



Alaska

Baptist Messenger



The Alaska Baptist Convention exists to assist congregations to **SEEK** Christ, **SHARE** Christ, **STRENGTHEN** Congregations, **START** Congregations and **SEND** Christians.

HIS HEART HIS HANDS HIS VOICE



Southern Baptist
i am missions

2011 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®

State Goal: \$150,000

Week of Prayer for International Missions:
December 4-11, 2011



**Baptist Women's
World Day of Prayer
Monday, November 7**

Visit Baptist World Alliance Women's
Department, www.bwawd.org for
additional details.

ATTENTION!

Your Annual Church Profile (ACP)
is due November 15! If you need assistance,
please contact Debra Long,
(907)344-9627, (800)883-9627,
debra@alaskabaptistconvention.com

2011 Bible Study Leadership Training

Register online
alaskabaptistconvention.com
BY
NOVEMBER 2!

Saturday, November 5
Shannon Park Baptist Church, Fairbanks
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (includes lunch)

Monday, November 7
Fairview Loop Baptist Church, Wasilla
6:00 - 9:00 p.m. (includes supper)

Tuesday, November 8
Sunset Hills Baptist Church, Anchorage
6:00 - 9:00 p.m. (includes supper)

Break-out Conferences offered for all age groups: preschool, children, youth,
adult and pastors/general officers

Childcare is not available.

Special featured speaker:
Ken Marler, Sunday School Specialist
LifeWay Christian Resources

**Your Cooperative Program giving
impacts Alaska churches....**



Grandview Baptist Church Anchorage

Over the past 20 years a tidal wave of change has occurred in respect to mission involvement in our Southern Baptist churches. Twenty years ago most churches were content to collect their Cooperative Program (CP) gifts and special offerings and send them in. Other than the occasional mission trip, that was the extent of mission involvement. Today, many churches aren't content with putting the money in an envelope. They want to be personally involved in missions. I used to tell my church that I wanted everyone to be a giver *or* a goer and everyone to be in prayer for missions. Now I tell them I want everyone to be a giver *and* a goer and in prayer for missions.

This missionary mindset is happening in churches of all sizes across our denomination. Unfortunately, many have used this as an excuse to cut their CP giving and put



*Pastor Randy and
Lisa Graham*

that money into their own mission projects. What they are overlooking is how the CP is the foundation of our current missionary mindset. Without the CP foundation, most midsize and smaller churches

will have difficulty carrying out missions. While "mega churches" can do it by themselves and most accomplish great things, many of them have done it while turning their backs on the CP. In so doing, they have made it more difficult for thousands of other congregations. Regardless, this is a great day of mission resurgence. I believe the more we strengthen the CP, the more we help our own individual mission causes. I hope churches will see the value in the CP and personal involvement in missions.

God's Plan for Sharing in Alaska

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Chugach Baptist Association						
Alaska Iu-Mienh First Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Anchorage Hope Comm Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Aquilaq Baptist Mission	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Calvary Baptist Church	\$4,251.00	\$638.00	\$642.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,531.00
Christ Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chugach Resort Ministries	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cliffside Community Chapel	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Cold Bay Chapel	\$1,214.33	\$0.00	\$570.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,784.33
Community Baptist Church, Nome	\$807.00	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$887.00
Cowboy Church of Anchorage	\$2,151.16	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,151.16
Eagle River Korean Baptist Church	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
Filipino Bible Church	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
First Baptist Church of Eagle River	\$22,451.00	\$640.00	\$8,309.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$31,400.00
First Baptist Church, Anchorage	\$46,692.70	\$0.00	\$8,875.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$55,567.70
First Baptist Church, Kotzebue	\$1,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,100.00
First Baptist Church, Soldotna	\$6,980.00	\$0.00	\$1,034.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,014.00
First Hmong Baptist Church	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
First Korean Baptist Church	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$474.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,374.00
First Native Baptist Church	\$4,619.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,619.00
Frontier Baptist Church	\$2,837.51	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,837.51
Grandview Baptist Church	\$25,814.03	\$25.00	\$2,987.00	\$1,350.00	\$60.00	\$30,236.03
Greater Friendship Bapt Church	\$5,078.00	\$0.00	\$570.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,648.00
Hillside Baptist Church	\$9,927.41	\$50.00	\$790.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,767.41
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$733.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$733.60
Kiana Baptist Mission	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Kobuk Baptist Mission	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Korean New Central Baptist Church	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Mt Zion Missionary Baptist Church	\$960.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$960.00
Mountain View Community Church	\$225.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$225.00
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$5,500.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,650.00
New Grace Christian Church	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$12,765.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,765.05
Rabbit Creek Community Church	\$3,000.29	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.29
River In The Desert Comm Church	\$490.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$490.00
Samoa Alaska Baptist Church	\$114.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$114.00
Sand Point Baptist Chapel	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Shungnak Baptist Mission	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Solid Rock Baptist Church	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
Sunset Hills Baptist Church	\$16,731.33	\$0.00	\$3,394.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,125.83
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$3,150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,150.00
True North Church	\$2,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,250.00
University Baptist Church	\$7,225.00	\$0.00	\$1,169.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,394.00
Valley View Baptist Church	\$2,775.00	\$0.00	\$659.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,434.00
Whittier Christian Community	\$665.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$665.08
Total	\$200,632.49	\$2,353.00	\$30,553.50	\$1,350.00	\$60.00	\$234,948.99
Hatcher Pass Baptist Association						
Big Lake Baptist Church	\$6,798.68	\$0.00	\$2,275.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,074.18
Bodenberg Butte Baptist Church	\$4,329.16	\$0.00	\$471.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,800.16
CrossCountry Church	\$100.00	\$300.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$6,468.46	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,868.46
Ekwok Christian Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fairview Loop Baptist Church	\$15,984.35	\$0.00	\$2,774.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,758.92
First Baptist Church, Palmer	\$14,999.94	\$0.00	\$1,590.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$16,590.44
First Baptist Church, Valdez	\$12,867.31	\$2,278.00	\$3,446.76	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,592.07
First Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$26,265.60	\$0.00	\$2,199.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28,465.10
First Baptist Church, Willow	\$4,367.12	\$0.00	\$1,740.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,107.12
King Salmon Community Chapel	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Montana Creek Baptist Church	\$3,820.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,820.26
North Bear St Comm Church	\$43.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$43.00
Pioneer Baptist Church	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$305.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$455.00
Schrock Road Community Church	\$2,984.72	\$205.20	\$808.28	\$467.00	\$0.00	\$4,465.20
Settler's Bay Community Church	\$4,986.23	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,006.23
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$950.00
Total	\$104,764.83	\$2,783.20	\$18,731.11	\$467.00	\$0.00	\$126,746.14
Kenai Peninsula						
College Heights Baptist Church	\$31,888.10	\$0.00	\$4,439.79	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$36,327.89
First Baptist Church, Kenai	\$4,860.47	\$0.00	\$662.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,522.47
Lighthouse Community Church	\$9,341.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,341.00
Moose Pass Community Church	\$185.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$185.00
Mount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$600.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$1,850.00
Total	\$46,874.57	\$500.00	\$5,601.79	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$53,226.36

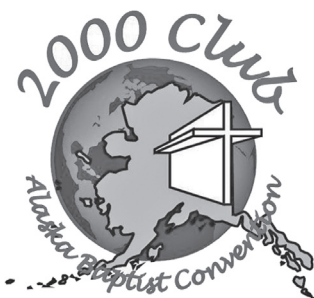
January-September 2011 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Other						
Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$0.00	\$45.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$545.00
Total	\$0.00	\$45.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$545.00
Tanana Valley Baptist Association						
Chinese Fellowship	\$949.53	\$0.00	\$461.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,410.53
Clearwater Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$8,636.00	\$0.00	\$2,919.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,555.74
Faith Baptist Church	\$4,746.00	\$0.00	\$776.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,522.65
Filipino Baptist Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church, Delta Jct	\$35,168.00	\$0.00	\$8,528.50	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$44,196.50
First Baptist Church, Fairbanks	\$6,186.57	\$0.00	\$2,029.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,215.57
First Baptist Church, North Pole	\$15,794.20	\$0.00	\$1,797.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$17,591.73
Friendship Baptist Church	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$1,082.17	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,532.17
Hispanic Mission	\$136.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$136.00
Korean Baptist Mission	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$5,184.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,184.06
Morning Star Baptist Church	\$4,999.52	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,079.52
Mt Pleasant Baptist Church	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
North Star Baptist Church	\$738.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$738.00
Salcha Baptist Church	\$5,224.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,224.42
Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$2,216.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,216.40
St. John Baptist Church	\$10,244.08	\$222.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,466.08
Togiak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
University Baptist Church	\$17,622.00	\$0.00	\$5,591.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23,213.78
Total	\$118,794.78	\$222.00	\$23,416.37	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$142,933.15
Tongass Baptist Association						
Anchor Baptist Church	\$4,848.14	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,848.14
Comm Baptist Church, Coffman Cove	\$2,343.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,343.00
Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$2,403.42	\$0.00	\$590.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,993.42
Filipino Baptist Church, Ketchikan	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
First Baptist Church, Juneau	\$8,157.29	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,157.29
First Baptist Church, Ketchikan	\$13,426.63	\$0.00	\$2,458.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,884.63
First Baptist Church, Petersburg	\$2,806.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,306.00
First Baptist Church, Sitka	\$4,351.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,351.80
Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$12,704.02	\$0.00	\$2,661.28	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,365.30
Hoonah Baptist Mission	\$199.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$199.00
Juneau Korean Church	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$280.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$580.00
Kasaan Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope Fellowship	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$136.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$836.00
North Tongass Baptist Church	\$761.30	\$0.00	\$545.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,306.30
Tenakee Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Thorne Bay Baptist Church	\$445.40	\$0.00	\$90.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$545.40
Total	\$53,696.00	\$0.00	\$7,260.28	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$60,966.28
Grand Totals:	\$524,762.67	\$5,903.20	\$86,063.05	\$2,577.00	\$60.00	\$619,365.92
Goals:	\$772,855.00	\$75,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$150,000.00		
Over/Under Goal:	(\$248,092.33)	(\$69,096.80)	(\$13,936.95)	(\$147,423.00)		

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
WH:	World Hunger

Quarterly Goal is \$20,000 • 2,000 ppl x \$10



Received as of September 30, 2011:

First Quarter 2011	\$6935
Second Quarter 2011	\$7280
Third Quarter 2011	\$6215
Fourth Quarter 2011	\$1985

It takes just 2,000 gifts of \$10 each quarter to accomplish the quarterly goal of \$20,000. Won't you join us and be part of expanding God's Kingdom in Alaska?

There are currently 242 regular contributors...imagine how much more we could do with an additional 1758 contributors?

Alaska Baptist Convention

**Please Pray for
our Pastorless
Churches**

Chugach Baptist Association

Aquillaq Baptist Church

Kiana Baptist Mission

University Baptist Church

Hatcher Pass Baptist Association

Ekwok Christian Church

King Salmon Comm Baptist Chapel

Tanana Valley Baptist Association

Chinese Fellowship

Tongass Baptist Association

Emmanuel Baptist Church

Hoonah Baptist Mission

**Women on Mission
Celebration
April 12-14, 2012
watch for details!**



Alaska Baptist Messenger

(ISSN 0901947834)

Published monthly by the Alaska Baptist Convention, 1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507, (907) 344-9627

Subscriptions:

Individual \$8.00 pp in-state; \$10.00 pp out-of-state, \$6.00 per person for Church Budget Plan (5 or more)

Periodicals postage paid at Anchorage, AK 99530-9653

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to *The Alaska Baptist Messenger*,

Mike Procter, Editor; Betsy Shilling,

Associate Editor

1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507



November "Nuggets"

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

Fairview Loop Baptist Church, Wasilla

FLBC hosted the Living Proof Live Simulcast with Beth Moore and had 86 in attendance. Several church members assisted Hatcher Pass Baptist Association with their booth at the State Fair. During October, the congregation honored Pastors Tom Hoffman and Joe Gelatt for their service to the church.

Moose Pass Community Church

MPCC had the first service in their new building on August 28. They had a dedication service in October when the septic system and water were hooked up. The congregation thanks all those who contributed to the 2000 Club to help them with this building project!

Wasilla Korean Baptist Church



In September, WKBC said goodbye to Kwang Park (in photo, on the right), longtime pastor relocating to Kansas. They welcomed Ik Bo Jang (in photo, on the left) (Chris) and his wife, Jin Ok and son David.

Condolences

Our condolences to Anita Kovtynovich, Schrock Road Community Church, in the loss of her father, Ray Underwood, on September 19.

University Baptist Church, Fairbanks

The College/Career group will hold their annual "Recharge Retreat" November 14-15. Upon their return, the college students will lead the evening service, followed by a potluck. All month, members will gather items for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, which will be dedicated during a morning service.

First Baptist Church, Kotzebue

FBC welcomed a mission team from Georgia who hosted a sports clinic in Ambler in September. They had six professions of faith!

Baptist Collegiate Ministries, University of Alaska-Southeast

BCM at UAS had a friendly Boys vs. Girls Bible trivia game. If the girls lost, they had to change the oil, wash and wax the boys' cars; if the boys lost, they had to prepare a "gourmet" homemade meal for the girls and watch a "chick flick." The score fluctuated throughout the game, with calls made by both teams to their "lifelines" (Mike Procter and Jimmy Stewart). In the end, the girls won!

Wayland Baptist University, Fairbanks campus

WBU welcomed Dr. Nancy Wagner as Executive Director and Campus Dean. Dr. Wagner replaced Dr. John Copeland in this position. A native of Tennessee, Dr. Wagner has been in Fairbanks for four years and since the fall of 2010 has served as an adjunct professor in the School of Management at Wayland.

Lighthouse Community Church,

Nikiski

LCC called Corey McGee as interim pastor. Corey has been serving as the Worship and Children's Pastor.

Tanana Valley Baptist Association

The 58th annual meeting of the TVBA was held on October 22 at First Baptist Church in Fairbanks. In addition to hearing ministry reports for the year, the following were elected to their leadership team: Johnny McCoy (moderator), Jeff Baxter (vice-moderator) and Howard Zach (treasurer).

First Baptist Church, Wasilla

FBC welcomed new associate pastor of youth and worship, Bradley (Jeannie) Herndon and Dana Shrimplin has joined the administrative support staff. The annual train show will be held at the church on November 5 with members displaying their model railroads. The annual "Hanging of the Greens" will take place during the morning worship service on November 27.



Alaska Baptist Family Services Children's Christmas Donation Wish List

*Please make sure donations
arrive at 1600 O'Malley Road in
Anchorage by
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2011*

- Board games
- Hoodie sweatshirts
- Educational computer software
- Recreation and pool passes
- Wii system
- Wii controllers
- Rated E video games (Wii)
- Winter boots
- Fishing poles and equipment
- Craft kits
- Glow-in-the-dark items
- Sports posters
- Journals and writing pens
- Basketballs, footballs and other small sports equipment
- Snow pants (all sizes)
- Sleds
- Legos
- DVDs (G- and PG-rated only please)
- Craft building projects
- Backpacks
- Water bottles
- Gift cards to WalMart, Fred Meyer, Old Navy, Barnes & Noble, Journey's Burlington, Target, Zummie's

**Send checks to ABFS,
c/o Christmas Wish List
and gifts will be purchased
locally on your behalf.**

**Thank you for your continued
support in helping us serve
children and families in the spirit
of Christ!**



66th Annual Meeting of the Alaska Baptist Convention

Thank you to our host, First Baptist Church, North Pole



Mike Procter
Exec Director, ABC/ABF



Don Shannon
former Director of Ministries and
Mission Education



Jimmy Stewart
Director of Evangelism



Mike Procter (l) and Frank Page (r)
(President and CEO, SBC Executive Cite)



Johnny McCoy, Pastor
host church, FBC North Pole



Butch Strickland
Contextualized Church Starter
Strategist



Linda Hokit
CCM/Special Events
consultant



ABC Officers (pictured l to r): Courtney Lyle (recording secretary), Charles Worthy (president),
Mike Procter (Executive Director), Tom Hoffman (1st VP), Garry Loeffler (2nd VP)



Debby Akerman
President, National WMU



Ruby Stogsdill
President, Alaska WMU



Kerry Chadwick
Pastor, FBC Sitka



Charles Worthy
President, ABC Board



Tom Hoffman
First Vice President



Garry Loeffler
Second Vice President



Nancy Wagner
Dean, WBU, Fairbanks



Eric Ash
Dean, WBU,
Anchorage



Lorie Morris
Executive Director, ABFS



Kevin Ezell
President, NAMB



Jan Watkins
LifeWay representative



Terry Sharp
IMB Mobilizer



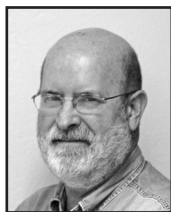
Alaska Baptist Foundation (pictured l to r): David Baldwin (consultant),
Adam Long (accountant), Mike Procter (Executive Director)



Music team from FBC Jonesboro, Georgia (pictured l to r): Tom Griffin, Julie Cook,
Melody Allred, Scott Allred (director)



Volunteer cook team from Clearview Baptist Church, Franklin, Tennessee (pictured l to r):
Mike Procter, Kaye Gardner, Pat and Phil Davis, Pam and Mark Godwin
(not pictured, John Gardner)



Mike Procter
Executive Director

Thanksgiving has always been my favorite holiday, even more than Christmas. Though we might not want to admit it, at Christmas we are often more focused on presents and the gift-giving process. Many people become stressed trying to find the perfect gift, overspend in order to buy gift(s), or fret because they have too much to do and not enough time to get everything done! As stressors increase, people often express relief when Christmas is over. Thanksgiving is generally more about family and friends, spending time with those we love and giving thanks for that with which God has blessed us. Often people travel long distances to be with family and friends. The travel industry reports the weekend of Thanksgiving is the busiest travel weekend of the year. In September, many in the Procter family traveled to a reunion where it was my joy to baptize my 80-year-old father. He made a profession of faith in July. At his baptismal service, his four children were present, as well as seven of his 10 grandchildren, two of his four great-grandchildren and many other extended family and friends. It was a blessing to be with my family at this significant time in my father's life, and I am thankful the Lord allowed me to take a small part in my dad coming to know Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. Following the service, we all gathered for a meal and the celebration continued.

As I remember that day, I think of another day when we will celebrate as a family and rejoice in all God has done for us. That is the day we will feast at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:7-9). There are some who teach we will not literally have a supper on that day, but that it is a symbol of the joy and fullness we will have in Christ. However, I believe we will enjoy a meal with our Heavenly Father on that special day. Recall Jesus' words in Matthew 26:26-29 when he instituted what we now call the Lord's Supper? Someday we will enjoy a meal with Him in glory. In Luke 14:15-24, we are instructed to encourage people to come to, and partake of, the meal and blessings that God has prepared for those who trust Him. In fact, we are to go out into the highways and hedges and compel people to come in. As we prepare for Thanksgiving, we will send invitations to our family and friends to join us. Are we inviting people to join us in the Marriage Supper of the Lamb? I recall my Grandmother Vanderpool often tearing up during Thanksgiving when all of her family was home and gathered around the table. She would say, "This is one of the happiest moments of my life." Imagine the joy and celebration on the day of the Great Marriage Supper of the Lamb when you look around the table and see all the family and friends you invited. What a day of rejoicing that will be and, praise the Lord, my dad will be there.



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

Teaching an old dog new tricks isn't easy and lately, I have been feeling like the "old dog." These up-and-coming "young'uns" are full of all sorts of tricks; I have been learning about gadgets, apps and websites to help minister more effectively. The "Bible.is" app, from Faith Comes From Hearing, is one of the resources I have found to be really good. It is a Bible program that allows you to hear the spoken Word of God, and is available in more than six hundred languages. Segments of the Jesus Film project are also available in several languages. There are creative daily reading plans that are easy to use. I am currently leading a men's group where I know this app will come in handy. I plan to use storying for the basis of many of the lessons we will go over and with this app, I will be able to listen to the story over and over again to help learn it and present it to others.

The "Storying-in-a-Day" Training was truly one of the best workshops I have attended and Mark Snowden did a great job. It was through Mark that I learned about the "Bible.is" app. It is worthwhile to attend these training conferences because you get access to great information and resources. We learned the possibilities of starting new groups through teaching Bible story sets. I am excited about developing Bible story sets from the things I learned. For those who attended, if you develop sets, please share them with one another. If you are interested in learning about story telling the Bible, let me know. I will be glad to come and share the information with you. It will take a few hours to go through, but it will be worth it.

Much is being said today about new church plants and new groups being started. I hope that we, as a Convention, will see that in order to reach our community we are going to have to go to places other than our church buildings to start groups. I am really excited to see groups spring up around Anchorage as a result of people who are willing to go. There is a new group on the UAA campus and people are starting groups at hospitals, apartments, community centers and restaurants. People are being reached who may not otherwise come to our local churches. I want to commend believers who are reaching beyond the doors of their local church. Someone might not be interested in going to church to learn about Jesus, but be willing to have someone teach them the great stories and truth of God's Word. Who in your church is ready to go? Who is ready to learn? Who is just ready and available to help in a group as a silent partner? Brothers and sisters, are we making disciples who are willing to go wherever the Lord leads? I am truly excited about what is happening and the new enthusiasm among those willing to teach people about Christ. I am laying my heart out to you to beg you not to be confined by the walls of your church building. Let's see how many homes, apartments, coffee houses, hospitals, clubs, restaurants and other venues can be filled with people learning the old gospel story from our brethren this year. If you want to discover ways to do this, please call me and we can discuss how this is happening in Alaska today. It is hard work, but worth it. It means we go and maybe one day, they will come into our church or start a church. Every life that is touched makes it worth it. Bless you in all the work you do.



2012 State Evangelism Conference

First Baptist Church, Anchorage

Monday, January 30: Noon-4:00 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

Tuesday, January 31: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

special guests Tommy and Elyse Ferrell, Mike Harland, Tim Holcomb, Mike Licon and Larry Wynn.

GOING AFTER
THE OUTSIDER REACHING THE UNCHURCHED

register online at www.alaskabaptistconvention.com
Register by January 12 if you require a hotel reservation.



Disaster Relief

Chaplain Training

Mon-Tues, January 30-31, 2012

First Baptist Church, Anchorage

This training will coincide with the State Evangelism Conference

\$75

Cost includes:

- classroom instruction
- materials
- meals
- badge, hat and shirt

Monday, January 30: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 31 Noon - 6:00 p.m.

See complete information on the ABC website.

Training conducted by Rev. Dr. Naomi Paget.

Class Requirements:

- completion of SBDR Chaplain Training Manual
- completion of "Involving Southern Baptists in Disaster Relief"
- 12 hours of class training
- Critical Incident Stress Management course

Register online at www.alaskabaptistconvention.com

Register by January 12 if you require a hotel reservation.

Alaska

Baptist Messenger



1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507 • (907)344-9627V • (907)344-7044F • www.alaskabaptistconvention.com
The Messenger is provided through gifts to the Cooperative Program and Annie Armstrong Mission Offerings.

PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT
ANCHORAGE, AK

calendar

November 2011

3 Alaska Bible Training Center
5 Bible Study Leadership Training (Fairbanks)
5 Living with Urgency:
Children's Missions Celebration Day
6 Daylight Savings Time Ends
7 Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer
7 Bible Study Leadership Training (Wasilla)
8 Bible Study Leadership Training (Anchorage)
9 ABF Orientation
10 ABF Trustee meeting
14 ABC Executive Board Orientation
14 ABC Executive Board Committee meetings
15 ABC Executive Board meeting
15 Annual Church Profiles Due
23-24 ABC and ABF office closed for Thanksgiving

December 2011

4-11 Week of Prayer and Mission Study for
International Missions
and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

23-Jan1 ABC and ABF office closed for Christmas

January 2012

January Bible Study
Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
Day of Prayer for the SBC
State Evangelism Conference
and Disaster Relief Chaplain Training



calendar