



Alaska Baptist MESSENGER

Vol 65

April 2010

NO 4

Women on Mission Celebration

"Let Your Light Shine"

April 15-17, 2010

First Baptist Church, Anchorage

Thursday 6pm - Saturday 1pm

Featuring guest speakers Andrea Mullins (WMU) and Amanda (IMB)

Break-out sessions include What's New with WMU, Ministering in Nursing Homes, Disaster Relief efforts in Haiti, Witnessing Team report for 2010 Winter Olympics and many more!

Bookstore • WorldCrafts store
Dinner on Thursday • Lunch on Saturday

Registration \$34 (through April 14) • At-the-door \$40

Childcare provided for birth through kindergarten

Contact Don Shannon, don@alaskabaptistconvention.com with questions.

Door prizes
each
session!

2010 VBS Training Clinics

Roundin' Up Questions.....Drivin' Home Answers



5:00 - 9:15 p.m. (includes light supper)

Monday, April 19 • Fairview Loop Baptist Church, Wasilla

Tuesday, April 20 • Grandview Baptist Church, Anchorage

Thursday, April 22 • First Baptist Church, Soldotna

9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (includes light lunch)

Saturday, April 24 • First Baptist Church, North Pole

Alaska Baptist Convention

2000 Club 2nd Quarter Insert and Envelope included inside!

God's Plan for Sharing in Alaska

January - February 2010 Gifts from ABC churches

Chugach Baptist Association	CP	SMO	AA	LM	Other	CP	SMO	AA	LM
Alaska Iu-Mienh First Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$0.00	\$1,058.00	\$0.00	\$1,300.00
Anch Hope Comm Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Total:	\$0.00	\$1,058.00	\$0.00	\$1,300.00
Aquilaq Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Tanana Valley Baptist Association	CP	SMO	AA	LM
Calvary Baptist Church	\$389.00	\$1,203.56	\$0.00	\$1,220.62	Chinese Fellowship	\$150.00	\$280.00	\$0.00	\$270.00
Christ Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Clearwater Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chugach Resort Ministries	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$853.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,568.22
Cliffside Community Chapel	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Faith Baptist Church Fbks	\$654.00	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$2,853.00
Cold Bay Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Filipino Baptist Fellowship Fbks	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Comm Baptist Church Nome	\$170.00	\$98.00	\$0.00	\$153.00	First Baptist Church Delta Jct	\$9,606.00	\$4,195.00	\$0.00	\$4,325.00
Cowboy Church of Anchorage	\$504.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8.00	First Baptist Church Fairbanks	\$580.30	\$1,385.00	\$0.00	\$2,210.00
Eagle River Korean Bapt Church	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	First Baptist Church North Pole	\$4,781.87	\$1,608.00	\$0.00	\$2,036.12
Filipino Bible Church Anchorage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Friendship Baptist Church Fbks	\$50.00	\$540.00	\$0.00	\$1,905.00
First Baptist Church Anchorage	\$12,973.38	\$5,400.59	\$0.00	\$10,900.00	Hispanic Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church Eagle River	\$5,331.26	\$4,315.00	\$0.00	\$3,768.36	Korean Baptist Mission Fbks	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church Kotzebue	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$1,150.00	Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$1,762.95	\$355.94	\$0.00	\$586.22
First Korean Baptist Church	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Morning Star Baptist Church	\$1,198.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
First Native Baptist Church	\$525.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Mount Pleasant Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Frontier Baptist Church	\$310.00	\$551.00	\$0.00	\$348.00	North Star Baptist Church	\$91.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grandview Baptist Church	\$2,876.88	\$6,487.07	\$0.00	\$9,531.91	Salcha Baptist Church	\$1,396.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,250.00
Greater Friendship Baptist Ch	\$1,375.00	\$0.00	\$2.00	\$870.00	Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,455.00
Hillside Baptist Church	\$2,172.68	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$3,366.00	St John Baptist Church	\$2,295.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$155.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$1,215.88	Togiak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Kiana Baptist Mission	\$556.73	\$58.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	University Baptist Church Fbks	\$4,501.00	\$3,120.00	\$0.00	\$9,496.43
Kobuk Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Total:	\$28,221.69	\$12,833.94	\$0.00	\$36,054.99
Korean New Central Baptist Ch	\$100.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	Tongass Baptist Association	CP	SMO	AA	LM
Kuparuk Preaching Point	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Anchor Baptist Church	\$797.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Ch	\$240.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Comm Baptist Ch Coffman Cove	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Mountain View Community Church	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$247.98	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$960.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.00	Filipino Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Grace Christian Church	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	First Baptist Church Juneau	\$801.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$175.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$3,402.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	First Baptist Church Ketchikan	\$1,263.64	\$1,507.00	\$0.00	\$1,450.00
Rabbit Creek Comm Church	\$643.17	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	First Baptist Church Petersburg	\$280.00	\$784.47	\$0.00	\$0.00
River In The Desert Comm Ch	\$428.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	First Baptist Church Sitka	\$796.37	\$382.00	\$0.00	\$1,101.26
Samoa Alaska Baptist Church	\$50.00	\$45.00	\$25.00	\$77.70	Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$5,411.33	\$1,911.71	\$0.00	\$5,903.50
Sand Point Baptist Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Hoonah Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Shungnak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Juneau Korean Church	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$230.00
Solid Rock Baptist Church	\$50.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	Kasaan Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sunset Hills Baptist Church	\$2,469.17	\$7,400.50	\$0.00	\$4,366.00	New Hope Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	North Tongass Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$310.00
True North Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Tenakee Community Church	\$201.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
University Baptist Church Anch	\$844.10	\$1,574.00	\$0.00	\$2,054.00	Thorne Bay Baptist Church	\$761.78	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$60.00
Valley View Baptist Church	\$352.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Total:	\$10,621.64	\$5,510.18	\$0.00	\$10,329.76
Whittier Christian Community	\$171.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Grand Total:	\$110,497.39	\$67,895.94	\$27.00	\$125,239.71
Wilderness Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Goal:	\$770,301.00	\$70,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$150,000.00
Total:	\$38,175.19	\$35,957.72	\$27.00	\$47,129.47	Over/Under Goal:	(\$659,803.61)	(\$2,104.06)	(\$99,973.00)	(\$24,760.29)
Hatcher Pass Baptist Association	CP	SMO	AA	LM	Legend:				
Big Lake Baptist Church	\$653.52	\$990.00	\$0.00	\$3,852.11	CP: Cooperative Program, January - December				
Bodenberg Butte Baptist Church	\$1,439.70	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$320.00	SMO: State Mission Offering, August - July				
CrossCountry Church	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	AA: Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, January - December				
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$1,292.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,268.74	LM: Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, June - May				
Ekwok Christian Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Fairview Loop Baptist Church	\$4,298.79	\$3,363.06	\$0.00	\$3,294.99					
First Baptist Church Palmer	\$6,513.62	\$1,506.66	\$0.00	\$1,294.00					
First Baptist Church Valdez	\$939.86	\$245.00	\$0.00	\$2,928.65					
First Baptist Church Wasilla	\$5,752.60	\$2,228.00	\$0.00	\$9,138.99					
First Baptist Church Willow	\$357.55	\$1,935.16	\$0.00	\$0.00					
King Salmon Community Chapel	\$0.00	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Montana Creek Baptist Church	\$422.34	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$665.00					
North Bear Street Comm Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Pioneer Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Schrock Road Comm Church	\$0.00	\$907.22	\$0.00	\$753.61					
Settler's Bay Comm Church	\$549.06	\$201.00	\$0.00	\$1,327.00					
Valley Life Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00					
Total:	\$22,319.34	\$11,796.10	\$0.00	\$26,543.09					
Kenai Peninsula	CP	SMO	AA	LM					
College Heights Baptist Church	\$7,534.68	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
First Baptist Church Kenai	\$673.85	\$575.00	\$0.00	\$2,287.75					
First Baptist Church Soldotna	\$705.00	\$165.00	\$0.00	\$1,594.65					
Lighthouse Community Church	\$2,047.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Moose Pass Community Church	\$199.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Mount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Total:	\$11,159.53	\$740.00	\$0.00	\$3,882.40					

What is the 2000 Club?

The 2000 Club, sponsored by the Alaska Baptist Convention (ABC), is a quarterly opportunity for individuals, mission groups, Sunday School classes and churches to support capital needs projects in our churches. See your insert (and envelope) in this issue of the Alaska Baptist Messenger.



The 2nd Quarter recipient of the 2000 Club is Valley View Baptist Church. To become a member of the 2000 Club, please contact Mike Procter, Director of Missions, ABC, at (907)344-9627 or mike@alaskabaptistconvention.com.

April 30 Deadline!

The deadline to apply for the Fuhr Memorial Scholarship is April 30, 2010. A total of five scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$760 per year (for full-time status only). The funds may be used for tuition, room and board, fees and books. Award notification letters are mailed by May 31, 2010. For additional information, visit www.alaskabaptistfoundation.com and click on "scholarship." If you have questions, contact Adam Long in the Foundation office, (907)770-0581 or e-mail foundation@alaskabaptistfoundation.com



Alaska Baptist Convention Annual Meeting September 28-29, 2010 First Baptist Church, Wasilla

Convention hotel is Grandview Inn & Suites
2900 E. Parks Hwy, Wasilla, AK
(907)352-1700 • (907)357-6776 fax
www.grandviewak.com

Single room, \$69.95 (plus tax)
Double room, \$79.95 (plus tax)

When making your reservation, use the reference code "0926AB" to receive the special rate. Reservations must be made by August 15, 2010 in order to guarantee convention rate. Be sure to get a confirmation number from the hotel at time of booking. This will serve as your verification of reservation and reference number if changes or cancellations are made.

Refresh: Ministers and Spouses Retreat



**April 29 - May 1
Pike's Waterfront Lodge
in Fairbanks**

**RSVP by Apr 1
\$150 per couple**

contact Mike Procter for more information



Jimmy Stewart Director of Evangelism, Prayer and Collegiate Ministries

I just heard a great report about a mission team hosted by First Baptist Church Valdez who held evangelistic meetings at the local high school and 15 students were saved. On top of this, Avalanche was a big success with over 400 in attendance. A team from California Baptist University helped make Avalanche a success. **DON'T FORGET the T3 application deadline (with a \$50 non-refundable application fee) is April 1.** Visit www.alaskabaptistconvention.com and apply on-line. Easter will be here before we know it. Please email me results of your GPS campaign. Blessings.



Alaska's got Talent

Congratulations to Christopher Rowell, who won the "Alaska's Got Talent" portion of the Avalanche '10 youth evangelism conference on March 12, 2010 in Anchorage. Christopher displayed exceptional talent with a saxophone solo, "Hallelujah! God is Here", and his winnings include an \$8,000 scholarship to University of Mobile, a \$200 gift certificate for himself and a \$50 dinner gift certificate for his parents, Bruce and Polly. Bruce Rowell is pastor of First Baptist Church in Palmer. Runner up was Katelyn Stewart, who sang a solo titled "I Need You." Katelyn's winnings include a \$4,000 scholarship to University of Mobile, a \$50 gift certificate for herself and a \$50 dinner gift certificate for her parents, Jimmy and Kathryn. Jimmy Stewart is the Director of Evangelism, Prayer and Collegiate Ministries for the Alaska Baptist Convention. In the first week of March, during the GPS Tour with the group "Voices" from University of Mobile, students from across the state auditioned to win one of ten "Golden Tickets" -- the opportunity to compete during Avalanche. Don Shannon, Dean Shannon and Dan Shilling were the three judges who had the difficult task of narrowing ten semi-finalists down to three finalists. The students participating in Avalanche voted for the winner and runner-up on Friday night. Thank you to all who participated in making this event a success.



Month "Nuggets"

The staff of the Alaska Baptist Convention reserves the right to edit submitted "Nuggets" for content and space.

First Baptist Church, Valdez

FBC hosted a Youth Rally February 14-18. It was led by 48 students and faculty from the Westminster Christian Academy in Lafayette, Louisiana and 15 decisions were made for the Lord! Dawn Richardson is the youth leader; Chad Richardson is pastor. Pastor Richardson volunteered with "More Than Gold" at the Olympics in Vancouver, Canada.

Hillside Baptist Church, Anchorage

Hillside hosted a Jews for Jesus Seder meal. They are also planning a revival May 16-18 with guest speaker Jim Toole. Please call the church if you want more information.

North Tongass Baptist Church

NTBC welcomed back former members Ken and Shawna Shaw. Returning to Ketchikan from Florida, Ken will head up the construction work to finish the exterior of the church building. Shawna, a nurse, will work at Ketchikan General Hospital.

Cold Bay Chapel

CBC welcomed their new pastor Monte (Sylvia) Chitty from Corsicana, Texas.

First Baptist Church, Petersburg

FBC has called Don (Nancy) Higgins as pastor.

The Crossing @ Birchwood

The Crossing is hosting a women's conference "When All Else Fails...Stand" April 16-17. For more information, contact the church or visit www.crossingtonewlife.org.

Faith Baptist Church, Fairbanks

Moriah (l) and Charyssa (r) Lamb won the opportunity to perform in the "Alaska's Got Talent" portion of Avalanche, the youth evangelism conference held March 12-13 in Anchorage.

New Hope Baptist Church, Anchorage

New Hope will celebrate its 50th anniversary April 21-25. The first service was held April 1960 in the Carpenter's Hall, under the leadership of Rev. Earnest Smith. Currently under the leadership of

Pastor Clifton J. Gay, III, the church will commemorate the occasion with food, fun and fellowship. A special banquet held on April 24 will highlight former members. Please contact the church for more information, (907)272-9315 or newhope@alaska.net. The church also celebrated the 13th anniversary of Pastor Clifton (Gail) Gay III.

University Baptist Church, Fairbanks

The College/Career group of UBC will sponsor the Good Friday service at 7:00 p.m. They are also collecting cookie donations for the campus Easter service. The Easter musical will be Sunday night at 6:00 followed by a finger food fellowship. At the end of the month, the Children's ministry will host the second annual Barn Night and cowboy potluck at Camp Li-Wa, to which the church and Chinese congregation are invited.

Alaska Baptist Convention

Butch and Pam Strickland have been called and are on the field as the Contextualized Church Starter Strategists for the ABC. The Strickland's have served in Texas and Oregon and were IMB missionaries in Venezuela for 15 years. An "oops" from the staff as we forgot to acknowledge Adam Long (Alaska Baptist Foundation) as the author of "Dollar Cost Averaging" in the March Builder.

First Baptist Church, Fairbanks

The youth of FBC attended Avalanche in Anchorage in March. Preparation for Easter services is in full swing and the congregation is working to spread the Word throughout their community.

First Baptist Church,

Soldotna

FBC has called Doug (Kecia) Burrows from Holdenville, Oklahoma as pastor to the church. Burrows will move up as soon as school is out and expect to be on the job by June 1. Please keep this family in your prayers as they

begin the process of moving north.

Prison Ministry

Two of our correction institution chaplains,

Franklin and Bonnie Blodgett, are looking for people who might be interested in serving as volunteer chaplains or religious workers at one of our correctional institutions or transitional housing facilities. If you are interested, please contact Franklin at (907)229-1391 or (907)696-9128.

Tanana Valley Baptist Association

TVBA thanks the Convention for the donation towards the purchase of their Block Party Trailer. The trailer will be used for evangelistic events around the association.

Glacier Valley Baptist Church, Juneau

GVBC held a March "luau." They also distributed GPS materials to 5,000 homes inviting people to church on Easter.

Aquila Baptist Church, Ambler

The church distributed Christmas boxes with gloves, coats and school supplies that were provided by Grace Community Church, Anchorage.

Kiana Baptist Mission and Shungnak Baptist Mission

Both congregations held Valentine's parties on February 14.

Frontier Baptist Church, Kodiak

Six members of the congregation participated in the Iditarod Outreach Ministry in Nome.

Filipino Bible Church, Anchorage

A Hmong congregation is now meeting at 4pm on Sunday. Priestly Lee is pastor.

Baptist Collegiate Ministries, UAA

Campus

BCM held a retreat at Alyeska in February and Scott Capshaw, MSC missionary with Chugach Resort Ministries, was the featured speaker.

Wayland Baptist University, Anchorage campus

The Beth Moore study on John will continue until May 8. The group meets on Saturday, 10am-noon. Contact Teresa Keller (375-4340) for more information.

St. John Baptist Church, Fairbanks

St. John celebrated their 57th anniversary on February 28.

First Baptist Church, Anchorage

FBC held their spring Women's Retreat March 12-13. Scott and Jennifer Capshaw, MSC missionaries serving in Girdwood,



were featured speakers. The church choir performed "It is Finished, Paid in Full" at Easter.

Greater Friendship Baptist Church,

Anchorage

GFBC held revival services March 15-19 featuring Bishop J.L. Smith.

Easter is coming!



Ready for company?

January 27, 2010 Alaska Baptist Convention Executive Board Actions

1. Motion passed to approve the minutes of the November 10-11, 2009, Executive Board meeting.
2. Motion passed to approve the financial reports for December 2009 as written.
3. Motion passed to expense from Restricted Account 8303 Disaster Relief: \$1,000 to go through Florida Baptist Convention for Haiti Relief and \$1,000 to go through Hawaii/Pacific Baptist Convention for Samoan Relief.
4. Motion passed, beginning 2009 and hereafter, to distribute unspent ABC funds as follows: 20% Capital Improvement, 20% Office Equipment Replacement, 15% Insurance Fund, 20% Restricted Reserve Account, and 25% Church Strengthening Fund.
5. Motion passed to extend a call to Durward (Butch) and Pam Strickland to serve as the Contextualized Church Starter Strategist.
6. Motion passed to issue a State Mission Offering Grant of \$2,500 to The Cowboy Church of Anchorage to assist with the purchase of their trailer and sound system.
7. Motion passed to issue a \$2,700 State Mission Offering Grant to the Sand Point Chapel to assist with moving costs for their new pastor.
8. Motion passed to issue a \$3,700 State Mission Offering Grant to Cold Bay Chapel to assist with moving costs for their new pastor.
9. Motion passed to elect King Salmon Community Baptist Church as recipient of the next available 2000 Club Call (April-June 2011) to assist with building a new parsonage.
10. Motion passed to transfer \$7,000 from designated account #8196 State-Wide Missions to designated account #8200 SMO/2000 Club Promotion to apply to deficit and future costs in account # 8200.
11. Motion passed to adopt \$100,000 as the Alaska Baptist Convention goal for 2010 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American missions.
12. Motion passed to accept the Executive Committee board action as follows: "The Executive Committee recommends that the Executive Board accept the retirement schedule set forth by David Baldwin, Executive Director/Treasurer of the Alaska Baptist Convention and the Alaska Baptist Foundation, which will set his retirement date as December 31, 2010. We further recommend that the Search Process for a new Executive Director/Treasurer, as set forth in the Policies and Procedures and Bylaws of the Alaska Baptist Convention begin immediately."
13. Motion passed to elect three at-large members: Johnny McCoy, Kerry Chadwick, and Bryan Myers to serve on the Executive Director Search Committee along with President Ed Gregory (who will serve as Chair of the Executive Director Search Committee), Jeff Anderson (chair of the Budget and Finance Committee), Garry Loeffler (chair of the Administrative and Personnel Committee), and Meggie DeMers (chair of the Missions and Church Development Committee).
14. Motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 1:50 p.m. Wednesday, January 27, 2010.

Welcome!

Chugach Baptist Association

Cold Bay Chapel
Monte (Sylvia) Chitty

Tongass Baptist Association

First Baptist Church, Petersburg
Don (Nancy) Higgins

Please Pray for our Pastorless Churches

Chugach Baptist Association

False Pass Baptist Mission
Filipino Bible Church
First Native Baptist Church
Greater Friendship Baptist
Nelson Lagoon
Whittier Christian Community

Hatcher Pass Baptist Association

Ekwok Christian Church

Tanana Valley Baptist Association

Chinese Fellowship
North Star Baptist Church

Tongass Baptist Association

Glacier Valley Baptist Church
Hoonah Baptist Mission
Tenakee Springs Fellowship
Thorne Bay Baptist Church

Kenai Peninsula

First Baptist Church, Soldotna

Alaska Baptist Messenger

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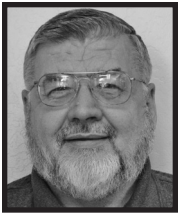
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1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507



David Baldwin

Executive Director

Change is difficult! It sounded easy when I talked with the Alaska Baptist President and Executive Committee and Executive Board about my intent to retire on December 30, 2010. Then I had to get a house on the market, continue to go to meetings to represent Alaska Baptists and be faced with an issue that will impact the future of Alaska Baptist work. What was I thinking?

Every pastor needs to go to www.pray4gcr.com and carefully read the proposed report by the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force. It will be presented to the Southern Baptist Convention in Orlando in June. The final report will be made public prior to the June meeting. If adopted, this report will impact Alaska Baptist work for years to come.

There are six components to the report and they are listed below with limited explanation and comment. Reading the components by themselves sounds good but when you carefully consider how they will impact Alaska Baptist work, it should cause you to ask questions.

Component #1: We believe in order for us to work together more faithfully and effectively towards the fulfillment of the Great Commission, we will ask Southern Baptists to rally towards a clear and compelling Missional vision and begin to conduct ourselves with core values that will create a new and healthy culture within the Southern Baptist Convention. We believe our Missional vision needs to be the following: As a convention of churches, our Missional vision is to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ to every person in the world and to make disciples of all the nations.

Every Southern Baptist Church should state their core values very clearly. Core values are those beliefs that should not ever be compromised!

Component #2: We believe in order for us to work together more faithfully and effectively towards the fulfillment of the Great Commission that our North American Mission Board needs to be reinvented and released. Therefore, in order to do this, we will ask Southern Baptists that the North American Mission Board prioritize efforts to plant churches in North America and to reach our nation's cities and clarify its role to lead and accomplish efforts to reach North America with the Gospel.

The North American Mission Board (NAMB) may appoint missionaries directly to states to penetrate lostness and help churches plant new churches. Special attention will be given to metropolitan areas of North America. Funding from NAMB will be project-driven (strategy-driven), meaning these projects must be driven by the North American Missional strategy and fulfill the direct mission and priorities of NAMB. Accountability will be directly to NAMB. NAMB will develop the Leadership Center of North America to provide direct assessment of church planters and to provide training for church leaders. NAMB would become decentralized by establishing seven regional offices. Cooperative Agreements between NAMB and the State Conventions will be eliminated. The cooperative agreement determines funding and missionary support.

Component #3: We believe in order for us to work together more faithfully and effectively towards the fulfillment of the Great Commission, we will ask Southern Baptists to entrust to the International Mission Board (IMB) the ministry to reach the unreached and under-served people groups without regard to any geographic limitations.

The IMB would be allowed to work in North America to reach the unreached and under-served people groups without regard to geographical limitation.

Component #4: We believe in order for us to work together more faithfully and effectively towards the fulfillment of the Great Commission, we will ask Southern Baptists to move the ministry assignments of Cooperative Program promotion and stewardship education from the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention and return them to being the work of each state Convention since they are located closer to our churches. Our call is for the state conventions to reassume their primary role in the promotion of the Cooperative Program and stewardship education, while asking the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention to support these efforts with enthusiasm and a Convention-wide perspective.

State Conventions would have the primary responsibility for both Cooperative program promotion and stewardship education. State Conventions have never had this assignment.

Component #5: We believe in order for us to work together more faithfully and effectively towards the fulfillment of the Great Commission, we will ask Southern Baptists to reaffirm the Cooperative Program as our central means of supporting Great Commission ministries; but in addition, we will ask Southern Baptists to celebrate with our churches in their Great Commission Giving that goes directly through the Cooperative Program, as well as any designated gifts given to the causes of the Southern Baptist Convention, a state convention or a local association.

Great Commission Giving includes Cooperative Program giving and designated gifts given to the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), a state convention or a local association. This allows designated mission gifts to count as Cooperative Program giving when determining the number of Messenger representation allowed at the associational, state and SBC levels.

Component #6: We believe in order for us to work together more faithfully and effectively towards the fulfillment of the Great Commission, that a greater percentage of total Cooperative Program funds should be directed to the work of the International Mission Board. Therefore, we will ask Southern Baptists to support this goal by affirming an intention to raise the International Mission Board allocation for the 2011-2012 budget year to 51%, a move that is both symbolic and substantial. At the same time, we will ask Southern Baptists to reduce the percentage allocated to Facilitating Ministries by 1% as part of our initial effort to send a greater percentage of total Southern Baptist Convention mission funds to the nations.

The IMB currently receives 50% of all Cooperative Program funds received by the Southern Baptist Executive Board, Nashville, Tennessee.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Alaska Baptist Missionary through the Executive Director position. I pray your follow-up to GPS at Easter is going well.



Mike Procter
*Director of Missions and
 Church Planting*

Sunday, April 4 is Easter, the day we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. In I Corinthians 15:3b-4, the apostle Paul reminds us "...Christ died for our sins, as the Scriptures say. He was buried, and three days later He was raised to life, as the Scriptures say." Then, in verses 54b-57 He proclaims, "...Death has lost the battle! Where is its victory? Where is its sting? Sin is what gives death its sting, and the Law is the power behind sin. But thank God for letting our Lord Jesus Christ give us the victory!" Yes, while everyone who lives will die someday, the grave holds no power over us, and because of what Jesus Christ has done for us, we will be raised to everlasting life. Praise the Lord!

For Southern Baptists there is another event closely associated with Easter -- the Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions. This offering assists with reaching North America for Jesus Christ and when combined with your congregation's mission support through the Cooperative Program, provides resources to enable our congregations and missionaries to present the gospel of Christ.

In Alaska, the Annie Armstrong offering is used in a myriad of ways: church planting grants, church revitalization and strengthening grants, evangelism training, leadership training; salary support and travel assistance for our jointly appointed Alaska Baptist Convention and North American Mission Board missionaries; administrative support in the Alaska Baptist Convention offices; block party trailers and other evangelistic resources; summer missionaries, Mission Service Corps missionaries and other short-term mission personnel. As you pray and ask the Lord what He would have you give to the 2010 Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions, remember you are supporting missions work in Alaska through Brenda Crim, David George, John Forrester, Linda Hokit, Jimmy Stewart, Don Shannon, Mike Procter, Debra Long, Betsy Shilling, Sylvia Rylander, Gary Bearce, Butch Strickland, Paul Wells and Mike Purple. You are also supporting the following congregations/ministries that receive financial assistance: Valley Life Fellowship, Filipino Baptist Church (Ketchikan), Chugach Resort Ministries, Samoa Alaska Baptist Church, CrossCountry Church, Cowboy Church of Anchorage, Juneau Korean Baptist Church, Aquillaq Baptist Church, Kiana Baptist Mission, Kobuk Baptist Mission, Togiak Baptist Mission, King Salmon Community Baptist Chapel and Shungnak Baptist Mission.

It is my prayer that you will have a glorious day on Easter, as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and you will ask the Lord what He would have you give to the Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions. Give cheerfully knowing that it will be used to reach Alaska for Jesus Christ.



Don Shannon
*Director of Ministries and
 Mission Education*

We all sense that the culture is changing rapidly, and we grope for answers as to how that affects our ability to fulfill the Great Commission. The word most used to describe this shifting context is "postmodernism," but few can agree fully on what the term means. With even the definition of postmodernism being such a moving target, defining church outreach strategies seems even more difficult.

Reaching the postmodern requires that we learn to evangelize an increasingly secularized culture. There are no programs with "three simple steps" to reaching our changing world. Instead, we need to become comfortable with a process that helps churches build relevant and effective ministries. It also means overcoming the obstacles of tradition and technique, which requires an openness that is often absent among believers mired in cultural expressions of Christianity. It is a time when our own cultural presuppositions are challenged, regardless of the era from which they are derived.

Are we ready to think outside the box to reach those outside the church? In thinking outside the box I want to return to the Book. We are Great Commission churches when we remain faithful to the gospel and simultaneously seek to contextualize the gospel so the gospel engages the hearers and transforms them. We need new churches, not because they are trendy or cutting edge, but that are fresh expressions of the unchanging gospel.

Just then an expert in the law stood up to test Him, saying, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
²⁶ *"What is written in the law?" He asked him. "How do you read it?"*
²⁷ *He answered: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."*
²⁸ *"You've answered correctly," He told him. "Do this and you will live." Luke 10:25-28 (HCSB)*

The unchanging gospel is a message of love: God's love seen in our salvation through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ; love for God seen in our obedient worship and service; and love for others seen in the touch of kindness offered without any strings.

The church that rediscovers this missional nature will engage the culture while remaining faithful to the "... faith that was delivered to the saints once for all." Jude 1:3 (HCSB) The result may look different to us but not to God. From His perspective, the word has become flesh in a new setting and we will truly become missionaries in our communities.

Alaska Baptist

MESSENGER

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PERIODICAL POSTAGE
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calendar

April 2010

4	Easter Sunday	10	ABC Budget and Finance Cmte Mtg
4	SBC Seminaries Sunday	10	ABC all Committee Mtgs
9-10	TBA Annual Meeting	11	ABC Executive Board Convenes
11	Cooperative Program Sunday	16-22	On Mission in Baptist Associations
11-15	Baptist Doctrine Study	23	Day of Prayer and Fasting
15-17	Women on Mission Celebration	23	for World Evangelization
18	Life Commitment Sunday	31	ABC and ABF closed for Memorial Day
19	VBS Training, Fairview Loop, Wasilla		
20	VBS Training, Grandview, Anchorage	June 2010	
22	VBS Training, First, Soldotna	12	Crossover
24	VBS Training, First, North Pole	15-16	SBC Convention in Orlando
27-29	New Pastor and full-time staff orientation	20	Baptist Men's Emphasis
29-May 1	Ministers' and Spouses' Retreat	20-26	Training Teens Today (T3)
		21-26	Nikiski World Changers
		27	Mission: Dignity Sunday

May 2010

2	Senior Adult Sunday
2-9	Christian Home Week
3-7	Bible Study Leader Appreciation Banquets
6	ABF Board Meeting
9	Day of Prayer for ABFS