

Missionaries to
ALASKA



Gary & Beverly Hampton

Field Address: PO BOX 83292
Fairbanks, AK 99708

Email: arcticgoshawker@yahoo.com

Gary's Cell: 907-687-0417

Sending Church:

Pastor Travis Gilbert

972-675-4800

www.rodgersbaptist.net

Rodgers Baptist Church

PO BOX 460639

Garland, Texas 75046

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Dear Brethren,

I WAS WRONG!!!

First I am so thankful for two FAITHFUL MEN of GOD, Brother COLLIN HIRSCH, PASTOR of HOLTS PRAIRE BAPTIST CHURCH and Brother JOSH PETTIJOHN, MUSIC & YOUTH PASTOR OF RODGERS BAPTIST CHURCH! It would NOT have been the same without them! They were a TREMENDOUS BLESSING to me and to the PEOPLE of SAVOONGA!!

I was WRONG about SAVOONGA being covered up by Seventh Day Adventist. There are nearly 900 people in Savoonga, 160 miles out from Nome in the Bering Sea, and the Seventh Day Adventists have about ten people that come to their church. They have no pastor as he passed away years ago and his wife has stayed there to read scripture to those people. They ALL came to hear us sing and Preach the GOSPEL!! The Presbyterian church is no more! THAT IS ALL THEY HAVE OUT OF 900 people!!!

We stayed in the little house next door to the City Hall. We took our food to Savoonga and we bought water from the little store. A man needs water even if it COSTS \$62 dollars for 40 bottles!! 😞

Our prayers to GOD were to find the best way to reach the People. We paid \$450 per day to stay in the house, and we pressed the City Hall people to let us have the lower level for MINISTRY after all I was told by them months ago, we could have it!! After we got there, they were in a straight to tell us they needed it for their Pull Tabs six days per week. What is PULL TABS? It's GAMBLING away what little money they have in hopes of hitting the Lottery! It started at 4pm and ended at 10 pm. We pressed the staff at City Hall to get the building at 2pm till 4pm and after 10 pm.

The WORD got out that LIVE MUSIC AND PREACHING was going on at those times and the People came!!! It is my belief more would have come if we could have stayed longer!!

Bro. Josh on the keyboard and Bro. Collin on the guitar sang like angels standing on clouds, loud and clear, and I HOWEVER sounded like a southern mule in a hailstorm! 😞 NEVERTHELESS the GOSPEL was sung!! The numbers coming were growing!

There is FAITH in Savoonga!!! Many came to us expressing their thanks for us to be there. Many were touched by GOD with Tears! The Gospel is the Power of God unto Salvation and Praise the Lord the people heard it!! Pastor Collin and Bro Josh brought great messages to help the people!

No one made a profession of Faith in our presence. If we could save anyone, we would have saved the 900 and gone to the next, etc. but we CANNOT. We want genuine faith not fake faith for numbers sake AMEN!!! Jesus is the SAVIOR!!!

We met with HARRISON MIKLAHOOK in Nome and the door is open for ministry with him. We met with Christopher MIKLAHOOK and his girlfriend MIESHA in Savoonga. They need your continued Prayers! She needs salvation and he needs to grow in CHRIST JESUS!!

SAVOONGA NEEDS A MAN OF GOD!!

I pray it is CHRISTOPHER, if not then surely GOD will provide a Man to stand in the Gap!!! Who will be that MAN?!! I will NOT be Jealous IF you are that MAN! ARE YOU THAT MAN? The wind blows off the Bering Sea, the dark will come bringing with it SNOW and horrendous storms that you may think all is lost ,,,BUT GOD is there thru **EUROCLYDON!**

I am definitely different now than before we went to Savoonga! I am broken in heart for the people. OH GOD!! WILL YOU PROVIDE A MAN FOR SAVOONGA?!! May the Spirit of GOD work in the hearts of men!!!

In two weeks, Bev and I, by the Grace of GOD, will head south to the Lower 48 to be in as many churches presenting the work here before the big Alaskan winter takes Place! If I have NOT contacted you and you want us to come PLEASE contact me at 907-687-0417.

Thank you to ALL who Gave to this great endeavor to preach the GOSPEL TO THE LOST AND DYING IN THESE LAST DAYS!!

There is more to say but not enough room here!

LOVE TO ALL!!

Bro Gary Hampton
ALASKA!

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What a joy it was to see the hand of God at work in the lives of the native people of Alaska! I have heard Bro. Gary Hampton share his heart for these people for the last few years, but to see God working in their lives firsthand through his boldness to go and carry the gospel was a great privilege. Thank you to those of you who through your generosity made it possible for the preaching of the Word in the most remote places of our own country, including those at Rodgers Baptist Church for their contributions to this endeavor.

When we arrived in Nome and were waiting for our flight out to Savoonga, the people of Nome told us to expect a cold reception in the village. They said that the people would stare at us and be unwelcoming. We made this a matter of prayer; after all, God called us to go, and He alone could open the door for us to reach people. Gary had been once before and knew Christopher Miklahook, who had since made a profession of faith following his first visit to Savoonga. Upon our arrival, God began to open doors for us. Through circumstances that none of us could have possibly arranged, God connected us with people who were hungry for the preaching of His Word! After one of the evening services that ended around midnight, a woman named Francine stopped me. She had been at all of our services since we arrived and had tears in her eyes at each service. She said, "I believe God sent you all here for me. When I was in Nome, I overdosed on painkillers and alcohol and clinically died. When I got on the plane to come back to Savoonga on Friday, I knew I needed to get right with God, and when I got to town, there you all were with messages just for me."

God opened doors like this with others and stories like this poured in across the island. In a place where humanly speaking we expected dead ends, God provided services with as many as 28 people in attendance. The gospel message was preached at every service as well as in so many personal conversations in Savoonga, Nome, Teller, and everywhere in between, with each person that crossed our path. Some seeds were planted, others watered, but it is God who will give the increase.



Please pray for the ongoing discipleship efforts that took place with Christopher Miklahook during the time spent there in Savoonga. Many hours have been invested in him, and the Lord's hand is on him. Pray as well for Miesha and her faith. I believe that it will be any day now we hear that she has made the decision to trust Christ as her Lord and Savior. Pray for the others who heard the gospel and have yet to profess Christ. Pray for God to raise up someone to shepherd believers in this village.

What a joy and a privilege to be part of local church missions and to see the mission field with Bro. Gary!

For Christ,

Josh Pettijohn
Music and Youth Pastor
Rodgers Baptist Church

It was a great pleasure to visit Savoonga and Teller, Alaska with Brother Gary Hampton and Josh Pettijohn. I was dumbfounded at the level of poverty and the lack of spiritual guidance in the villages. We were encouraged by the believers who showed up for our worship services, and I am praying that God will raise up a spiritual leader among them. Brother Gary's burden for the native people is quite heavy on his heart. There were three churches in that village: a Baptist church that was closed, a Presbyterian church, that was closed, and a Seventh Day Adventist church, whose pastor died eight years ago, and his wife has remained holding services on Saturday mornings. They gathered with about eight people and sang some hymns, and she read a few scriptures to them. She told us that she was leaving the village and returning to South Carolina for shoulder surgery, not knowing if or when she would be able to go back. She was the only person on the island trying to give spiritual leadership to the people. In that village of 850 people, there is absolutely no one at this point who is sharing the Gospel or leading people from the Word of God of any flavor of "Christianity," and I use that term very loosely. The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few.

God bless you and your support of this great missionary work in Alaska.

Bro. Collin Hirsch