



Alaska

Baptist Messenger



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

2012 State Evangelism Conference

Monday • Noon-4 p.m.; 7-9 p.m.
Tuesday • 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; 7-9 p.m.
(lunch provided both days)

Featured speakers:

Tommy and Elyse Ferrell • Briarlake Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia

Mike Harland • Lifeway Christian Resources

Mike Licon • Apologetics Consultant

Larry Wynn • North American Mission Board

Sign up online, www.alaskabaptistconvention.com

BY JANUARY 12 if you need hotel reservations • BY JANUARY 25 if you want meals

GOING AFTER
THE OUTSIDER

REACHING THE UNCHURCHED

January 30-31 • First Baptist Church, Anchorage

Disaster Relief Chaplain Training

January 30-31, First Baptist Church, Anchorage

Monday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; 4-6 p.m. (lunch and dinner provided)

Tuesday: Noon-6 p.m. (lunch and dinner provided)

\$75

Sign-up online at www.alaskabaptistconvention.com

Cost includes: (12) hours of classroom instruction, materials, meals, badge, hat, shirt

There is REQUIRED materials completion PRIOR to January 30. Mail your payment into the ABC office (postmarked no later than Jan. 12) in order to receive your materials.

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



When a church member makes a comment about the Cooperative Program (CP), I usually take it very personally. First, it is a special privilege to be a Southern Baptist missionary. Although almost 10,000 other missionaries also depend upon the CP in order to continue their mission work on a day-to-day basis, I tend to think that every dollar given is an affirmation of my call to missions and my commitment to affect the place God has placed me. Second, I've learned that one of the things that binds Southern Baptist churches together is our commitment to give cooperatively and sacrificially to our worldwide mission endeavors. Churches, each unique in their ministry setting and local ministry goals, are now faced with hundreds of worthy requests to provide funds for personal "hands-on" projects, yet, we must remember what "binds thousands of believers and missionaries together"



Shirley and Gary Bearce

is cooperating in something far greater than what any one body can do alone. We give together, not just in support of missions, but to support a strong partnership with others of like faith, practice and mission strategy. Churches that give cooperatively are saying to missionaries like me that they believe we must do Acts 1:8 together. Their CP giving affirms each church's commitment to the essential partnership we share in reaching our world and thus a partnership with their missionaries. Thank you for allowing me to serve with you and allowing me to urge you to remain firm in your commitment to cooperative missions within the Hatcher Pass Baptist Association, across Alaska and beyond.

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
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	\$5,221.00	\$871.00	\$642.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$6,934.00
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	\$954.00	\$30.00	\$80.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$1,094.00
Cowboy Church of Anchorage	\$2,151.16	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,151.16
Eagle River Korean Baptist Church	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
Filipino Bible Church	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
First Baptist Church of Eagle River	\$28,308.43	\$915.15	\$8,309.00	\$0.00	\$1,826.80	\$39,359.38
First Baptist Church, Anchorage	\$59,493.64	\$6,227.55	\$8,875.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$74,596.19
First Baptist Church, Kotzebue	\$1,600.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,850.00
First Baptist Church, Soldotna	\$7,994.00	\$1,142.00	\$1,034.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,170.00
First Hmong Baptist Church	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
First Korean Baptist Church	\$900.00	\$442.00	\$474.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,816.00
First Native Baptist Church	\$5,693.00	\$1,022.00	\$1,562.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,277.00
Frontier Baptist Church	\$3,470.51	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,470.51
Grandview Baptist Church	\$32,327.81	\$1,780.00	\$2,987.00	\$1,380.00	\$140.00	\$38,614.81
Greater Friendship Bapt Church	\$6,838.00	\$0.00	\$570.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,408.00
Hillside Baptist Church	\$12,851.01	\$796.25	\$790.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,437.26
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$926.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$926.40
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 Bapt Church	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Mt Zion Missionary Bapt Church	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Mountain View Comm Church	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$6,201.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,351.00
New Grace Christian Church	\$3,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,600.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$17,053.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$17,053.05
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	\$21,133.91	\$4,148.83	\$3,394.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28,677.24
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$3,850.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,850.00
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
Total	\$250,299.57	\$19,312.78	\$32,115.50	\$1,610.00	\$1,966.80	\$305,304.65

Hatcher Pass Baptist Association

Big Lake Baptist Church	\$8,914.05	\$1,651.00	\$2,275.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,840.55
Bodenberg Butte Baptist Church	\$5,107.44	\$250.00	\$471.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,828.44
CrossCountry Church	\$200.00	\$400.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$8,247.61	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,647.61
Ekwo Christian Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fairview Loop Baptist Church	\$19,258.02	\$2,586.94	\$2,774.57	\$0.00	\$9,832.73	\$34,452.26
First Baptist Church, Palmer	\$19,166.59	\$1,174.00	\$1,590.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$21,931.09
First Baptist Church, Valdez	\$15,453.64	\$3,262.00	\$3,446.76	\$1,850.75	\$0.00	\$24,013.15
First Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$30,232.82	\$1,823.25	\$2,199.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$34,255.57
First Baptist Church, Willow	\$4,703.60	\$1,080.00	\$1,740.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,523.60
King Salmon Comm 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 Community Church	\$4,868.24	\$770.40	\$1,185.08	\$843.80	\$0.00	\$7,667.52
Settler's Bay Community Church	\$6,590.15	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,610.15
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,050.00
Total	\$127,855.42	\$12,997.59	\$19,107.91	\$2,694.55	\$9,832.73	\$172,488.20

Kenai Peninsula

College Heights Baptist Church	\$41,945.32	\$0.00	\$4,439.79	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$46,385.11
First Baptist Church, Kenai	\$6,019.81	\$200.00	\$662.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,881.81
Lighthouse Community Church	\$11,952.56	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,452.56
Moose Pass Community Church	\$205.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$205.00
Mount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$600.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$1,850.00
Total	\$60,722.69	\$700.00	\$6,101.79	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$67,774.48

January-November 2011 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Other						
Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$0.00	\$520.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,020.00
Total	\$0.00	\$520.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,020.00
Tanana Valley Baptist Association						
Chinese Fellowship	\$1,054.53	\$332.00	\$461.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,847.53
Clearwater Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$11,361.00	\$1,620.00	\$2,919.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,900.74
Faith Baptist Church	\$6,130.00	\$1,253.00	\$776.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,159.65
Filipino Baptist Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church, Delta Jct	\$43,409.00	\$2,547.00	\$9,078.50	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$55,784.50
First Baptist Church, Fairbanks	\$7,643.97	\$1,273.00	\$2,029.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,945.97
First Baptist Church, North Pole	\$19,169.30	\$0.00	\$1,797.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,966.83
Friendship Baptist Church	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$1,082.17	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,632.17
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	\$6,782.93	\$260.43	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,043.36
Morning Star Baptist Church	\$7,549.16	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,629.16
Mt Pleasant Baptist Church	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
North Star Baptist Church	\$889.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$889.00
Salcha Baptist Church	\$6,366.51	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,366.51
Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$2,716.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,716.40
St. John Baptist Church	\$13,047.17	\$463.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$13,535.17
Togiak Baptist Mission	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
University Baptist Church	\$21,513.00	\$1,617.00	\$5,591.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28,721.78
Total	\$149,364.97	\$9,390.43	\$23,991.37	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$183,546.77

Tongass Baptist Association						
Anchor Baptist Church	\$5,712.62	\$359.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,071.62
Comm Bapt Church, Coffman Cove	\$2,802.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,802.40
Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$2,993.07	\$0.00	\$590.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,583.07
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	\$16,323.98	\$0.00	\$2,458.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,781.98
First Baptist Church, Petersburg	\$3,293.00	\$852.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,645.00
First Baptist Church, Sitka	\$5,377.35	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,377.35
Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$12,704.02	\$0.00	\$2,661.28	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,365.30
Hoonah Baptist Mission	\$362.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$372.00
Juneau Korean Church	\$330.00	\$0.00	\$280.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$610.00
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	\$1,004.90	\$695.00	\$545.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,244.90
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
Total	\$60,578.13	\$1,911.00	\$7,272.28	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$69,781.41

Grand Total	\$648,820.78	\$44,831.80	\$89,088.85	\$5,374.55	\$11,799.53	\$799,915.51
Goals:	\$772,855.00	\$75,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$150,000.00		
Over/Under Goal:	\$(124,034.22)	\$(30,168.20)	\$(10,911.15)	\$(144,625.45)		

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 November 30, 2011:

First Quarter 2011	\$6985
Second Quarter 2011	\$7330
Third Quarter 2011	\$6465
Fourth Quarter 2011	\$6450

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 248 regular contributors...imagine how much more we could do with an additional 1752 contributors?

Alaska Baptist Convention

**Please Pray for
our Pastorless
Churches**

Chugach Baptist Association

Aquillaq Baptist Church
 Kiana Baptist Mission
 Mountain View Community Church
 University Baptist Church

Hatcher Pass Baptist Association

Ekwo 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



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

Alaska Baptist Messenger

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January 2012 • 3



January “Nuggets”

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

Alaska Missions and Retreats

Brenda Crim will begin duties as Executive Director of Alaska Missions and Retreats on January 1. This new 501(c)3, non-profit organization is led by a Board of Trustees. Brenda will also continue to work with the Chugach Baptist Association as a mission mobilizer (MSC).

Mountain View Community Church, Anchorage

Pastor Charles (LaVon) Bridges has resigned from MVCC, effective December 31, 2011. They plan to stay in Anchorage and are available for supply and interim work.

Chugach Baptist Association

CBA will host their annual Summit, January 28, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Wayland Baptist University. All pastors and church leaders are encouraged to participate. CBA will also host a Church Planter Sponsor Conference, February 1-2 at First Baptist Church, Anchorage. This conference will be led by Tom Wicker and Dave McClung from the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Training includes such topics as “what it means to sponsor a church plant,” “the expectations of sponsorship,” “how to interact with church planting families” and “how small churches can join together in sponsorship.” February 2 will be a repeat of February 1, so choose which day you would prefer to attend. Please encourage your church leadership to attend. Meals and snacks

are provided. Contact David George for additional information (907-862-4065; doc_pastor@yahoo.com).

University Baptist Church, Fairbanks

Children’s Ministries will hold their annual Cabin Night on January 20. They will eat, sing, make new friends, earn team points, play group games and be mentored by teenagers. A camp cook will disperse the grub and special visitors will deliver a salvation message.

First Baptist Church, Valdez

FBC hosted their annual Ladies’ Christmas Tea on December 8 at the Valdez Civic Center with over 200 women in attendance! The church also packed 162 boxes for Operation Christmas Child and 60 boxes for Kotzebue’s shoebox distribution.

Sunset Hills Baptist Church, Anchorage SHBC had a successful semester of English as a Second Language (ESL) and Citizenship. Thirty-six students, representing eight nations, participated in the Tuesday morning ESL classes and the Thursday night Bible study.

First Baptist Church, Petersburg

FBC men’s Bible study recently finished “Leaving a Godly Legacy” by Dr. Charles Stanley, and the women’s Wednesday morning Bible study finished “Renewing the Heart for Women: Life Principles from the Beatitudes” by Barbara Henry. Both studies were spiritually challenging and new studies will begin in January.

Mission Opportunity

Hoonah Baptist Mission is seeking (a) God-called business person(s) to oversee and manage their various ministry projects. The mission was established to minister to the residents of Hoonah, through the operation of a thrift store, a healing ministry and Bible teaching. Hoonah Baptist Mission will provide housing for a single person or a couple, who will commit to a 3-to-6-month stay. The following are required for this ministry:

- Must be self-supporting
- Must have strong Bible skills
- Should have a background in business management
- Should have the ability to raise funds
- Should have grant-writing abilities
- Have a love for Alaska Natives
- Have a love for a rugged, outdoor experience (hunting, fishing, berry and herb gathering)
- *Boating experience would be helpful*

Hoonah Baptist Mission (sponsored by Emmanuel Baptist, Juneau) is located on an island approximately 40 miles west of Juneau, Alaska. The Mission is affiliated with Tongass Baptist Association and the Alaska Baptist Convention. Letters of interest and resumes should be sent to Hoonah Baptist Mission, P.O. Box 292, Hoonah, AK 99829; (907)945-3811, (907)957-0402

Drop in Giving

In the last year, **69%** of American adults reduced their giving to church, religious centers and other nonprofits. Of those who stopped giving,

24% stopped giving entirely and **17%** cut their giving back by half.

Source: Outreach Magazine, September/October 2011. Reprinted from On Mission magazine, Winter 2012



Answer the call by praying for spiritual awakening for your family and friends, your church, your nation and your world.

namb.net/sbccalltoprayer

Impact your community, your nation and the world this January by leading your church to join with thousands of others across the Southern Baptist Convention in united prayer for spiritual awakening.

My Family and Friends. Select a friend or family member and pray that they would come to faith in Christ.

My Church. Select a church staff member, volunteer or ministry, and

pray for them in their efforts to penetrate lostness.

My Nation. Select a "Send North America city" and pray for the church planting efforts in that area.

My World. Select an unreached people group and pray that the gospel would be advanced among these people.

My Southern Baptist Convention. Select a national, state or local leader and pray for guidance in leading the Southern Baptist Convention.

odds & ends

School Dropout

According to research on education done by the White House, a staggering 1.2 million students drop out of school each year.

Source: USA Today, May 20, 2011

Help for Health

More adults are praying over health issues than any other area of life. Some 49% of adults focus the majority of their prayers on the health concerns of both themselves and others.

Source: Time magazine, May 26, 2011

To Wed or Not To Wed?

A quarter of all unmarried millennials (ages 18-29) say they are unsure if they will ever want to be married in the future. On top of this, 5% of millennials say they are positive they will never want to get married in their lifetime.

Source: Pew Research, May 25, 2011

reprinted from On Mission magazine, Fall 2011

Avalanche '12

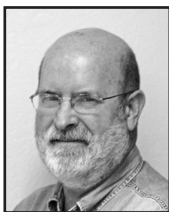
**"Truth or Consequences"
Youth Evangelism Conference
March 16-17, 2012
Anchorage Baptist Temple**

**Featuring Sean McDowell
and CBU Praise Band**

Cost: \$20

No pre-registration required

2007 Shaun Lunt



Mike Procter
Executive Director

The first day of a New Year elicits different reactions: relief that the old year is over; an uncertainty as to what lies ahead; a fear of coming change; an anticipation of what the New Year might bring. As our Convention marks the first full year of transition and change as a result of the Great Commission Resurgency and reorganization at the North American Mission Board, we look forward to more change. Some of the changes in 2012 are:

- Our Cooperative Program (CP) budget has been reduced by \$317,638.
- Our jointly-appointed ABC and NAMB missionary personnel have been reduced from 15 to 7. In the process, we have said “goodbye and thank you for a job well done” to Don Shannon, Mike Purple, Brenda Crim, Linda Hokit and Paul Wells, as well as being unable to fill three vacant positions.
- Butch Strickland, formerly our Contextualized Church Starter Strategist (Multi-Ethnic) is now serving as the Director of Church Planting and Missions.
- We have been challenged to adjust the division of our CP mission support. Currently, we are giving “67/33,” which means when your congregation sends CP funds to the ABC, 67% remains in Alaska to be used as determined by our mission and ministry priorities, and 33% is sent to the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention to be used for mission needs across North America and internationally. We have been challenged to increase our CP giving to “50/50.”
- We are being asked to reduce the mission and church planting support we receive from NAMB from “88/12” to “80/20”; currently for every \$12 we give to CP, we receive \$88 in return. The challenge is to increase our CP so that for every \$20 we give to CP, we will receive \$80 from NAMB.

These major impacts on our mission and ministry budget will be phased in over a multi-year timeframe.

In order to assist with these and upcoming changes, I have tasked the ABC Executive Board to study our current associational structure to determine if it is best in light of impending changes. With the retirement of Paul Wells, NAMB has indicated we will be unable to fill the Church Planter Catalyst position in the Tanana Valley Baptist Association with a jointly-appointed missionary because the association does not have the minimum population for such a position. I have also tasked the Executive Board with the definition of church affiliation and the process by which a church becomes affiliated with the ABC. Also, how should we prioritize our mission and ministry budget? Please pray for those who serve on the Executive Board and its committees, as they have a colossal task in front of them.

I am not wringing my hands nor am I fearful. I am confident the Lord will continue to meet our every need, as we walk in faith and obedience with Him. Rather, I am facing 2012 with a sense of excitement and anticipation as we witness God working mightily in our midst, as Alaskans are reached with the gospel of Jesus Christ, as believers grow in the grace and knowledge of God’s Word, as congregations are strengthened and as new ministries and congregations are begun.



Jimmy Stewart
Director of Evangelism and Church Development

This new year promises to be exciting! Does anyone else feel this way? Some may say the coming year is going to be a drag because it’s an election year. Those who want our current president re-elected will do everything they can to improve the economy. So the stock market may be in good shape this year, but it also may get derailed. I do not plan to waste my time on all the televised election events. I think we could all save money and time if there was just one internet site where the candidates could post what they believed and where they stood on issues. Then we could just make our decisions and vote accordingly.

Alaska Baptists can look forward to some exciting events in 2012. The State Evangelism Conference is January 30-31 at First Baptist Church in Anchorage. Larry Wynn, Tommy and Elyse Ferrell, Mike Licon and Mike Harland are our featured guests. Please see more information on the front page of this *Messenger* and go online at www.alaskabaptistconvention.com to register. In March, I am planning a “God’s Plan for Sharing” (GPS) tour through the state with a special musical group from the University of Mobile. This event will give you and your church an opportunity to invite friends to a special night of music and a gospel presentation. The youth evangelism conference, Avalanche, will be a great opportunity for Sean McDowell to speak to our youth. In April, the VBS training clinics will feature musical guest Jeff Slaughter. In September 2012, plans are being made to have several evangelistic women’s events. You will want to take advantage of all these wonderful opportunities. This year, across conventions, statewide and nationally, events are being planned by churches to reach their communities for Christ. How will your church participate? What will your church plan? If you are interested in strategizing and planning something evangelistic, let me know how I can help. Each association has a block party trailer which provides a great tool to reach out to your community. Contact your association office if you want to reserve one.

2012 is going to be a great year of evangelism. At the recent annual winter meeting of the North American Mission Board, Alaska was recognized as the state with the greatest percentage increase of baptisms for the 2009-2010 church year. This recognition came as a result of Alaska churches turning in their Annual Church Profiles (ACP) so please get your ACP filled out. If you have questions about it, please contact Debra Long in our office. I hope 2012 shows a great increase in evangelism efforts resulting in baptisms and new disciples. I encourage our churches to plan evangelism training, emphasizing sharing our faith by conducting special evangelistic events and developing a discipleship process for current and new Christians. Let me help you in your planning. You never know where a conversation over a cup of coffee might lead....



Butch Strickland

Director of Church Planting and Missions

I was one in a group of five cousins, between the ages of 5 and 9, who determined our standard of manhood was whether or not we could jump off the back of our grandmother's chicken house. My memories of the experience were that the chicken house stood so high it precluded anyone from doing something so dangerous. Long after my grandmother moved from her old home, I had the opportunity to return as an adult. I found the chicken house had shrunk considerably through the years. I could literally step up on the back of it.

About the time I was contemplating jumping off Granny's chicken house, I was also forming impressions of other things. I had the idea that missionaries were somehow more spiritual than anybody else. I had them on a pedestal as the epitome of spiritual commitment. Anyone who would leave family, friends and home to live in another country, learn a new language and adjust to a new culture was deserving of my admiration. I loved hearing them and seeing the strange artifacts they brought back from their land of service. I thought it would be a dream come true to be a missionary. And then I became one! Not only was Granny's chicken house not as tall as it used to be but that pedestal where I had placed missionaries didn't even exist.

I again find myself in a position where my ideas somehow don't agree with the reality of the situation. You have given me the responsibility of being the Director of Church Planting and Missions for the Alaska Baptist Convention. I never dreamed I would be serving in such a capacity and I want to thank you for the confidence you have placed in me. I pray I will be worthy of that confidence. As I begin the new year wearing a new "hat", please let me know if there is any way I can be of service to you.

We are also entering an era of new leadership in the North American Mission Board (NAMB). That means we will be developing new strategies that will not only keep us in line with NAMB's policies but will also help us do whatever it takes to win Alaska for Christ. Our executive director has challenged us to Seek Christ, Share Christ, Strengthen Congregations, Start Congregations and Send Christians.

As we move into 2012, there are steps we can take to make sure every village, ethnic group, and neighborhood has an opportunity to hear and respond to the gospel of Christ. We can pray specifically: Jesus said, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest." Let's pray the Lord will send laborers even if that means we ourselves become those laborers. Let's also pray the Holy Spirit will lead the church to set apart those whom He has called as He did in the church in Antioch (Acts 13:2).

Thank you for the opportunity to serve in Alaska. I will do my best to honor your confidence.

Win a Bible!

(The Holman Large Print Compact Bible Classic Edition)

Help the ABC staff choose a new name for the "Nuggets" section of the Alaska Baptist *Messenger*. All submitted suggestions will be voted on by the staff (secret ballot) and the suggestion receiving the most votes will be used starting with the February 2012 issue.

Contest rules: Please do not submit names of known church newsletters or radio/television programs. Submit suggestions that are not regionally specific. Submit all suggestions via e-mail to betsy@alaskabaptistconvention.com by January 16, 2012.

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 are available online. If you have questions, please contact Adam Long, foundation@alaskabaptistfoundation.com, (907)770-0581, (800)883-9627.

Women on Mission Celebration

April 12-14, 2012
First Baptist Church
Anchorage



Alaska

Baptist Messenger



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PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT
ANCHORAGE, AK

January 2012

2-8	January Bible Study	4-10	Youth Week
15	Sanctity of Human Life Sunday	4-11	Week of Prayer and Mission Study
23-25	Youth Leader Summit		and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
29	Day of Prayer for the SBC	11	Daylight Saving Time starts
30-31	State Evangelism Conference	16-17	Avalanche '12
	Disaster Relief Chaplain Training	18	Substance Abuse Prevention Sunday
		25	On Mission Together:

February 2012

1	ABC Executive Board Meeting	29-31	Planting New Congregations Sunday
1-28	"True Love Waits" Emphasis		Alaska Leadership Event
4	Yukon Quest Dog Race		
	Fairbanks to Whitehorse		
5	Souper Bowl Sunday for Hunger Relief		
12	Racial Reconciliation Sunday		
13-19	Focus on wMu		
18	Children's Ministry Day		

March 2012

3	Iditarod Ceremonial Start	
	Anchorage	
4	Iditarod Restart, Willow	