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## Seasons

April/May 2025

# Steve & Renée Hoey



Steve is the **Director of Alaska Missions** for LightShine Ministries and together they serve our ministry partners across the state.

They live in Anchor Point, Alaska.

*You can read more about their ministry responsibilities by scanning this QR code.*



Open your camera and follow the link.

**[www.lightshineministries.org](http://www.lightshineministries.org)**



Happy Spring, or in the case of Alaska, Happy Mud Season. As the weather warms here, it brings the melting of the snow and a lot of rain, therefore, we have a lot of mud. We are always grateful for the change of seasons, especially Spring into Summer.

The statement, “The only thing constant is change,” seems to sum up these last couple of months. If you remember our last newsletter we were excited to share that Steve had accepted the position of Institutional Chaplain, at Wildwood Prison, in Kenai. It seemed, at the time, that this was a definite direction that God was leading him into and he went through the processes to secure that position with the DOC. After completing additional training and spending one week as the Chaplain, the brakes were applied, from above the local prison system. This was due to some complications in paperwork. The end of a much longer story is that he is back to volunteer status and someone else is being placed into that position. While this was a disappointment and albeit a very confusing redirection from God, we can see the benefit of all that he went through to this point. He now has new and good relationships with most of the administrative staff at Wildwood and he can spend as much time as he needs ministering to the guys without the pull of “staff chaplain” red tape. The main drawback to his volunteer status over the staff position is that he does not have access to all of the areas of the prison that he would have had. This being said, Steve did increase his time at the prison to two days, Thursday Bible study and Friday book study (discipleship) and Kairos. With travel time included, this accounts for approximately 18 hours a week plus preparation. Both Renee and Steve continue to go on the first Sunday of the month to hold church service, at the prison.



March at Wildwood held our annual Kairos inside weekend with the men. It ran for 3.5 days, after months of training and preparation. We ended up with 32 men attending and to our knowledge there were at least 6 men who gave their lives to Christ for the first time and many more who recommitted. Please pray for these men as they daily walk out their decision to follow Jesus. Some of these men have already been released or moved on to other facilities but a few of them are attending Steve's Bible study each week.



Prior to beginning the process that we just mentioned, we had been scheduled to lead two different LightShine teams this year. One to Gulkana and one to Pedro Bay. Both teams had co-leadership who we had been mentoring over the last year or so. This fact made it very easy to turn these teams over completely to those people whom the Lord has raised up. One of our passions within ministry is discipling others and helping to establish Christian leaders to serve our Lord in these times. Currently, with the changes at Wildwood, this opens the doors for us to be able to act in a more supportive role this summer as well as focus on new ministry (areas) development. We are still figuring out what that will look like in reality. Prayers are appreciated.



Renee's official health diagnosis still continues to be unknown but at this time she is doing well. She has her limitations and days where she wears out quickly but God's sustaining grace helps her to live actively, serving Jesus. She has really enjoyed collecting and painting rocks, volunteering at the church office and encouraging those she comes in contact with.



The addition to our little cabin is coming along slowly. Steve had completed an electrical job for a friend in Homer and she had a good bit of drywall left over. We were able to acquire the drywall at a wholesale price (since her son had bought the materials and he works for the local supply house.) This should provide enough drywall to complete half of what is needed. We are hoping to have this new area completed by the end of the summer.

### Prayer and Praise

- Continue to pray for the church behind bars. God is moving and changing hearts continuously. It is very exciting to see the Spiritual interest and growth among the men.
- We are so grateful for our Church here in Homer, Christian Community Church, stepping in, to take us on as missionaries and become our “sending” church. Some of you might be aware that our church back in Pennsylvania had some financial challenges and dropped all missionary support at the end of last year.
- One of the men who Steve had been working with at the Seward prison went home to be with the Lord last week. Please pray for his mom, Judy, especially as she also recently lost her husband.
- As stated above, please pray for clear vision for this summer's ministry and for all of the teams coming to Alaska. The first team arrives in Homer on the 11th of May. Pray for all of the team leaders and members as they travel to serve here in Alaska.
- As always we praise God for all of you who encourage us through your prayers and financial support. We could not do what we do without your part in the ministry. We are still not at 100% of our financial goal of \$7000 a month but God is faithful and always makes up the shortfall. If you are not already a financial partner with us and would like to, we would love to partner with you.

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Love and Grace,  
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