



Victor Brandi
Isaac Elijah

The Broadcast



The LaMie Family Newsletter

Summer 2009

It's Time. (Officially Missionaries!)

Just like the twelve disciples, we've been in training for three years. After completing all prerequisites, sitting at Jesus's feet and practicing discipling others, SEND International has deemed us "fit for duty." At the time of our last newsletter, Brandi was recovering from the kidney donation surgery.



Victor's sister Julie is doing well and living in Wisconsin with her family and their dog (who shares Brandi's first name, maiden name and birthday!). The transplant kicked off an education about God that continues to strike us with awe.



Awe is the only word that describes our first response to Alaska. We took our **Vision Trip** there in the fall of '06. **Majestic** is the only word that describes the work of God's hands in that landscape. The

sight of the mountains; the smell of the sea; the sound of the gulls; the texture of the trees; the flavor of the fish: *masterpiece*. Creation envelops you.

"Created to do good works" is how we humans are described in Scripture. For six days, Victor got a chance to sit in his sweet spot at KRSA, Petersburg, AK.



The technicality of radio and the metamorphosis behind a microphone are the bent of his personality. He was created, designed and drawn to this work for God's glory.

Throughout 2007 we continued learning and discipling others. Two coworkers, one family friend, and a grandparent came to accept Christ's invitation. We know the glee that God offers when He says, "Come, share in your master's happiness." Also, we have worked hard to build relational bridges and minister to those in our circle of influence. We've been invited to share the fragrance of Christ

within hurting marriages and among those battling addictions and painful pasts. With all this great work here, why go to Alaska? One reason: God called on July 2, 2005. Since then, he's been using all of these experiences to ready us.

Exactly two years later He had us revisit the Scriptures that had helped us come to that conclusion. Ephesians 5:15 reminded us to make the most of every opportunity. James 1:6 said to believe and not doubt. We felt God saying to us: "If you don't want this assignment, it's OK; you'll be fine. But I will give it to someone else and you'll be missing out on something great." That is the day that we, like Peter, decided to "drop our nets."

In January 2008, Victor resigned from the Postal Service so that he could pursue his educational requirements at Olivet Nazarene University. Soon after, he began a one-year internship at WVLI Radio in Bourbonnais, IL. The avalanche of financial miracles that has come since then has confirmed that the risk was worth taking. We have **experienced** God as Provider.

See next page for examples:

Stones Of Remembrance:

October 2007:

- When we enrolled Victor at ONU we found out that the semester was \$10,000. We couldn't afford it. We prayed. Some friends suggested that we audit the courses. After approval from SEND we approached ONU about the new cost. They said \$700.
- Some neighbors heard this story and offered us money that they had set aside for a possible donation to Christian radio. It was enough to cover all the tuition and books!
- The week that Victor resigned his postal position, we got 40 hits on our DJ website. Although we hadn't done a wedding in over a year, we booked 4 for the spring of '08. These would pay our mortgage for four months.
- When one later canceled, that was the month that we received a government stimulus check for \$1800

October 2008:

- The same day that Victor's summer job ended, he received the letter we'd waited ten months for: he was re-hired as a part-time employee to the USPS.
- Isaac had to have dental surgery/sedation totaling \$6000. We received financial aid from a humanitarian organization that helps kids with special needs. They paid for a third.

November 2008:

- We received \$100 anonymously in the mail.

December 2008:

- Brandi's organizing business added several new clients.
- At Isaac's follow up dental visit we were informed of a refund we had coming due to actual costs being less than estimated. We received at check for \$951. On the way home Brandi couldn't shake the familiarity of that number 9-5-1. God winked at her as he reminded her that Victor was interning with WVLI 95.1 FM.

January 2009:

- When we actively reduced our debt and prayed for God's help, we found that during this terrible recession, we'd EARNED money in our retirement account the previous year. Our investments had been moved to low-risk categories and we didn't remember making those changes.
- Victor found out that due to reduced revenue his current job at the Post Office would be cut from four scheduled days per month to two. Yet due to his "on-call"

status, he has worked more than we ever expected.

April 2009:

- When we filed our taxes for '08 we found that among the four jobs we worked in '08 our combined income had been reduced by nearly two-thirds. Yet the 20-year-old car kept running and the 30-year old roof didn't cave in.
- Because of our small income, we qualified for a special tax refund which was triple what we'd ever received. The amount allowed us to pay our real estate taxes and have some left over for home improvements.

May 2009:

- We found out that due to downsizing, Victor's original full-time position at the Post Office was being eliminated at his local branch. Had he stayed on, he likely would have had to transfer to a distant office.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

There are 1.6 Billion people on this planet who have never heard that Jesus wants to rescue them. Jeremiah 29:11 tells us that the plans the LORD has for us give us a future with hope. This map has pointed us toward Alaskan radio, Alaskan people and Alaskan priorities. The land of "The Deadliest Catch" needs to be thrown a life preserver. *"For, everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How then can they call on the One they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the One of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent?"* --Romans 10:13-15

Mapquest.com says it takes 61 hours 31 minutes to get from Illinois to Alaska. God says it takes you partnering with us to get us from *Jerusalem, all Judea and Samaria to the ends of the earth.* (Acts 1:8)



PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER HOW YOU CAN PARTNER WITH US:

- We are looking for at least **thirty prayer partners** who would be willing to pray for us on a **regular basis**, and we would reciprocate.
- We need **financial partners**, for our out-going expenses (getting us there) and monthly expenses (keeping us there).
- We need your help in making **contacts** with local churches, businesses, or individuals that support missionaries.

Our enclosed **YELLOW** response form will guide you. Contact us with any questions.

Meanwhile, please pray for us to reach our deployment goal of July 1, 2010. Our web site has further details. (See bottom)



Future newsletters will be sent via email unless you would prefer to have a hard copy. Please let us know your **current email address!** Thanks!

Contributions are solicited with the understanding that the donee organization has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds.

Rev. 08/10/09