the designated area of the neighboring country for no longer than 90 days, so I had to travel back and forth every three months.

Dennis Weidler, then general manager of KICY, suggested getting a visa which would allow me to stay for up to 6 months at a time, with the ability of multiple entries with the same visa. The political winds between the two continents shifted and changed their blowing force with no warnings at times. My immigration attorney warned us that I had only a 50/50 chance of getting such a visa. God's unfailing mercy walked before

me and I was granted a religious worker multi-visa, which I was also able to renew a couple times.

After eight years of serving at KICY, I decided to go back home to return to full time ministry in my region. However, my endless travels back and forth had caught the attention of the Russian authorities. They allowed me to travel, but they were also making it harder and harder to do so. I was under their surveillance. It was so good to be around my family and friends and to do what I loved, serving God in the villages. However, the pressure and the threats grew so much, making it almost impossible for me to breathe. Because of me, my friends and relatives were under pressure, too.

So after two years of that, I returned to Nome in the summer of 2012, initially just to clear my

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head and get a gasp of fresh air. I shared my concerns with Dennis and he suggested seeking asylum.

I waited for my asylum interview for three years, and finally had my interview in June, 2017. There are six different categories of asylum. Usually, an asylee has to wait for the results for about two months, but I was told on the spot that I was granted asylum for most of the categories.

As of April of this year I have become a Permanent Resident and have received my Green Card. It was a bittersweet moment for me. I was able to finally put a long immigration process to rest and be sure that I was safe now, but it also meant that I will never go back to Russia. Despite the sadness, I am very grateful that God watched over me and gave me comfort and peace, and a space to heal and to serve Him.

~Luda Kinok ■

A Prayer Request For each of our staff members.

George Bard

Patty Burchell

Kathy Horner

Ron Horner

Bertha Koweluk

Luda Kinok

Lena Mathlaw

Lon Swanson

Praise God From Whom all Blessings Flow!!

God is indeed good! We have been praying that He would send long-term (at least a year) volunteers to serve with KICY, and those prayers are being answered. As often happens, God answers in ways we do not expect, and with a better plan in mind than we can imagine. We have prayed, you have prayed, and God has ignited the spark of service in people who are now ready to commit to serving in Western Alaska. Several people will begin serving over the next several months.

First, a full time volunteer will begin service late this summer. He and his wife are in the process of securing funding in order to be able to do that. He has a solid music background and will be assisting in that area.

Another answer to prayer is the coming of a Program Director. A man and his family have been

ministering in various capacities in the region for the past 14 years. God has called this family to KICY, and with the man's background in IT and audio production, I couldn't be more thrilled. He will be joining us as our full time Program Director and his family will be participating in smaller ways. They are beginning the process of securing funding and will come on board as soon as that is in place.

Finally, in a direct answer to prayer from our time at the Urbana Missions Conference, a young couple will be joining our staff in early 2020. Pray for them as they have a full summer. They are getting married in August, the woman will finish her college degree in Special Education in December, and they are also securing funding. It will be a busy six months for this young couple, and I know they would appreciate your prayers.

We serve a great God, and my heart is filled with praise! ■

Other Requests

* Summer work teams as they make preparations to travel to Nome, and the appropriate weather here to complete the needed projects.

* Volunteers who are securing funding in anticipation of serving with KICY.

Praise God for His faithfulness in supplying all our needs!

Elim Translator Fully Funded

Thanks to the generosity of individuals and two other organizations, the Elim Translator Project is fully funded. I am once again astounded at God's provision for this station. I shouldn't be, He has been doing miraculous things



in this place for 60 years. Most recently, God worked through two separate organizations who contacted us asking if there was a project they could help fund. I gratefully told them of the Elim project, and their generosity rounded out the funds needed to complete this project.

The next step is to visit Elim and, in consultation with the Native Corporation there, decide the optimal location for the equipment. Following that trip we will

order the necessary components. Our goal is to construct/install everything and be on the air by the end of next summer.

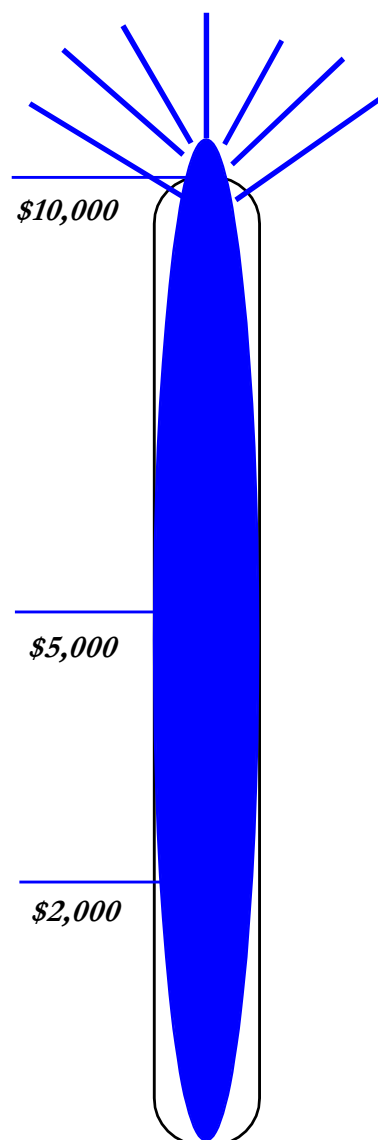
Technically, Elim is currently in our listening area. Unfortunately, because of its location nestled

between hills and sea, and the increased interference from other wireless signals, listeners in Elim are unable to consistently or clearly receive our signal. This translator will take our AM signal through a dedicated internet feed and translate it to an FM signal that can be easily received in Elim.

Thanks to all who have given to this project. It is indeed exciting to see once again how God is moving in this place, assuring that His Gospel is heard loud and clear. ■

Maintenance Needs

We are so very blessed, and I am humbled again by God's goodness. We ask, and generous donors respond. Our summer project funding needs have been met, and exceeded. What a blessing to know the needed projects will be funded, and any unforeseen needs (which invariably happen once a project starts...) can be met. God is indeed good, and through your generous giving continues to supply all our needs! Thank You!!



Memorials

In April and May we received memorials in the name of:

Tom & Annie Dotomain
Edward Lattimore, Jr.
Elizabeth Kirby
Rev. Harold Swanberg
Carol C. Nelson
Ernie Sagoonick
Gert Fondell
Christy Andres
Luther England
Inez Tocktoo
Doris Barton

Thank you for remembering a loved one with your gift.

PLEASE NOTE!

-May Income-

\$39,574.55

-May Budget-

\$34,251.94

-May Expenses-

\$40,504.48

*Includes Sales & Programs but
not designated funds.*



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Spring Conferences

Spring is the time for village Get-Togethers and church conferences. This year, KICY was able to broadcast both the Lutheran Spring Conference from Shishmaref and the Alaska Conference of the Covenant Church's Annual Meeting from Mountain Village.

Despite the fact that we were unable to send a KICY representative, people at the conferences were willing to be our remote broadcasters, set up and run the equipment we sent, and thus ensure people unable to be at the conference could take part in the



Alaska Covenant Annual Meeting, Mountain Village

evening services.

The Lutheran Conference was held in Shishmaref, north of Nome. People from around Norton Sound and the Road System gathered for four days of

testimony, song, and hearing God's Word.

The Covenant Conference was held in Mountain Village, in the Yukon Delta region south of Nome. The congregation there is celebrating 100 years of the church in that place, as well as a new church building. It was, indeed, a wonderful time of celebration and remembering the first

Native missionaries sent from Norton Sound to the community of Mountain Village those many years ago.

Praise God for those willing to go and serve, both then, and now. ■