



# Alaska Baptist Messenger



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

*<sup>10</sup>And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, <sup>14</sup>Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*  
Luke 2:10-14 (KJV)

## Merry Christmas

from the staff of the Alaska Baptist Convention  
and Foundation



Pictured left to right: (back row) Jimmy Stewart, Mike Blakeney, Butch Strickland, Alan Dial, Mike Procter; (front row) Debra Long, Adam Long, Linda Hokit, Sylvia Rylander, Betsy Shilling

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



Luke 6:38 says “Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” First Baptist Church of Delta Junction has been very blessed by God to have people throughout its history who have understood and lived this verse. The Cooperative Program has provided an avenue for our small church in Alaska to reach the world for Jesus Christ.

Years ago, the attendance and finances of FBC Delta Junction were down. A discussion began to lower the commitment of 17% of undesignated offering dollars given to the Cooperative Program. The church members voted a resounded “no!” and God proved faithful in meeting our needs. Our church continues to view the Cooperative Program as a great opportunity to give to the Kingdom of God for the Glory of God throughout the world.

*Pastor Dave Becker*

## God's Plan for Sharing in Alaska

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
<b>Chugach Baptist Association</b>						
Alaska Lu-Mienh First Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Anch Hope Comm Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Aquillaq Baptist Mission	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Calvary Baptist Church	\$4,771.00	\$871.00	\$642.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,284.00
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	\$2,093.26	\$0.00	\$570.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,663.26
Community Baptist Church, Nome	\$882.00	\$30.00	\$80.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$1,022.00
Cowboy Church of Anchorage	\$2,151.16	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,151.16
Eagle River Korean Baptist Church	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Filipino Bible Church	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
First Baptist Church of Eagle River	\$25,217.84	\$890.00	\$8,309.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$34,416.84
First Baptist Church	\$55,286.60	\$6,131.67	\$8,875.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70,293.27
First Baptist Church, Kotzebue	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00
First Baptist Church, Soldotna	\$6,980.00	\$0.00	\$1,034.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,014.00
First Hmong Baptist Church	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
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	\$3,046.51	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,046.51
Grandview Baptist Church	\$28,396.13	\$1,655.00	\$2,987.00	\$1,350.00	\$110.00	\$34,498.13
Greater Friendship Baptist Church	\$5,748.00	\$0.00	\$570.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,318.00
Hillside Baptist Church	\$11,107.65	\$706.25	\$790.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,603.90
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$804.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$804.99
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	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Mountain View Community Church	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$6,201.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,351.00
New Grace Christian Church	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$15,198.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,198.05
Rabbit Creek Community Church	\$3,333.66	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,333.66
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	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
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	\$18,900.34	\$2,275.00	\$3,394.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$24,569.84
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00
True North Church	\$2,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,250.00
University Baptist Church	\$8,021.65	\$590.00	\$1,169.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,780.65
Valley View Baptist Church	\$3,700.00	\$0.00	\$659.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,359.00
Whittier Christian Community	\$1,005.08	\$98.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,103.08
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$227,942.92</b>	<b>\$14,246.92</b>	<b>\$30,553.50</b>	<b>\$1,380.00</b>	<b>\$110.00</b>	<b>\$274,233.34</b>
<b>Hatcher Pass Baptist Association</b>						
Big Lake Baptist Church	\$7,777.04	\$1,631.00	\$2,275.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,683.54
Bodenberg Butte Baptist Church	\$5,107.44	\$250.00	\$471.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,828.44
CrossCountry Church	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$7,189.03	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,589.03
Ekwok Christian Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fairview Loop Baptist Church	\$17,331.21	\$2,586.94	\$2,774.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,692.72
First Baptist Church, Palmer	\$17,499.93	\$1,104.00	\$1,590.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,194.43
First Baptist Church, Valdez	\$14,267.31	\$3,262.00	\$3,446.76	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,976.07
First Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$28,016.40	\$0.00	\$2,199.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,215.90
First Baptist Church, Willow	\$4,367.12	\$0.00	\$1,740.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,107.12
King Salmon Community Chapel	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$550.00
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 Comm Church	\$2,984.72	\$205.20	\$808.28	\$467.00	\$0.00	\$4,465.20
Settler's Bay Community Church	\$5,738.39	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,758.39
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$115,541.85</b>	<b>\$9,339.14</b>	<b>\$18,731.11</b>	<b>\$467.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$144,079.10</b>
<b>Kenai Peninsula</b>						
College Heights Baptist Church	\$35,004.17	\$0.00	\$4,439.79	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$39,443.96
First Baptist Church, Kenai	\$5,241.62	\$200.00	\$662.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,103.62
Lighthouse Community Church	\$10,769.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,269.00
Moose Pass Community Church	\$195.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$195.00
Mount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$600.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$1,850.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$51,809.79</b>	<b>\$700.00</b>	<b>\$6,101.79</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$58,861.58</b>

## January-October 2011 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
<b>Other</b>						
Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$0.00	\$520.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,020.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$520.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,020.00</b>
<b>Tanana Valley Baptist Association</b>						
Chinese Fellowship	\$1,034.53	\$0.00	\$461.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,495.53
Clearwater Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$9,601.00	\$0.00	\$2,919.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,520.74
Faith Baptist Church	\$5,377.00	\$0.00	\$776.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,153.65
Filipino Baptist Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church, Delta Junction	\$38,967.00	\$545.00	\$8,828.50	\$625.00	\$0.00	\$48,965.50
First Baptist Church, Fairbanks	\$6,186.57	\$1,273.00	\$2,029.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,488.57
First Baptist Church, North Pole	\$17,647.15	\$0.00	\$1,797.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19,444.68
Friendship Baptist Church	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$1,082.17	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,582.17
Hispanic Mission	\$158.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$158.00
Korean Baptist Mission	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$5,828.80	\$215.43	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,044.23
Morning Star Baptist Church	\$6,694.28	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,774.28
Mt Pleasant Baptist Church	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
North Star Baptist Church	\$793.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$793.00
Salcha Baptist Church	\$5,755.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,755.42
Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$2,216.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,216.40
St. John Baptist Church	\$11,650.30	\$438.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,088.30
Togiak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
University Baptist Church	\$19,196.00	\$1,239.00	\$5,591.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$26,026.78
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$132,605.45</b>	<b>\$3,710.43</b>	<b>\$23,716.37</b>	<b>\$625.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$160,657.25</b>

<b>Tongass Baptist Association</b>						
Anchor Baptist Church	\$5,272.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,272.65
Comm Bapt Church, Coffman Cove	\$2,595.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,595.00
Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$2,618.58	\$0.00	\$590.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,208.58
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	\$297.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$297.00
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	\$910.15	\$0.00	\$545.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,455.15
Tenakee Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Thorne Bay Baptist Church	\$567.50	\$5.00	\$102.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$684.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$54,956.62</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>	<b>\$7,272.28</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$62,243.90</b>

<b>Grand Totals:</b>	<b>\$582,856.63</b>	<b>\$28,521.49</b>	<b>\$86,875.05</b>	<b>\$2,732.00</b>	<b>\$110.00</b>	<b>\$701,095.17</b>
<b>Goals:</b>	<b>\$772,855.00</b>	<b>\$75,000.00</b>	<b>\$100,000.00</b>	<b>\$150,000.00</b>		
<b>Over/Under Goal:</b>	<b>\$(189,998.37)</b>	<b>\$(46,478.51)</b>	<b>\$(13,124.95)</b>	<b>\$(147,268.00)</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
WH:	World Hunger

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



Received as of October 31, 2011:

First Quarter 2011	\$6935
Second Quarter 2011	\$7280
Third Quarter 2011	\$6215
Fourth Quarter 2011	\$5060

*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 377 regular contributors...imagine how much more we could do with an additional 1623 contributors?**

**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  
Moose Creek Baptist Church

### Tongass Baptist Association

Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Hoonah Baptist Mission

**Save the Date!**  
**Women on Mission**  
**Celebration**  
**April 12-14, 2012**



### Alaska Baptist Messenger

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#### POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to *The Alaska Baptist Messenger*, Mike Procter, Editor; Betsy Shilling, Associate Editor  
1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507

# 2012 State Evangelism Conference

## Special guests:

Tommy and Elyse Ferrell Briarlake Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia

Mike Harland Lifeway Christian Resources

Mike Licona Apologetics Consultant

Larry Wynn NAMB

## Special break-out sessions

**Monday • Noon-4:00 p.m. (lunch provided); 7-9 p.m.**

**Tuesday • 9:00-1:00 p.m. (lunch provided); 7-9 p.m.**

Register online at [www.alaskabaptistconvention.com](http://www.alaskabaptistconvention.com); click on "events"

Register by January 12 if you require a hotel room; register by January 25 if you do not need a hotel room.

GOING AFTER  
THE OUTSIDER REACHING THE UNCHURCHED

**January 30-31, 2012 • First Baptist Church, Anchorage**

## Alaska Baptist Family Services

### Children's Christmas Donation Wish List

- 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!

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

**HIS HEART HIS HANDS HIS VOICE**



**2011 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®**  
**State Goal: \$150,000**  
**Week of Prayer for International Missions:**  
**December 4-11, 2011**



**2012**  
**Vacation Bible School**  
**Training**  
**April 16-21**  
**with musical guest**  
**Jeff Slaughter**



## **Disaster Relief**

# **Chaplain Training**

Training conducted by Rev. Dr. Naomi Paget at First Baptist Church, Anchorage  
Class requirements:

- Completion of SBDR Chaplain Training Manual
- Completion of "Involving Southern Baptists in Disaster Relief"
- 12 hours of class training, January 30-31 at First Baptist Church, Anchorage
- Critical Incident Stress Management course (14 hours of online instruction)
- Optional: "Incident Command System" level 100 online module

## **Mon-Tues, Jan 30-31, 2012**

# **\$75**

**Cost includes:**

- Classroom instruction
- Materials
- Meals
- Badge, Hat and Shirt

**Monday:** 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. (lunch included)  
4 - 6 p.m. (dinner included)  
**Tuesday:** Noon - 6 p.m.  
(lunch and dinner included)

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

Mail your payment to Alaska Baptist Convention, 1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507

Register by January 12 if you need a hotel reservation.

Register by January 25 if you do not need a hotel reservation.



# December "Nuggets"

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

## **First Baptist Church, Petersburg**



Elizabeth Higgins (pictured left), who is involved with the youth group at FBC, challenged the youth and church to collect 30 boxes for Operation Christmas Child. The youth organized a wrapping party and 30

boxes were completed! The active youth group at FBC participated in a week-long camp this summer, and recently conducted an entire worship service, to include the music and message. They also continue to meet weekly. During Christmas, they will assist the Salvation Army and with snow

removal for the elderly. Don Higgins is pastor.

## **Hillside Baptist Church, Anchorage**

HBC held their annual Fall Festival event on October 31. They had "trunk-n-treat", hay rides, "Mystery House Tour" (where the "Wordless Book" was presented), inflatable slide, music from the Cowboy Church of Anchorage, and the "Pumpkin Patch Parable." Guests enjoyed free snacks and warm drinks and over 180 children (plus adults) had a wonderful time.

## **University Baptist Church, Fairbanks**

UBC will have a busy December, with Christmas parties scheduled for all ages. The preschool ministry department will have a Mom's Time Out on December

17, so moms can finish their Christmas preparations. Members and guests will be able to enjoy a Christmas concert, as well as a Christmas Eve candlelight service.

## **First Baptist Church, Palmer**

FBC had a successful "Fall Festival" with over 125 in attendance. The church also hosted a Thanksgiving potluck on November 20, immediately following their morning worship service.

## **Moose Creek Baptist Church, North Pole**

Pastor Jeff Baxter resigned after serving for 16 years. He and his family will remain in North Pole. The church has begun their search for a new pastor.

There are lots of reasons people today don't give. Let's take a few moments and look at three common reasons:

**1. People don't know how the church differs from other charitable organizations.** Many church goers were not raised in families that went to church, so giving isn't natural. They view the church a lot like other charitable organizations and target their discretionary money toward the organization or organizations of their choice. With limited discretionary money and many charitable options, people often choose to give to other organizations.

## **2. People don't understand the communal nature of the church.**

Acts 2 shows us how the church was organized at its inception. People did life together and everyone took part. Today, many churches present themselves as shows to be watched and have abandoned the community building responsibility given to the church in Acts 2. Because people do little other than attend and aren't encouraged to do anything more, giving is viewed as optional.

## **3. At their core, people are consumers.**

People today are looking for personal benefit and gain. They value

achievement and fulfillment more than their relationship with god. They put their money toward the things that are most fulfilling. Attending church doesn't make the cut. They vacation at the beach, buy cars, and remodel their homes. Those are fulfilling. Watching church is just something to do.

The next generation of givers will not come from the spectators in the congregation. It will come from the people who are engaged in life-changing community. **What are you doing to move people into biblical community?**

Reprinted by permission of the author, David Waganer; June 9, 2011, <[http://www.stewardshipdirect.com/blog/3\\_reasons\\_people\\_dont\\_give/](http://www.stewardshipdirect.com/blog/3_reasons_people_dont_give/)>

## Kits for Kids

Is your church interested in a hands-on project that will help the physical and spiritual needs of children around the world? One that would give you the opportunity to connect People Who Care with People In Need?

This past summer Baptist Global Response (BGR) launched a project called "Kits for Kids." The project involved churches, schools, camps, groups, families and others collecting/packing kits of basic school supplies and sending them to the warehouse. Using its global network of national partners, BGR has been distributing the kits to families in dozens of countries around the globe.

There are millions of children around the world who are unable to attend school because their families cannot afford the basic supplies required. Others live

in areas recently struck by disasters which render the supplies unavailable. Providing these simple school items will not only meet the physical needs required for education, but will also give missionaries and national partners an opportunity to share the love of Christ with these children and their families as the supplies are distributed.

For more information visit the website [www.bgrkitsforkids.com](http://www.bgrkitsforkids.com) or email [kitsforkidsinfo@gobgr.org](mailto:kitsforkidsinfo@gobgr.org). The website contains all you need to promote the project (free, downloadable resource items). Churches in 39 states have already participated!

Over 250,000 kits have been requested by IMB missionaries living in 43 countries. To date, 16,000 kits have been collected. The deadline for completing the project is October 2012. Please don't let one kit request be unmet.

## Summary of Alaska Baptist Convention Executive Board Actions November 14-15, 2011

1. The new committee structure of the Alaska Baptist Convention (ABC) Executive Board was approved.
2. The May 10, 2011, Executive Board meeting minutes were approved.
3. The 66<sup>th</sup> annual meeting minutes of ABC were approved.
4. Wally Smith was appointed as the parliamentarian for 2011-2012.
5. Approved the October 2011 financial reports of ABC.
6. Approved to invite Jeff Corley, member of the Business Affairs Team of Arkansas Baptist Convention, to come in to Alaska to review the ABC financial records.
7. Approved the following to be included in the Policies and Procedures (P&P) Manual, Part II, Section III Benefits, B. Vacation:

“Unused vacation time can be carried over from year to year for both Executive and Support Staff. The maximum amount of time that can be rolled over is two weeks (eight working days). Only two weeks (eight working days) can be used consecutively without prior approval from the Executive Director and Office Manager. In the event of leaving employment with the Convention, up to two weeks (eight working days) salary can be paid to the employee. This payment represents “payment in full” for all unused vacation if more has accrued. In the event of being released for cause (fired), there will be no paid benefit for unused vacation time.”
8. Also approved the changing of “Years 9-12” under P&P Manual, Part II, Section III Benefits, B. Vacation, 1. Support Staff to “Years 9 – and up.”
9. Approved the following to be included in the P&P Manual, Part II, IX Financial, C. Medical Reimbursement:

“4. With a desire to promote health and well-being of its employees, the Convention will pay for various additional healthcare benefits such as that are agreed to between Convention management (executive director and office manager) and the employee. The money for the payment of these healthcare benefits may come in lieu of salary (at the discretion of the employer). In any event, the money for the payment of premiums coming from the employee and being directly paid to the healthcare provider/insurer by the employer will not be counted as taxable income to the employee consistent with IRS guidelines. An example of such healthcare benefit covered under this permission would be long-term care insurance.”
10. Approved the following special offering goals for 2011-2012: Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering goal \$90,000; Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal \$90,000; and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal \$160,000.
11. Approved a \$1,000 Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering grant be given to First Baptist Church, Kotzebue to assist with replacing the gas cook stove in the pastor’s cabin for Aquillaq Baptist Mission in Ambler.
12. Approved a \$2,000 Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering grant be given to First Baptist Church, Kotzebue to assist with replacing the gas cook stove and clothes dryer in the pastor’s cabin for Kobuk Baptist Mission in Kobuk.
13. Approved a \$2,000 Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering grant be given to First Baptist Church, Kotzebue to assist with replacing the gas cook stove and clothes dryer in the pastor’s cabin for Shungnak Baptist Mission in Shungnak.
14. Approved a \$1,000 Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering grant wbe given to First Baptist Church, Kotzebue to assist with replacing the gas clothes dryer in the pastor’s cabin for Kiana Baptist Mission in Kiana.
15. Approved a \$4,500 Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering grant for North Star Baptist Church in Anderson to assist with replacing and upgrading the heating system in the church’s parsonage.
16. Approved Emmanuel Baptist Church, Juneau to be the 2000 Club recipient for the first quarter in 2012 to assist with replacing and upgrading their heating and septic systems.
17. Approved First Korean Baptist Church, Anchorage to be the 2000 Club recipient for the second quarter in 2012 to assist with repairing their roof.
18. Approved the housing allowances for Mike Procter, Jimmy Stewart, Butch Strickland, and Alan Dial.
19. Affirmed the hiring of Butch Strickland to serve as the State Director of Church Planting and Missions for the Alaska Baptist Convention.



**Mike Procter**  
*Executive Director*

The information available on the internet is amazing. Since anyone can post just about anything on the internet, you need to be wary about misinformation. How many of you have received a message that indicates something awful is about to happen and you must contact the President, your Senator or whomever immediately before destruction comes? As you investigate the message, you may find out it is a hoax or rumor and is outdated and no longer applies.

Some time ago, I was curious to find out how many others with the name “Michael Procter” (with an “er”) are in the world. I went to the “LinkedIn” website and found there are at least 23 other Michael Procters. Of the 23, 16 live in the United Kingdom, two in Canada and one each in Colorado, Texas, Missouri, Arizona and Alaska. Of these, four are engineers, four are managers, four are IT specialists, six corporate officers or business owners and one each is a lawyer, airline pilot, mechanic and missionary. One did not list an occupation.

Rebecca and I had been married less than a year when she received a telephone call and the young lady on the other end asked if Mike Procter was home. Rebecca said, “no” and the young lady asked to leave the following message; “please tell Mike I am unable to make our date tonight.” I was not home at the time so I am not exactly sure what Rebecca said but I imagine it was something like, “Oh, you can be sure that Mike will get the message! I later discovered there was a high school student named Mike Proctor (with an “or”) and the young lady thought she was calling him but rang our number by mistake. I have often wondered what the other Mike thought when that young lady did not show up for their date!

In the Bible we are reminded that “...there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12b). What is that name? Who is that person? We know it is Jesus Christ, and yet, there are thousands of people in Alaska who do not know this name or who have not acknowledged this truth. They are following after other “saviors” or “messiahs” and have not come to the one who can bring the forgiveness of sins and a relationship with God the Father. Many of these people are searching for peace, forgiveness, eternal life, a relationship with the Father and are looking everywhere but in God’s word. I may sound judgmental but these other paths do not lead to the Father ...there is only one way to God and that is through Jesus Christ. This Christmas, I pray we will be very deliberate and intentional in proclaiming Jesus Christ as Lord. By acknowledging Him as such, a person can have eternal life, peace, forgiveness and all of the other blessings that God has for those who know His name and are known by His name.

Remember, the Alaska Baptist Convention exists to assist our congregations with **Seeking Christ, Sharing Christ, Strengthening Congregations, Starting Congregations and Sending Christians.**



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

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! Alaskans are a different breed. I was speaking with some folks in Nashville and they asked about the weather in Alaska. When I told them about what we enjoy (snow and cold temperatures), their reaction was anything but excitement. In fact, they were more inclined to think about heading for South America than to think anyone could enjoy this time of year in Alaska. Alaskans are different; we are independent, self-sufficient and capable of taking care of ourselves no matter what the circumstances. We thrive on challenge and adversity. We rise to any occasion and overcome. We don’t just endure, we expand our horizons and make things happen. These characteristics will apply to our future as a Convention. In the last 20 years, we have expanded our horizons in the way we have “done church.” I looked at the 1990 statistics for our Convention and found that 49 churches and missions made a report on attendance and baptisms. In 2010, 77 churches reported:

1990: 49 churches, 9041 resident members, 731 baptisms, 7094 Sunday School enrollment, 3694 Sunday School average attendance, 4329 in worship, 4055 in VBS, 942 in Discipleship Training.

2010: 77 churches, 9332 resident members, 513 baptisms, 5674 Sunday School enrollment, 3621 Sunday School average attendance, 6275 in worship, 4365 in VBS, 2331 in Discipleship Training.

What does this mean? If you look at the numbers from previous years, we have remained pretty constant. There has not been much change except in three areas:

1. We have increased the total number of churches and those reporting their statistics. In 2009, we had 86 churches report with about the same figures. The number of churches has increased but the result is the same?
2. There are more churches, but the number of baptisms is down, not up.
3. In Discipleship Training, we have doubled the numbers but without corresponding increases in resident membership or baptisms, what are we teaching in discipleship if we are not making disciples? It stands to reason that every disciple could make a disciple. How would that impact our communities for Christ?

The good news is we are entering the Christmas season. This is a time when everyone should take the opportunity to talk with someone about the “reason for the season.” We can invite people to attend Christmas Eve, or Christmas morning services. We can throw out some great questions to start conversations. Ask someone, “How is your Christmas shopping going?”, “How many decorations do you put out each year?”, “What is your favorite Christmas memory?” Opening a conversation can easily result in an invitation to church or to Christ. Be bold this year and ask someone to come over for the holidays or go out to dinner. Get to know someone new and let Christ bring the real reason for the season to someone who needs the greatest gift of all—Jesus Christ.

Blessings to you and yours, at this very special time of year. If I can assist your church in any way, please feel free to call. Plan now to attend the State Evangelism Conference January 30-31, and the many other exciting training opportunities in 2012.

## Alaska Baptist Convention Welcomes Newest Staff Member



The Executive Board of the Alaska Baptist Convention voted to affirm Butch Strickland as the new Director of Church Planting and Missions. His official start date will be January 1, 2012. Butch has been serving as Contextualized Church Starter Strategist in Alaska. Prior to coming to Alaska, Butch pastored Independence Baptist Church in Brenham, Texas for nine years. From 1985-2000, Butch and his wife Pam served as International Mission Board missionaries in Venezuela. While there, they started 12 churches, taught classes at the Bible Institute, established six medical clinics, trained volunteer missionaries, and set up a farm/school for children and youth rescued from living on the street. Butch also pastored Valley Baptist Church in McMinnville, Oregon for nine years. He is a graduate of Wayland Baptist College and holds an MDiv from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. Butch and Pam have been married 37 years, have three grown children and five grandchildren.



Alaska Baptist Family Services  
invites you to the

## Dedication Service and Open House

for their new housing facility for  
boys aged 9-13 years old  
1600 O'Malley Road, Anchorage

*Sunday, December 11, 100 pm.*  
Please RSVP to [akfamilies@gci.net](mailto:akfamilies@gci.net)

# Avalanche '12

**Youth Evangelism Conference**  
**March 16-17, 2012**  
**at ABT**

**Featuring: Sean McDowell**  
**CBU Praise Band**

2007 Shaun Lunt



# Foundation Builder

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## January is “Make Your Will” Month

Statistics vary between sources, but a conservative estimate suggests that only 30% of individuals have a viably established Last Will and Testament (Will). This is a particularly alarming statistic in light of the fact that a Will is the primary instrument that deals with guardianship of minor children, in the case of premature death of the parents. In addition, if a person dies without a valid Will the predetermined laws of the state will dictate how assets are distributed. This is important for Christians and/or for those who wish to give to charitable causes at their death as the state has no provisions to distribute to charity as a beneficiary. Property is transferred in three basic ways:

1. Operation of Law. This includes things like jointly-owned property with right of survivorship; for example, a joint checking account.
2. Contract. Examples include Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), designations, life insurance contracts, and trust with testamentary provisions.
3. Last Will and Testament. This includes remaining items that do not otherwise transfer ownership by operation of law or contract.

Clearly, a Will is very important as a proper stewardship/management tool and represents the most basic element of an effective estate plan. Basic elements of a legal Will are:

- The person making the Will (the testator) should be clearly identified in the Will by full name.
- You should ensure your Will is typed or printed via a computer. This is a legal

document and needs to be clear and legible. Many jurisdictions do recognize holographic Wills (a Will written entirely by hand of the testator) but it is important to review specific state law in these cases.

- If the testator has previously made any Wills that are to be superseded, it must be clearly stated in the Will.
- The testator must be a minimum of eighteen years of age and of sound mind (i.e. mentally competent) at the time the Will is made.
- The testator must sign the Will, and this signature must be witnessed by two or three witnesses, who should also sign the Will under oath in the presence of a notary (Self-Proved Will). The witnesses should not be beneficiaries of the Will.
- The provisions of the Will must be consistent with the law and public policy. Any provision of a Will that instructs action to be taken that is contrary to the law or established public policy will not be enforceable.

The above criteria represent widely used criteria throughout all states. It is possible for various states to have additional requirements when probating a Will, so it is important to review the requirements in the state in which you live.

Article submitted by Adam Long, Alaska Baptist Foundation  
References:

<<http://www.1800probate.com/resources/legal-requirements-for-a-will.html>>, published 2009; accessed November 2011.

<<http://resources.lawinfo.com/en/Articles/Wills-Estate-Planning/Alaska/basic-requirements-for-a-last-will-and-testam.html>>, published March 2008; accessed November 2011  
Barry Bledsoe, *A Practical Guide to Estate Planning from a Christian Perspective*, Kingdom Stewardship Alliance, a ministry of The Baptist Foundation of Alabama.

# What is your legacy?



**I**n the September 2011 issue of **Stand Firm**, there was a devotional about leaving a legacy for future generations. The article referenced an event from the book of Ruth in the Old Testament. Ruth (a Moabite) returned to Israel with her mother-in-law (Naomi), both of whom were widowed. Upon their arrival, Ruth provided for Naomi by working in the fields of one of their distant relatives (Boaz). It was soon discovered that Naomi and Ruth were kin to Boaz and he decided he wanted to “redeem” (marry) Ruth and provide for Naomi however there was a problem. There was a closer relative than Boaz who, according to tradition, had the first right to “redeem” Ruth and Naomi. A meeting was called and the closer relative was given the opportunity to marry Ruth, but chose not to therefore allowing Boaz the right. The closer relative did not want to “redeem” them because he wanted to make sure his inheritance was passed on to his immediate family. So Boaz married Ruth, provided for Naomi and their names are preserved for us through history. In Ruth 4:21-22 scripture shares some of the legacy Boaz and Ruth left, “...Boaz... fathered Obed. And Obed fathered Jesse, who fathered David.” David was the king who’s line extended all of the way to Joseph, the husband of Mary, the earthly mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. That is not a bad way to be remembered! Ironically, the closer relative who refused to “redeem” Ruth and Naomi, the one who wanted to protect his inheritance, is never mentioned again. He may have left a temporary inheritance to his family but ultimately, he did not leave an everlasting inheritance. Boaz and Ruth, through their worship, trust in, and commitment to God, left a lasting inheritance still talked about to this day.

**T**he Alaska Baptist Foundation exists to assist you with leaving an inheritance and legacy, not only for your immediate family, but for future generations. Through the establishment of a trust or endowment, you can provide for your family once you are gone and, at the same time, provide for the work of the Lord in Alaska. Boaz and Ruth are remembered because they were willing to trust God to meet their every need, wanted to be wise stewards of the resources God had provided and to be an example to those who followed after them. Rebecca and I have opted to leave a legacy for the Lord’s work in Alaska. We established a trust that will allow children of bush pastors to have the opportunity to travel to attend a summer camp at one of the three camps owned and operated by Alaska Baptists: Laverne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp, Camp Baldwin or Orton Ranch. This is made possible because the interest earned on the amount in the trust is designated for that purpose. I share this, not to pat us on the back but to give you one example of a legacy you can leave.

If you are interested in knowing how you can leave a legacy for the Lord, please contact Adam Long at [adam@alaskabaptistfoundation.com](mailto:adam@alaskabaptistfoundation.com), 907-344-9627 or 800-883-9627.

Blessings!

## **Forrest and Sybillia Fuhr Memorial Scholarship for 2012-2013**

***Application deadline is April 30, 2012***

A maximum of ten (10) scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$1200 each for the 2012-2013 school 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, 2012. The 2012 application and brochure will be available online by January 10. If you have questions, please contact Adam Long, [foundation@alaskabaptistfoundation.com](mailto:foundation@alaskabaptistfoundation.com), (907)770-0581, (800)883-9627.

***The Alaska Baptist Foundation is the Trust Agency of the Alaska Baptist Convention***

*Alaska Baptist Foundation • 1750 O'Malley Road • Anchorage, Alaska 99507 • (907)770-0581 • (800)883-9627 (in Alaska only)*

# Alaska Baptist Messenger

1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507 • (907)344-9627V • (907)344-7044F • [www.alaskabaptistconvention.com](http://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

### December 2011

4- 11                      Week of Prayer and Mission Study  
                                    for International Missions  
                                    and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering  
23-Jan 1                      ABC and ABF Office closed  
                                    for Christmas Holiday

### January 2012

2-8                                      January Bible Study  
15                                      Sanctity of Human Life Sunday  
29                                      Day of Prayer for the SBC  
30-31                                      State Evangelism Conference  
                                    and Disaster Relief Chaplain Training

### February 2012

1                                      ABC Executive Board Meeting  
1-28                                      "True Love Waits" Emphasis  
4                                      Yukon Quest Dog Race  
5                                      Souper Bowl Sunday for Hunger Relief  
12                                      Racial Reconciliation Sunday  
13-16                                      SBC Executive Directors Annual Meeting  
13-19                                      Focus on wMu  
18                                      Children's Ministry Day

## calendar