



# Alaska

## Baptist Messenger



Vol 66

February 2011

NO 2

## Refresh

A retreat for  
Ministers and Spouses



Thursday - Saturday, April 28 - 30, 2011  
Mountain Sky Hotel and Suites and First Baptist Church  
Valdez

Guest speaker Dr. Leroy Fountain, Urban Church Planting Team  
Consultant, North American Mission Board

Cost \$125 per couple

Watch the website for more information:  
[www.alaskabaptistconvention.com](http://www.alaskabaptistconvention.com)

## Women on Mission Celebration

“Unhindered:  
Freedom in Christ”

April 7-9, 2011

First Baptist Church

Anchorage

### Featuring:

- Guest speakers from NAMB, IMB and WMU
- Break-out sessions
- Bookstore
- WorldCrafts store
- Door prizes each session
- Dinner on Thursday
- Lunch on Saturday

Register by March 7 to receive Early Bird price!

Registrations must be submitted online at  
[www.alaskabaptistconvention.com](http://www.alaskabaptistconvention.com)

### Deadlines:

Early Bird registration for \$30, March 7

Registration after March 7, \$45

Hotel reservations, March 24

Childcare reservations (birth-K only), April 4

# God's Plan for Sharing in Alaska

January - December 2010 Gifts from ABC churches

<b>Chugach Baptist Association</b>	<b>CP</b>	<b>SMO</b>	<b>AA</b>	<b>LM</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>CP</b>	<b>SMO</b>	<b>AA</b>	<b>LM</b>
Alaska Iu-Mienh First Bapt Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$0.00	\$538.47	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Anch Hope Comm Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$538.47</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>
Aquillaa Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>Tanana Valley Baptist Association</b>	<b>CP</b>	<b>SMO</b>	<b>AA</b>	<b>LM</b>
Calvary Baptist Church	\$4,819.00	\$1,351.00	\$1,156.00	\$916.60	Chinese Fellowship	\$1,048.50	\$265.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Christ Community Church	\$75.00	\$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	\$11,240.00	\$704.17	\$1,843.11	\$2,374.11
Cliffsade Community Chapel	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Faith Baptist Church Fbks	\$7,252.00	\$1,250.00	\$700.00	\$0.00
Cold Bay Chapel	\$618.50	\$275.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Filipino Baptist Fellowship Fbks	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Community Baptist Church Nome	\$498.00	\$85.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	First Baptist Church Delta Jct	\$55,507.99	\$4,220.00	\$2,887.00	\$5,349.25
Cowboy Church of Anchorage	\$2,485.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	First Baptist Church Fairbanks	\$7,865.88	\$1,336.00	\$1,532.50	\$0.00
Eagle River Korean Bapt Church	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$240.00	\$200.00	First Baptist Church North Pole	\$30,465.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Filipino Bible Church Anchorage	\$3,800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Friendship Baptist Church Fbks	\$550.00	\$360.00	\$840.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church Anchorage	\$78,049.22	\$6,786.63	\$7,311.69	\$7,934.00	Hispanic Mission	\$737.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church Eagle River	\$38,461.98	\$1,338.00	\$4,045.00	\$3,450.00	Korean Baptist Mission Fbks	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$130.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church Kotzebue	\$3,500.00	\$800.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$8,899.57	\$352.10	\$579.29	\$0.00
First Baptist Church Soldotna	\$9,335.84	\$1,264.25	\$1,542.00	\$0.00	Morning Star Baptist Church	\$8,759.35	\$0.00	\$1,771.00	\$511.00
First Hmong Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Mount Pleasant Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Korean Baptist Church	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$384.00	\$0.00	North Star Baptist Church	\$686.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Native Baptist Church	\$4,844.00	\$2,343.00	\$1,545.00	\$1,110.00	Salcha Baptist Church	\$6,370.72	\$0.00	\$1,337.00	\$5,205.00
Frontier Baptist Church	\$4,310.91	\$0.00	\$785.00	\$0.00	Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$8,589.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grandview Baptist Church	\$34,187.71	\$11,704.00	\$8,950.13	\$2,535.00	St John Baptist Church	\$14,399.34	\$0.00	\$320.00	\$0.00
Greater Friendship Bapt Church	\$8,880.33	\$600.00	\$482.00	\$615.00	Togiak Baptist Mission	\$250.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Hillside Baptist Church	\$13,640.67	\$755.00	\$1,185.00	\$0.00	University Baptist Church Fbks	\$23,258.00	\$1,145.00	\$4,442.50	\$10.25
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$1,204.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$753.62	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$186,479.00</b>	<b>\$9,732.27</b>	<b>\$16,782.40</b>	<b>\$13,549.61</b>
Kiana Baptist Mission	\$1,117.69	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	<b>Tongass Baptist Association</b>	<b>CP</b>	<b>SMO</b>	<b>AA</b>	<b>LM</b>
Kobuk Baptist Mission	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	Anchor Baptist Church	\$8,059.95	\$610.00	\$300.00	\$500.00
Korean New Central Bapt Church	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	Comm Bapt Church Coffman Cove	\$1,613.60	\$0.00	\$323.70	\$0.00
Kuparuk Preaching Point	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$3,107.17	\$530.23	\$417.00	\$603.00
Mt Zion Missionary Bapt Church	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Filipino Baptist Church KTN	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mountain View Comm Church	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	First Baptist Church Juneau	\$9,403.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$440.00
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$9,375.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,092.70	First Baptist Church Ketchikan	\$6,265.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Grace Christian Church	\$3,680.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	First Baptist Church Petersburg	\$3,022.00	\$0.00	\$950.00	\$0.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$19,848.04	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	First Baptist Church Sitka	\$5,409.39	\$0.00	\$510.00	\$0.00
Rabbit Creek Community Church	\$7,718.04	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$25.00	Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$15,043.21	\$2,431.00	\$3,250.00	\$0.00
River In The Desert Comm Church	\$3,087.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Hoonah Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Samoa Alaska Baptist Church	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	Juneau Korean Church	\$360.00	\$81.00	\$90.00	\$290.00
Sand Point Baptist Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Kasaan Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Shungnak Baptist Mission	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	New Hope Fellowship	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Solid Rock Baptist Church	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	North Tongass Baptist Church	\$105.50	\$225.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sunset Hills Baptist Church	\$26,942.89	\$2,739.00	\$3,769.00	\$3,377.00	Tenakee Community Church	\$435.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
The Church of New Beginnings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Thorne Bay Baptist Church	\$3,192.77	\$505.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$3,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$56,719.00</b>	<b>\$4,382.23</b>	<b>\$6,340.70</b>	<b>\$1,833.00</b>
True North Church	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>\$754,134.81</b>	<b>\$63,798.38</b>	<b>\$83,901.30</b>	<b>\$61,508.74</b>
University Baptist Church Anch	\$8,834.71	\$1,432.00	\$1,253.00	\$0.00	<b>Goal:</b>	<b>\$766,003.00</b>	<b>\$70,000.00</b>	<b>\$100,000.00</b>	<b>\$150,000.00</b>
Valley View Baptist Church	\$3,700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$684.00	<b>Under/Over Goal:</b>	<b>(\$11,868.19)</b>	<b>(\$6,201.62)</b>	<b>(\$16,098.70)</b>	<b>(\$88,491.26)</b>
Whittier Christian Community	\$897.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Wilderness Chapel	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00					
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$303,037.82</b>	<b>\$31,472.88</b>	<b>\$38,147.82</b>	<b>\$22,717.92</b>					

<b>Hatcher Pass Baptist Association</b>	<b>CP</b>	<b>SMO</b>	<b>AA</b>	<b>LM</b>
Big Lake Baptist Church	\$9,628.18	\$1,662.00	\$2,243.63	\$3,678.00
Bodenberg Butte Bapt Church	\$6,563.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
CrossCountry Church	\$1,050.00	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$200.00
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$8,070.65	\$0.00	\$1,131.01	\$0.00
Ekwok Christian Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fairview Loop Baptist Church	\$25,359.59	\$2,435.62	\$5,020.98	\$0.00
First Baptist Church Palmer	\$34,299.82	\$900.00	\$985.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church Valdez	\$11,318.40	\$2,000.03	\$2,336.91	\$5,525.10
First Baptist Church Wasilla	\$28,743.88	\$2,851.81	\$2,692.00	\$7,992.46
First Baptist Church Willow	\$4,324.74	\$2,031.77	\$1,326.61	\$0.00
King Salmon Comm Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Montana Creek Baptist Church	\$3,936.04	\$0.00	\$355.00	\$0.00
North Bear St Comm Church	\$97.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pioneer Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$145.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Schrock Road Comm Church	\$6,708.01	\$1,275.00	\$1,385.00	\$1,140.00
Settler's Bay Comm Church	\$7,286.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Valley Life Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Wasilla Korean Bapt Church	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$147,936.87</b>	<b>\$13,501.23</b>	<b>\$17,576.14</b>	<b>\$19,035.56</b>

<b>Kenai Peninsula</b>	<b>CP</b>	<b>SMO</b>	<b>AA</b>	<b>LM</b>
College Heights Baptist Church	\$37,141.97	\$4,071.30	\$2,923.45	\$0.00
First Baptist Church Kenai	\$6,059.15	\$100.00	\$630.79	\$872.65
Lighthouse Community Church	\$14,276.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Moose Pass Comm Church	\$1,285.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$59,962.12</b>	<b>\$4,171.30</b>	<b>\$5,054.24</b>	<b>\$1,372.65</b>

Legend:

CP: Cooperative Program, January - December

SMO: State Mission Offering, August - July

AA: Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, January - December

LM: Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, June - May



Join the 2000 Club and support capital needs projects in our Alaska Baptist Convention churches! Each quarter, individuals, mission groups, Sunday School classes and churches strive to meet the \$20,000 goal. It takes just 2000 gifts of \$10 each quarter to accomplish it. In the

last 13 years, the 2000 Club has assisted 44 congregations with construction or renovation projects. Won't you join us and be part of expanding God's Kingdom in Alaska? For more information, contact the Alaska Baptist Convention at (907)344-9627 or [abc@alaskabaptistconvention.com](mailto:abc@alaskabaptistconvention.com).





# **Avalanche '11**

## **Youth Evangelism Conference**

### **March 18-19**

### **Anchorage Baptist Temple**

**featuring Jeff Wallace, Peace Baptist Church**  
**CBU Praise Band**  
**Paul Turner, Lifeway student ministry leader**  
**"Minute to Win It" Competition**  
**\$20 per person**  
**(includes t-shirt if ordered before Feb 17)**

**register online at [www.alaskabaptistconvention.com](http://www.alaskabaptistconvention.com)**

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR  
**NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS**  
MARCH 6-13, 2011

## **START HERE.**



**FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS**  
**STATE GOAL: \$100,000**  
**NATIONAL GOAL: \$70 MILLION**  
**[WWW.ANNIEARMSTRONG.COM](http://WWW.ANNIEARMSTRONG.COM)**



### **Forrest and Sybillia Fuhr**

### **Memorial Scholarship**

*Application deadline is*  
**April 30, 2011**

A total of five scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$760 per year (full-time status only). The funds may be used for tuition, room and board, fees or books. Award notification letters are mailed by May 31, 2011. Visit the website of the Alaska Baptist Foundation ([www.alaskabaptistfoundation.com](http://www.alaskabaptistfoundation.com)) for information and application. If you have questions, please contact Adam Long, [foundation@alaskabaptistfoundation.com](mailto:foundation@alaskabaptistfoundation.com)

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## February “Nuggets”

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

### Chugach Baptist Association

CBA held its first Summit Meeting on January 29, which included all missionaries, staff, pastors and church leaders in the association.

### First Baptist Church, Palmer

The Men’s Ministry at FBC was active during January, with a breakfast on January 15 and an Aces hockey game night on January 29. They have a four-wheeling trip to Knik Glacier planned for February 26.

### University Baptist Church, Fairbanks

In January, UBC hosted a fundraiser spaghetti feed for three youth going to Ecuador on a mission trip this summer. The women had a “bring-your-own-craft day” and began a new Beth Moore Bible study. The children had their annual Cabin Night with youth and college/career members as camp counselors. Several groups are planning football parties on “Souper Bowl” Sunday, February 6. The youth will have a bowling get-together on February 5 and the college/career group will have their annual Valentines Day “Extravaganza” on the 14th.



David Baldwin is honored by the Alaska Baptist Family Services. Pictured (l to r); Dr. George Stewart (Board President, ABFS), Lorie Morris (Executive Director, ABFS), David Baldwin (retired Executive Director, Alaska Baptist Convention).

## From My Perspective *(excerpt)*

*Thom S. Rainer, president and CEO, LifeWay Christian Resources*

# What Millennials want in leaders

**T**he Millennial generation is the generation that has grabbed my heart. I know that my preference is largely related to having and loving three Millennial sons and their friends. But I know that my favoritism also stems from the attitude of hope that this generation brings.

### **Who are the Millennials?**

As a reminder, the Millennials are America’s largest generation, more than 78 million in number and were born between 1980 and 2000. They are slightly larger in number than the well-documented Baby boomer generation.

### **The leadership factor**

Four major leadership foci among the Millennials were:

- 1. Mentoring.** This generation has great respect for those older than they are. Most of them have good relationships with their parents. They have learned from older people all their lives, and they don’t want to stop now. They want to be led and taught in their places of work, in their churches and in their families. They particularly want to learn from couples who have had long and successful marriages. Many Millennials see such examples as heroes to emulate.
- 2. Gentle spirit.** This category is easier to describe by what Millennials do not want in leaders. Divisive, loud and acrimonious persons turn them off. They loathe politicians and political pundits who scream at each other. They are leaving churches to some extent because they see many Christian leaders as negative and

prone to divisiveness. They are repulsed by business leaders with harsh and autocratic spirits.

**3. Transparency and authenticity.** Millennials use the word “real” to describe leaders they want to follow. As one Millennial told me, her generation “can smell phony and pretentiousness a mile away.” They don’t want phony; they want authentic. They don’t want pretentious; they want transparent.

**4. Integrity.** The Millennials are weary of politicians who don’t keep promises. They are tired of Christian leaders who fail basic moral standards. They are fed up with business leaders who are more concerned about personal gain than serving others. They want leaders with integrity.

### Looking for a few good leaders

The Millennial generation has much to offer. As a whole, they

desire to serve others. Most of them are very family oriented. And they really want to listen and learn from others. Indeed they are looking for a few good leaders to follow. When they find them, they will follow with commitment and enthusiasm.

This was one of the most encouraging research projects in which I have been involved. I found great hope in the Millennials. I see great promise

in many of them. And I found among them a hunger to learn from leaders they respect.

May we who have come before them be that type of leader! The largest generation in American is watching us closely.

*“Millennials are so connected to their family that if we don’t recognize that in some way, if our business policy, if our church ministries don’t recognize that in some way, we will not hold on to this generation.” Thom Rainer*

## by the numbers....

**45%** of Americans list family as their top priority

**20%** of Americans list health and wellness as their top priority

**17%** of Americans list financial stability as their top priority

**12%** of Americans list **FAITH** as their top priority

Source: the Barna Group, July 26, 2010; On Mission magazine, Winter 2011 issue

### Drummer Needed!

Grandview Baptist Church in Anchorage is looking for a volunteer drummer to play with the Worship band on Sunday mornings. Must be a Christian, available on Sunday mornings; able to play a variety of styles (80% contemporary, 20% traditional) and follow direction; and be sensitive to the use of percussion in a congregational church setting. You don’t have to be an “exceptional” drummer, but a good solid player who can hold tempos and help fill out our worship band. If you are interested in using your talents with us, please call Dan Shilling, Monday-Thursday, 276-6027.

Procter continued from page 6

**Remember, Jesus is  
God’s “valentine”  
to us:**

for God so loVed the world  
that he gAve  
his onLy  
begottEn  
soN—  
That whosoever  
believeth In him  
s hould Not perish  
but have Everlasting life.

### Please Pray for our Pastorless Churches

#### Chugach Baptist Association

Aquilaq Baptist Church  
Filipino Bible Church  
Greater Friendship Baptist Church  
Kiana Baptist Mission  
Sunset Hills Baptist Church  
Whittier Christian Community

#### Hatcher Pass Baptist Association

Ekwok Christian Church  
King Salmon Comm Baptist Chapel

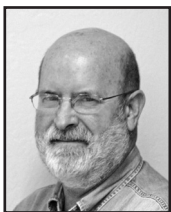
#### Tanana Valley Baptist Association

Chinese Fellowship

#### Tongass Baptist Association

Anchor Baptist Church  
Glacier Valley Baptist Church  
Hoonah Baptist Mission





**Mike Procter**  
*Executive Director*

Have you noticed there are times when life does not seem fair? For example, why do George Washington and Abraham Lincoln have to share a holiday (President's Day) but a groundhog gets his own day?

Have you ever noticed it is not human nature to share? We like to hold on to what is ours unless there is some advantage or reward to sharing. "What's in it for me?" is our mantra, even in Christian circles. Why do we behave this way? We really do not want to be selfish and we want to be good stewards of the gifts, talents and resources God has given us but often, when it comes down to "crunch time", we struggle to be faithful to share that with which God has blessed us. The Apostle Paul addressed a similar struggle when he wrote, "I know that my selfish desires won't let me do anything good. Even when I want to do right, I cannot. Instead of doing what I know is right, I do wrong. What a miserable person I am. Who will rescue me...?" (Romans 7:18-19, 24a CEV). What was Paul's answer to his dilemma? "Thank God! Jesus Christ will rescue me." (Romans 7:25 CEV).

How is Jesus Christ able to rescue us? He was willing to sacrifice Himself for us. In Philippians 2: 7-8 (CEV) we read, "He (Jesus) gave up everything and became a slave, when He became like us. Christ was humble. He obeyed God..." There are three "secrets" in these verses: 1. Jesus was willing to give everything up to follow God's will. We struggle with this because we want to hold on to what is "ours." 2. Jesus was humble. Humility is not a virtue most of us possess. Society teaches us to "toot our own horns" and look out for Number One. 3. Jesus obeyed God. Many times, if obedience to God is not convenient or what we want, we choose to disobey. After all, we have all heard that "God wants us to be happy." A problem with that statement is God says He wants us to be faithful and obedient and by doing so, we will be blessed...read the Beatitudes (let this attitude be in you) in the Sermon on the Mount.

As we celebrate Valentine's Day this month, we should express our love to the significant people in our lives by sharing our time and resources with them. Let's express our love to Jesus Christ by being obedient to Him (Luke 6:46).

*Continued on page 5; Procter*



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

Recently I was asked to participate in a study to determine the causes of decline we see in our denomination. If we look at it objectively, we have to ask why Southern Baptists have hit a plateau as a denomination.

First, I believe laziness and lack of intentionality are two factors that affect our ability to reach the lost. There seems to be a decrease in discipleship and baptisms due to a lack of planning and development of intentional evangelism projects that result in evangelistic opportunities. Also, we may evangelize in an irresponsible way. Having no local church to follow up on evangelism projects is an example of this.

Second, we are not emphasizing evangelism and discipleship in our church programs and from the pulpit. If evangelism and discipleship are the goals of a church, then members will be focused on those goals. When I visit churches, I look for an evangelistic emphasis in bulletins and worship services. I see churches that have no strategy to disciple or evangelize. Sunday School and Bible Study times are used to teach theology instead of life transformation, outreach and ministry. In 1954 the campaign that sought to enlist one million people in Sunday School resulted in our highest year of evangelism in the life of the Southern Baptist Convention. That success tells me intentionality, planning, and strategy will net results. Are we results-oriented in our ministries today?

If we are not convinced that unsaved people will go to hell, we will not be motivated to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. If this conviction is not a passion, then it won't result in people connecting with the lost. There are so many things to distract, entertain and dissuade us that we don't have time to share the Good News. If we (and I include myself) are not passionately convicted the lost need to know Christ, then when do we seek to share our faith? Where is our motivation to take back our neighborhoods for Christ? This is one of the most daunting things we face because apathy is rampant.

These are the factors that have resulted in a decrease in the number of baptisms. My main goal is to help our churches develop intentional, passionate evangelism that results in discipleship. I would love to come to your church and help you plan, train, teach and develop disciples who disciple others for Christ.



**Don Shannon**  
*Director of Ministries and  
 Mission Education*

Let me share my heartfelt thanks to the many churches that responded to the ministry surveys. Your replies (approximately 50% of all ABC churches and missions) helped in painting a picture of how Alaska Baptist churches are touching lives and telling of Christ. It is encouraging to hear how God is working through His people to deal with issues like hunger, disaster, English as a second language, military family support, women at risk, sanctity of life, and a variety of children's needs.

Christians must learn to assess the needs of those who are hurting. All too often, the church appears to turn a deaf ear to those needing assistance. Is it because the church doesn't care, or have Christians simply forgotten how to acknowledge the needs of others? Is the church blind or complacent? In either case, assessing needs is imperative to the ultimate goal of meeting needs as a means for sharing the love of Christ.

Jesus demonstrated the right attitude in John 4. It was unheard of for a Jewish man to knowingly associate with a Samaritan, especially a Samaritan woman in public. After all, Jews hated Samaritans with a passion. This woman, an adulteress, would have been despised most of all. The vast majority of Jews would never have risked going through Samaria, yet Jesus said, he "had to travel through Samaria." This woman had a spiritual need and Jesus was willing to go where He knew the need existed and take the initiative to meet the need, even though it meant breaking out of social norms and associating with an outcast.

In Luke 19 Jesus demonstrated the same willingness to reach out to sinners when he initiated a relationship with Zacchaeus. In fact Jesus summed up His ministry this way: "The Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost." Throughout His earthly ministry Jesus was willing to seek and associate with lost people in order to bring them into a relationship with the Father.

Jesus was a master of assessing the real needs of people. Looking again at John 4 we see how He began with the woman's physical need – water – and probed her heart to assess her greatest need – salvation. By first listening to the woman and wisely, sensitively probing, He was able to get her to open up about her life.

Many of our churches need to follow the lead of Jesus by assessing their community needs. How can you touch lives if you haven't taken the time to listen and identify the brokenness of the community? A ministry plan requires first discovering the problem. Would you like to know how to discover the needs and conduct a community assessment? Please contact me and I will share with you and your congregation how to move forward by touching lives and telling of Christ.

## **2011 Statewide Vacation Bible School Training April 11-16**

***Big City, bigger fun!***



***So faith comes  
 from what is heard,  
 and what is heard  
 comes through the  
 message about  
 Christ.***

*Romans 10:17 (HCSB)*

### **"True Love Waits" Emphasis February 1-28**

True Love Waits® challenges teenagers and college students to make a commitment to sexual abstinence until marriage. Created by LifeWay Christian Resources, True Love Waits encourages moral purity by adhering to biblical principles. This youth-based international campaign utilizes positive peer pressure by encouraging those who make a commitment to refrain from pre-marital sex to challenge their peers to do the same.



### **What is blume?**

**blume** is an intense and fun, four-day focus on missions for teenage girls and collegiate young women. Blume only happens once every four years! The overall theme passage is 2 Timothy 1:3-14 with the focus on verse 7.

**July 13-16, 2011**

Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, Walt Disney World® Resort in Orlando, Florida

#### Early Bird registration

\$299 per person through April 30, 2011

**Register by April 15th and Alaska WMU will PAY for your housing!**

Contact Don Shannon for additional information (don@alaskabaptistconvention.com).

**Online registration [www.blumeforgirls.com](http://www.blumeforgirls.com)**

# Alaska

## Baptist Messenger



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*The Messenger is provided through gifts to the Cooperative Program and Annie Armstrong Mission Offerings*

PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
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ANCHORAGE, AK

## calendar

### February 2011

Jan31-1	State Evangelism Conference	27
1-28	True Love Waits Emphasis	
2	ABC Executive Board Meeting	31-Apr2
5	Yukon Quest Dog Race	
6	Souper Bowl Sunday for Hunger Relief	
13	Racial Reconciliation Sunday	
14-20	Focus on wMu	
19	Children's Ministry Day	
23-26	Church Planter's Forum	

### March 2011

5	Iditarod Ceremonial Start	27
6	Iditarod Restart	31-Apr2
6-12	Youth Week	
6-13	Week of Prayer and Mission Study	
	Annie Armstrong Easter Offering	
13	Daylight Savings Time Starts	
18-19	Avalanche '11	
20	Substance Abuse Prevention Sunday	

On Mission Together:  
Planting New Congregations Sunday  
Alaska Leadership Event

### April 2011

Mar31-2	Alaska Leadership Event
3	SBC Seminaries Sunday
7-9	Women on Mission Celebration
10	Cooperative Program Sunday
10-15	Baptist Doctrine Study
11-16	VBS Training Clinics
14-15	Tongass Baptist Association Annual Meeting
17	Palm Sunday
	Life Commitment Sunday
24	Easter Sunday
26-27	New Pastor Orientation
28-30	Ministers and Spouses Retreat