



Alaska Baptist MESSENGER

Vol 65

May 2010

NO 5

*A special invitation to all
Pastors, Bible Study and Discipleship
Leaders*

*In appreciation for your hard work
and dedication,
please join us for dinner and an
evangelism/discipleship conference*

Transformation Church = Changed Lives

*led by Ken and Jan Marler
Lifeway Christian Resources*

*Dinner, 6:30 p.m.
Program, 7:15 p.m.*

Monday, May 3

Pioneer Baptist Church, Wasilla

Tuesday, May 4

First Baptist Church, Anchorage

Thursday, May 6

Shannon Park Baptist Church, Fairbanks

Friday, May 7

Glacier Valley Baptist Church, Juneau

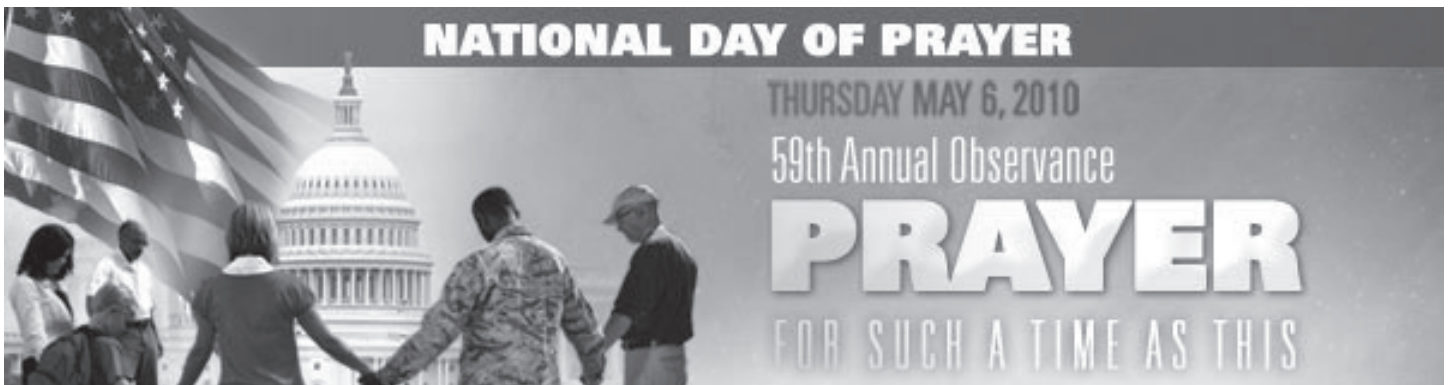
*Please RSVP to your host church
No childcare will be available*



**May 17-23, 2010
Associational Missions Emphasis Week**



*Happy Mother's Day
May 9*



Alaska Baptist Convention

God's Plan for Sharing in Alaska

January - March 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	\$1,201.00	\$1,203.56	\$821.00	\$1,220.62	Chinese Fellowship	\$216.50	\$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	\$1,613.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,568.22
Cliffside Community Chapel	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Faith Baptist Church Fbks	\$1,272.00	\$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	\$13,471.00	\$4,195.00	\$272.00	\$4,325.00
Cowboy Church of Anchorage	\$504.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8.00	First Baptist Church Fairbanks	\$1,495.70	\$1,385.00	\$0.00	\$2,210.00
Eagle River Korean Bapt Church	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$240.00	\$200.00	First Baptist Church North Pole	\$7,186.12	\$1,608.00	\$0.00	\$2,036.12
Filipino Bible Church Anchorage	\$1,900.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Friendship Baptist Church Fbks	\$150.00	\$540.00	\$840.00	\$1,905.00
First Baptist Church Anchorage	\$19,429.60	\$5,400.59	\$3,440.00	\$10,900.00	Hispanic Mission	\$320.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church Eagle River	\$13,039.91	\$4,315.00	\$2,230.00	\$3,818.36	Korean Baptist Mission Fbks	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church Kotzebue	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$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	\$1,847.81	\$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	\$832.50	\$551.00	\$0.00	\$348.00	North Star Baptist Church	\$121.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grandview Baptist Church	\$6,176.61	\$6,487.07	\$0.00	\$9,531.91	Salcha Baptist Church	\$2,133.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,250.00
Greater Friendship Baptist Ch	\$2,350.00	\$0.00	\$2.00	\$870.00	Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,455.00
Hillside Baptist Church	\$3,043.48	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$3,366.00	St John Baptist Church	\$4,035.11	\$0.00	\$320.00	\$0.00
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$285.14	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$1,218.73	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	\$6,557.00	\$3,120.00	\$0.00	\$9,586.43
Kobuk Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Total:	\$42,481.79	\$12,833.94	\$1,432.00	\$36,144.99
Korean New Central Baptist Ch	\$200.00	\$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	\$1,483.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Ch	\$360.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Comm Baptist Ch Coffman Cove	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Mountain View Community Church	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$538.49	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.00	Filipino Baptist Church KTN	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Grace Christian Church	\$380.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	First Baptist Church Juneau	\$1,693.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$175.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$5,846.00	\$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	\$1,929.51	\$6,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$6,000.00	First Baptist Church Petersburg	\$539.00	\$784.47	\$0.00	\$1,445.00
River In The Desert Comm Ch	\$428.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	First Baptist Church Sitka	\$1,050.78	\$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	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$230.00
Solid Rock Baptist Church	\$50.00	\$125.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	Kasaan Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sunset Hills Baptist Church	\$4,240.62	\$7,400.50	\$0.00	\$4,366.00	New Hope Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	North Tongass Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$310.00
True North Church	\$400.00	\$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	\$528.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Total:	\$13,033.91	\$5,510.18	\$0.00	\$11,774.76
Whittier Christian Community	\$235.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Grand Total:	\$192,633.08	\$68,020.94	\$18,024.08	\$131,231.06
Wilderness Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Goal:	\$770,301.00	\$70,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$150,000.00
Total:	\$69,781.34	\$35,957.72	\$11,108.00	\$47,182.32	Over/Under Goal:	(\$577,667.92)	(\$1,979.06)	(\$81,975.92)	(\$18,768.94)
Hatcher Pass Baptist Association	CP	SMO	AA	LM	Legend:				
Big Lake Baptist Church	\$1,399.62	\$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	\$150.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	AA: Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, January - December				
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$2,036.23	\$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	\$9,785.01	\$3,363.06	\$3,000.00	\$3,294.99					
First Baptist Church Palmer	\$13,917.74	\$1,506.66	\$0.00	\$1,294.00					
First Baptist Church Valdez	\$2,583.73	\$245.00	\$1,401.08	\$2,928.65					
First Baptist Church Wasilla	\$7,923.58	\$2,228.00	\$0.00	\$9,138.99					
First Baptist Church Willow	\$980.71	\$1,935.16	\$0.00	\$2,600.50					
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	\$10.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Pioneer Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$720.00					
Schrock Road Comm Church	\$529.00	\$1,032.22	\$83.00	\$836.61					
Settler's Bay Comm Church	\$1,074.06	\$201.00	\$0.00	\$1,327.00					
Valley Life Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00					
Total:	\$42,402.24	\$11,921.10	\$4,484.08	\$29,946.59					
Kenai Peninsula	CP	SMO	AA	LM					
College Heights Baptist Church	\$17,512.16	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
First Baptist Church Kenai	\$1,085.42	\$575.00	\$0.00	\$2,287.75					
First Baptist Church Soldotna	\$1,211.22	\$165.00	\$0.00	\$1,594.65					
Lighthouse Community Church	\$3,646.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Moose Pass Community Church	\$279.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Mount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00					
Total:	\$24,933.80	\$740.00	\$1,000.00	\$4,882.40					



State Goal: \$100,000



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.

TECHNOLOGY IS COMING to the Alaska Baptist Convention!

The Women on Mission Celebration was the "test" to broadcast (stream) a meeting live over the internet. Thanks to Michael "Spam" Blakeney, Don Shannon and First Baptist Church, Anchorage, the mission was accomplished! Plans are currently underway to live "stream" the Alaska Baptist Convention Annual Meeting in September as well as the State Evangelism Conference in January.

	<p>Camp Clean up at LaVerne Griffin!</p> <p>May 22, 2010, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Lunch is provided and served from 1:00-2:00 p.m. Door prizes, games for kids and lots of great fellowship is on the agenda for the day! For more information, contact the camp directors at Igyrc@mtaonline.net(907)376-6887</p>	

Women on Mission Celebration!



Alaska WMU President Ruby Stogsdill (c) with special guests Amanda Dillon (l) and Andrea Mullins (r)

A wonderful time was had by all at this year's Women on Mission Celebration, April 15-17 at First Baptist Church in Anchorage. This year's theme, "Let Your Light Shine", was reflected in the messages brought by the guest speakers Amanda Dillon of IMB and Andrea Mullins of WMU. Over 120 registered attendees shared in the passionate, large-group worship sessions



Karen Chambers (l) reads the winning name from one of the many drawings at the Celebration.

led by Kathleen Collums, Kaitlyn Collums, Katelyn Stewart and Jimmy Stewart. Practical and inspiring break-out sessions were featured throughout the event.



We would love to hear your GPS success stories!

Send information about your GPS "Find It Here" distribution and the results you saw on Easter to messenger@alaskabaptistconvention.com. We will publish those stories in upcoming issues of the Alaska Baptist Messenger.



May "Nuggets"

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

Filipino Baptist Church,

Ketchikan

A group from FBC enjoyed a Bible



study in Pastor Jesse Misa's home.

Fairview Loop Baptist Church,

Wasilla

Ladies of FLBC participated in the "Loving Well" retreat in March. The church participated in the "Find It Here" campaign, inviting community neighbors to see "St John In Exile" and to attend Easter services and lunch. FLBC also hosted the Hatcher Pass Baptist Association VBS training clinic on April 19. The youth provide a fundraising lunch once a month and the annual halibut fish fry and youth servant auction was held April 30 as a fundraiser for the youth mission trip to Kodiak. The church is planning a mission trip to Asia in August.

First Native Baptist Church,

Anchorage

FNBC called Charles (Nancy) Lane as pastor. Charles has been serving as interim and was voted to be Pastor on March 21. The church also called Russell Lamont as association pastor. The church will celebrate their 50th anniversary on August 15. They will have a catered luncheon following the morning worship service.

North Star Baptist Church,

Anderson

Hugh Long has accepted North Star's pastoral call and will be on the field in early June.

First Baptist Church, Fairbanks

The church will host a mission team

from California and another from Arkansas, who will assist with the Backyard Bible Club/Sports Clinic and a summer revival. Both teams will help build a shower facility from an existing storage area. Plans for the Winter Youth Celebration in October are already underway. Find information at www.defyconformity.com.

University Baptist Church,

Anchorage

Cathy Bowery was recently recognized by the Anchorage Mayor's office as part of the "Good News, Great Kids: A Salute to the Youth of Anchorage." Cathy's father, Don (Mary) Bowery is pastor.

Pioneer Baptist Church, Wasilla

PBC will host the HPBA Bible Study Leaders Appreciation banquet and evangelism conference on May 3. "Transformational Church = Lives Changed!" will be led by Ken and Jan Marler. Dinner is provided at 6:30 p.m. and sessions begin at 7:15 p.m. Contact the church for more information.

Cross Roads Baptist Church,

North Pole

The youth group had a progressive lunch on April 10 at which they visited four host homes to learn about missions. The group is led by Roy and Carrie Hobbs. The ladies of CRBC had a luncheon and "secret sister" reveal on the 24th and will have a brunch on May 1. Deborah Lord leads that ministry. The church cookbook is almost ready to print!

Alaska Baptist Convention

Butch (Pam) Strickland arrived April



1 to begin serving as our Contextualized Church Starter Strategist. While liv-

ing in Anchorage, he will have state-wide responsibilities to assist with planting new congregations, and specifically, ethnic and affinity congregations. Coming from an eight-year pastorate in Texas, both were missionaries in Venezuela prior to that. Pam is an Anchorage girl so she is coming home!

Disaster Relief

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief efforts were featured in the April 2010 issue of the American Red Cross "Mass Care Messenger." Don Shannon and Linda Hokit are the Disaster Relief contacts in Alaska.

First Baptist Church, Valdez

FBC hosted "Christ in the Passover" on March 29. Rob Wertheim from Jews For Jesus set a table with items traditionally used at the Passover meal and detailed their spiritual significance. He also showed the connection between the events of the first Passover and the redemption that Jesus accomplished.

Hillside Baptist Church,

Anchorage

HBC had over 300 people attend their annual Easter egg hunt. They also conducted a Seder Meal with a Jews for Jesus representative. The church will hold a revival May 16-18 with guest speakers Jim and Debbie Toole.

University Baptist Church,

Fairbanks

UBC will hold their morning VBS May 24-28. Other May events include a canoe trip for the college group, a campout for children and youth and "Dutch Oven Desserts" on the evening of Mother's Day. The ESL group will end their school year with a party on May 4 and a potluck on May 19 will precede the second of their three yearly business meetings.

JAM Camp

Registration forms for JAM Camp can be found on-line at <http://hpbaak.org/>

North Tongass Baptist Church,
Ward Cove

NTBC held an Easter sunrise service at Refuge Cove near Ketchikan. Twenty-four, seven of which were visitors, were in attendance. Mike Hatter is pastor.

First Baptist Church, Wasilla

A representative of Jews for Jesus presented "Christ in the Passover" to the congregation on March 17. The church hosted a community Easter egg hunt and had over 300 in attendance. A mission team is going to Uganda in October to conduct health clinics, teach and install water purifiers.

Glacier Valley Baptist Church
Juneau

GVBC held a picnic and Easter egg hunt following their Easter service.

Emmanuel Baptist
Church, Juneau

EBC has called Rich (Shirley) Clements as pastor. The church held an installation service on April 25.

Tongass Baptist Association

TBA has called Joe (Cindy) Boney as their associational

Director of Missions/Church Starter Strategist. The Boney's are moving from the Utah/Idaho Convention where he currently serves in the same capacity. They hope to be on the field in early June.

Compensation Study for Pastors

The deadline for the compensation study has been extended to May 15. Pastor, if you have not gone online to complete the survey, please do so at www.lifewaysurvey.com. When compiled, the information will be available to assist budget and finance, personnel and pastor search committees. Your name and church name will not be requested or published.

GraceBook -

Are you a friend of God?
"Find us on FaceBook"

JAM Camp -2010

LaVerne Griffin Camp, Wasilla

July 25-29

Campers completed grades 3 thru 9

Alaska Leadership Event



March 29-April 1, 2010 North American Mission Board (NAMB) Missionaries, Mission Service Corps Missionaries and local church pastors/staff/leaders gathered at First Baptist Church in Anchorage for the Alaska Leadership event. Co-sponsored by the Alaska Baptist Convention and NAMB, breakout sessions were THRIVE, Developing and Managing People, What's In It For Me?, Unto The Least Of These, To Dream Again, Mission Service Corps Ministry Support Development and Next Level Leadership. *Pictured (l to r) Doug Jividen, John Gardner, Bert Ross, Mike Riggins. Not pictured David Meacham, Jim Arrant, Hugh Townsend, Patricia Hughes, Les Dobbins.*

Welcome!

Chugach Baptist Association

First Native Baptist Church

Charles (Nancy) Lane

Kenai Peninsula

First Baptist Church, Soldotna

Doug (Kecia) Burrows

Tongass Baptist Association

Emmanuel Baptist Church

Rich (Shirley) Clements

**Please Pray for
our Pastorless
Churches**

Chugach Baptist Association

False Pass Baptist Mission

Filipino Bible Church

Greater Friendship Baptist Church

Nelson Lagoon

Whittier Christian Community

Hatcher Pass Baptist Association

Ekwok Christian Church

Tanana Valley Baptist Association

Chinese Fellowship

Tongass Baptist Association

Anchor Point Baptist Church

Glacier Valley Baptist Church

Hoonah Baptist Mission

Tenakee Springs Fellowship

Thorne Bay Baptist Church

Alaska Baptist Messenger

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David Baldwin, Editor

1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507



David Baldwin
Executive Director

God has blessed Alaska Baptist churches with some tremendous people who may not always agree but who love God, their churches and Alaska. It is a privilege to live and serve here. But there is an area of our work that causes me sadness and that is an apparent lack of discipleship. We do not consciously think about who will replace us when we are gone. We emphasize evangelism and promote Bible Study leadership training, but there is little or no evidence we are discipling.

In February, the program staff of the Alaska Baptist Convention (ABC) visited Real Life Ministries in Post Falls, Idaho, to attend their "Immersion I" training. Real Life Ministries was started almost ten years ago and in the time since, has planted churches, which today account for over 9,000 people in Sunday worship. As I have traveled the last two months since that training and have read Jim Putnam's book "Church is a Team Sport", I have asked myself "why not in Alaska?" I am not talking about duplicating Real Life Ministries; I am talking about discipleship. Growing up, I was disciplined in a group/class setting. The church in which I was raised had Training Union and youth group. Training Union dealt with Bible doctrine, Baptist history, ethical issues, stewardship and witnessing. We had to learn to teach a class or lead a group, much like the teens who attend T-3 here in Alaska. We were responsible for leading our youth group; we planned the programs, recreation (games), etc., and adults provided the refreshments. My local church was training "replacements." I realized my training didn't start when I became a teenager; it actually started when I entered grade school and continued until I left home.

I remember the first time I was audited by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). After the IRS agent and I "agreed" I had made a mistake, she said, "The last two years, I have met more people from the church you attend than I have from any other church in our region." I was thinking we must have a congregation full of crooks but when I asked her what she meant, she replied, "the people from your church are audited because of the amount of money they contribute to the church. It is so out of proportion to their earnings." I asked myself "why?" In that church of less than 200, I learned that stewardship is not about money but is a spiritual matter. I learned that witnessing is not an event held one day a week but is a lifestyle. I learned that Bible Study (Sunday School) every week is a necessity. Missions is not something you learn, but is something you do. By building friendships and relationships with people, you earn the right to deliver the Good News of the Gospel. Most of the people in that church never thought they were training "replacements"; they were too scared about the teaching position they had just been given!

Discipleship, evangelism, Bible study, missions and stewardship are not answers to a multiple choice Bible quiz. We are to be about these things right where we live. We are to lead people to Christ and then disciple them so they will witness to others.

What is your church doing about discipleship? What are you doing about discipleship? Your ABC staff is willing to help.

I want to thank our churches for mission support through giving to the Cooperative Program. It is an honor to serve with you.



Mike Procter
Director of Missions and Church Planting

In the life of Alaska Baptists, our vital partners are our associations and in Alaska we have four: Chugach Baptist Association (CBA), Hatcher Pass Baptist Association (HPBA), Tanana Valley Baptist Association (TVBA) and Tongass Baptist Association (TBA). Each association is made up of congregations and ministries in a geographical region of our state. CBA is comprised of the greater Anchorage area, although it also has several Bush congregations with whom it partners. HPBA covers the greater Mat-Su Valley from Talkeetna to Palmer to Valdez, and also includes Bush congregations. TVBA covers the Interior from Healy to Fairbanks to Tok, and TBA encompasses all of Southeast Alaska from Ketchikan to Skagway.

Each association has a different style, emphasis, ministry and approach but ultimately, each exists to support and resource their congregations to fulfill God's ministry in their local communities, as well as to lead in facilitating church planting.

Our associational Directors of Missions (DOMs) are David George (CBA), Paul Wells (TVBA) and Gary Bearce (HPBA). TBA recently called Joe Boney to serve as DOM. These men are ready to assist your congregation

and ministry in any way they can and I encourage you to contact them when there is a need.

May 17-23 is Associational Missions Emphasis Week across the Southern Baptist Convention. The theme is "The Baptist Association: The Greatest Impact for the Great Commission." Our associations assist all of

us with reaching our Jerusalem (local communities) and Judea (Alaska) for Jesus Christ. Why not send a note of encouragement to your associational DOM to let him know you appreciate him and are praying for him.

Blessings!



David George
CBA



Paul Wells
TVBA



Gary Bearce
HPBA



Jimmy Stewart
*Director of Evangelism, Prayer
and Collegiate Ministries*

2010 has already been a really busy year for me. Between January and May, I have been responsible for supervising and coordinating several conferences and activities taking place in the Alaska Baptist Convention. This year we added the God's Plan for Sharing (GPS) Easter media campaign to the mix and had fabulous kick-off events with the "Voices of Mobile" singing ensemble from the University of Mobile, Alabama. It was a special blessing and an exciting time as the group traveled around the state, presenting the gospel through song as well as promoting the GPS emphasis. I have already received numerous reports from churches about people responding to the invitation to attend Easter services. This affirms God is still in the people business and we are the people He uses. In these trying times, I believe more people are thinking about things that really matter. Many of our churches had over 300 in attendance. This is a blessing and an opportunity for our churches, and now is the time to follow up on those who came to services. Send a note of thanks, make a phone call or mail information about upcoming events to keep your church on their hearts. I believe God blesses our faithfulness and we need to keep reaching out to the lost in our communities.

Summer will be here before we know it. Training Teens Today (T3) is one of my favorite summer activities. Students are currently completing their MasterLife books and preparing for the week's activities. We are blessed to have 25 students participating this year, half of whom are first-time students. This year, we will participate in a mission project and students will extensively study Mormonism and Jehovah's Witnesses. These studies will be conducted by Tal Davis, a leader in people faith groups at the North American Mission Board. Another bonus is the inclusion of community leaders who will speak to our teens about preparing to be in the workplace. I am going to invite business owners to challenge students concerning work ethics and workplace achievement. This will be offered in addition to ministry development in worship leadership, ministry, Bible study, recreation, technology and video. I am excited about what the students will learn this year.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) season is upon us and training clinics have been well-attended. I hope your church is getting ready for "Saddle Ridge Ranch." The lessons, music and activities are going to make for a great year for our children and leaders. I hope your church is using this event to reach out to your community. Almost 90,000 children made decisions for Christ through VBS in America last year, and this is the largest evangelistic effort Southern Baptists do. It is worth everything we put into it. Keep up the great work and get ready for the cowboys and cowgirls who will be heading your way.



Don Shannon
*Director of Ministries and
Mission Education*

Being a Christian is more than simply believing in God or Jesus Christ, because the devil himself meets that criterion. Being a Christian is more than simply believing the Bible is a reliable ancient document, because many archaeologists and historians who are atheists believe the Bible to be true. Being a Christian is more than simply believing - it is being...being a disciple of Christ.

"The word 'disciple' tended to lose its narrower associations with the twelve, and/or those who followed the historical Jesus, or who saw the risen Lord, and became a virtual equivalent to 'Christian' "For a whole year they met with the church and taught large numbers, and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch." Acts 11:26 (HCSB). In every case, however, the common bond of meaning for the various applications of the word 'disciple' was allegiance to Jesus."—Holman Bible Dictionary. If we claim to be a Christian, then we must also be a disciple. As a disciple, there is both a cost and call that must be demonstrated to prove we are in fact followers of Christ.

Taking a closer look at the cost of discipleship, one is confronted with in passages like Matthew 4:18-22; 10:24-42; Luke 5:27-28; 14:25-27; 18:28-30 in which the disciples were to give Jesus first place in their lives over family and finance. Additionally, Jesus asked for lifelong allegiance (Luke 9:57-62) as the essential means of doing the will of God (Matt. 12:49-50; John 7:16-18). There is a price to be paid to be a disciple: total allegiance to Jesus Christ.

The call of the disciple is best known as the Great Commission. "Then Jesus came near and said to them, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'" Matthew 28:18-20 (HCSB). If I care for people, I will share with people. As I go, I will make every effort to help others be followers of Christ. John 13 reminds us that "by this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." There is a plan to be practiced to be a disciple: love one another.

I would challenge you to pay the price and practice the plan. As a disciple, we should give Jesus our total allegiance and love others.

Alaska Baptist

MESSENGER

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PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT
ANCHORAGE, AK

calendar

May 2010

2 Senior Adult Sunday
2-9 Christian Home Week
3-7 Bible Study Leader Appreciation Banquets
6 Alaska Baptist Foundation Board Mtg
9 Day of Prayer for
Alaska Baptist Family Services
10 ABC Budget and Finance Cmte Mtg
10 ABC all Committee Mtgs
11 ABC Executive Board Convenes
16-22 On Mission in Baptist Associations
23 Day of Prayer and Fasting
for World Evangelization
31 ABC and ABF closed for Memorial Day

June 2010

12 Crossover
15-16 SBC Convention in Orlando
20 Baptist Men's Emphasis
20-26 Training Teens Today (T3)

21-26
27

Nikiski World Changers
Mission: Dignity Sunday

July 2010

4 Citizenship and Religious Liberty Sunday
4 Independence Day
5 ABC and ABF closed for Independence Day
25-29 JAM Camp
25-28 North American Mission Board
State Summer Leadership Meeting



Memorial Day
May 31, 2010

calendar