





Volcanic eruption number 6: Since 2021, we have had six eruptions on our peninsula. You can see our peninsula on the above map with a red circle. This region has over 10% of the island's population. Many people saw the eruption in the news all over the world. Not surprisingly, temperatures have been frigid in January and February, getting to the twenties during the day and teens or lower at night. With its lava, the volcano took out our commercial and residential heating system, which is geothermally heated water. It was a cold week. Authorities are predicting another significant eruption within two weeks. A town called Grindavik, where 3,500 people and many businesses were, has been largely emptied and condemned. It is now a ghost town. The future of our

heating and electricity concerns all 35,000 people on the peninsula. The government is working on a plan B to provide electricity and heat from another source, but this takes time. What did we do through the chaos? We kept holding services, visiting, building, and ministering. In the photo to the right, we had a cozy prayer meeting with our Thursday night crowd. We ran the bus, had visitors come to church, and ministered the Word to as many as possible. I must admit that it was freezing, but we survived. No one complained.

I did purchase an 11.5 kWh generator for the church because the electrical grid was overloaded due to everybody purchasing space heaters for their homes. The

grid was not built to take that kind of load. With each eruption getting closer to our power plant, the latest reaching into its backyard, I believed it was time to get an emergency generator. It cost 350,000 Icelandic Kronur, which is around \$2,500. I had purchased one for our house after the first eruption back in 2021. Thank you for praying for us as we minister in an area of Iceland during times of unique adventures.



In January, we held a back-to-school round-up for our bus ministry. The Lord used this to see over twenty parents and over one hundred people come to church. Many kids and adults who had dropped out during Christmas returned and have been attending faithfully since the round-up. Our Icelandic-speaking services have seen an increase in attendance weekly, and our English-speaking services have been well attended. Our weekly total in attendance for all our offered service times is over

seventy on low weeks and over ninety on high weeks. That total includes services for women's Bible study in English, men's Bible study in English, Sunday School for English-speaking adults, preaching service in English, children's church/bus ministry in Icelandic, adult Bible study in Icelandic, and a teen service in Icelandic. We have seen decisions and spiritual growth in each ministry. A thirty-one-year-old Icelandic man saved last year in our church has continued to attend weekly and has grown to be quite a blessing and help in the ministry. I am so thankful for your prayers as we constantly seek means to minister the Word through teaching and preaching in every program we have.

Family News: Vicki's health was mentioned in our last letter. She had been struggling physically and went to the doctor, who found blood clots in her lungs. They are still doing tests to determine the reason for them. She has had several appointments, with more to come. She is on blood thinners. Patrick has a 7 mm growth in his eyelid and is waiting for surgery to have it removed and tested. It has been a growing concern since last summer. Thank you for your prayers about our health.

Finishing touches on the building: Besides the constant work of getting the Gospel to our community and weekly ministry, we still need some finishing touches on the building. We were given enough funds to build the platform in the room that will become our main auditorium. This room has 30-foot high ceilings and is over 5000 square feet. The echo in the room is unbearable. The Lord provided materials to build sixty-two frames for soundboards. Just yesterday, He provided fabric for forty-two of the constructed soundboards. Thank you for praying for us, as our goal is to build ninety soundboards. https://youtu.be/0IEffOC1GwA