



Alaska Baptist Messenger



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

April 26-28, 2012

WE WOULD SEE JESUS

REFRESH: Ministers and Spouses Retreat

Speakers from the Maryland/Delaware Baptist Convention:

Freddy Parker, Director of Partnership Missions

Gayla Parker, Director of Missions Customization

Location: First Baptist Church, Anchorage

Hotel: Clarion Suites

Cost: \$150 per couple, includes

two nights hotel, five meals and snacks

Registration deadline: April 1, 2012

To register visit www.alaskabaptistconvention.com and click on events

Women on Mission Celebration • Thursday-Saturday, April 12-14 First Baptist Church, Anchorage

Set Free

based on Luke 4:18-19 (NKJV)

Featured speaker Wanda Lee, National WMU Executive Director/Treasurer

Special music, break-out sessions and missionary testimonies

For additional information, please contact Alaska WMU president

Ruby Stogsdill, rubystogsdill@gmail.com

Thursday: 5:30-9:00 with dinner • Friday: 9:00-Noon and 6:00-9:00

• Saturday: 9:00-1:00 with lunch

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



I want to thank Mike Procter and his staff at the Alaska Baptist Convention for the opportunity to share with other Alaska pastors and churches the blessings of the Cooperative Program (CP). As I reflect on my 30 plus years of being a Christian and 15 years in the pastorate, I have observed how mission work is accomplished by various denominations and I have come to greatly appreciate how Southern Baptist churches agree to cooperate in missions.

The vast majority of churches today cannot afford to keep even one missionary on the field full-time. Through our CP giving, First Baptist Church-Eagle River helps the 5,000 missionaries on the field full-time. These missionaries are in Alaska and around the world. Because of this joint funding we have relationships with missionaries



Pastor Todd and Kathy Burgess

Amanda Dillon, Amanda C., Alan Dial, Butch Strickland, John Forrester and others who have surrendered their lives to God's work in some very difficult situations. It is also important to note that 97 cents of every dollar goes to mission work. No other organization in the world can make that claim.

The relationships we have with these missionaries keep missions alive and real in our church. It is a sad day for the church when God's mission work turns into just a monthly check. We must stay personally involved with the missionaries God has placed upon our hearts to support. When they are experiencing growth and joy, we are able to share that with them, but we must also weep when they weep because of hurts that so often accompany God's servants. That level of support is not accomplished through a check, but by personal involvement, and this is what the CP affords churches like ours.

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	\$5,635.00	\$871.00	\$642.00	\$1,120.00	\$0.00	\$8,268.00
Christ Community Church	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
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
Comm 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	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$1,300.00
Filipino Bible Church	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
First Baptist Church of Eagle River	\$31,036.06	\$915.15	\$8,309.00	\$2,532.50	\$1,885.51	\$44,678.22
First Baptist Church, Anchorage	\$66,157.67	\$6,227.55	\$8,875.00	\$12,873.00	\$0.00	\$94,133.22
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	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
First Korean Baptist Church	\$1,200.00	\$442.00	\$474.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,116.00
First Native Baptist Church	\$6,228.00	\$1,022.00	\$1,562.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,812.00
Frontier Baptist Church	\$3,824.51	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,824.51
Grandview Baptist Church	\$35,289.15	\$1,780.00	\$2,987.00	\$1,405.00	\$140.00	\$41,601.15
Greater Friendship Bapt Church	\$7,415.00	\$0.00	\$570.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$8,285.00
Hillside Baptist Church	\$13,903.66	\$796.25	\$790.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,489.91
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$1,010.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,010.15
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
Mtn View Community Church	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$10,305.35	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,455.35
New Grace Christian Church	\$3,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,600.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$18,713.05	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19,013.05
Rabbit Creek Community Church	\$4,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
River In The Desert Comm Church	\$1,223.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,223.00
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	\$25,336.61	\$4,148.83	\$3,394.50	\$3,370.50	\$0.00	\$36,250.44
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$4,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,400.00
True North Church	\$2,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,250.00
University Baptist Church	\$10,940.65	\$2,081.00	\$1,169.00	\$2,294.00	\$0.00	\$16,484.65
Valley View Baptist Church	\$3,700.00	\$0.00	\$659.00	\$724.00	\$0.00	\$5,083.00
Whittier Christian Community	\$1,117.08	\$98.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$1,315.08
Total	\$281,266.36	\$21,103.78	\$32,115.50	\$25,249.00	\$2,025.51	\$361,760.15
Hatcher Pass Baptist Association						
Big Lake Baptist Church	\$9,791.77	\$1,651.00	\$2,275.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,718.27
Bodenberg Butte Bapt Church	\$5,107.44	\$250.00	\$471.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,828.44
CrossCountry Church	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.00
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$8,964.90	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,364.90
Ekwok 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	\$21,666.58	\$1,174.00	\$1,615.50	\$2,122.56	\$0.00	\$26,578.64
First Baptist Church, Valdez	\$16,594.82	\$3,262.00	\$3,446.76	\$6,631.98	\$0.00	\$29,935.56
First Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$32,764.22	\$1,823.25	\$2,199.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$36,786.97
First Baptist Church, Willow	\$5,280.21	\$1,080.00	\$1,740.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,100.21
King Salmon Comm Chapel	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$550.00
Montana Creek Baptist Church	\$4,403.81	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,403.81
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	\$6,355.52	\$1,188.00	\$1,463.48	\$1,122.20	\$0.00	\$10,129.20
Settler's Bay Comm Church	\$7,164.50	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,184.50
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,100.00
Total	\$138,994.79	\$13,415.19	\$19,411.31	\$9,876.74	\$9,832.73	\$191,530.76
Kenai Peninsula						
College Heights Baptist Church	\$44,643.32	\$2,863.89	\$4,439.79	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$51,947.00
First Baptist Church, Kenai	\$6,441.51	\$200.00	\$662.00	\$67.00	\$0.00	\$7,370.51
Lighthouse Community Church	\$13,237.06	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,737.06
Moose Pass Comm 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	\$65,126.89	\$3,563.89	\$6,101.79	\$317.00	\$0.00	\$75,109.57
Other						
Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$3,020.00	\$520.00	\$500.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$4,115.00
Total	\$3,020.00	\$520.00	\$500.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$4,115.00

January-December 2011 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Tanana Valley Baptist Association						
Chinese Fellowship	\$1,144.53	\$332.00	\$461.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,937.53
Clearwater Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$13,792.00	\$1,620.00	\$2,919.74	\$3,134.22	\$0.00	\$21,465.96
Faith Baptist Church	\$7,384.00	\$1,253.00	\$776.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,413.65
Filipino Baptist Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church, Delta Jct	\$46,898.00	\$2,557.00	\$9,078.50	\$2,306.00	\$0.00	\$60,839.50
First Baptist Church, Fairbanks	\$8,107.07	\$1,273.00	\$2,029.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,409.07
First Baptist Church, North Pole	\$21,375.89	\$50.00	\$1,797.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23,223.42
Friendship Baptist Church	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$1,082.17	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,682.17
Hispanic Mission	\$219.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$219.00
Korean Baptist Mission	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$7,685.13	\$260.43	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,945.56
Morning Star Baptist Church	\$8,192.86	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$14.00	\$0.00	\$8,286.86
Mt Pleasant Baptist Church	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
North Star Baptist Church	\$936.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$936.00
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	\$14,345.87	\$463.00	\$0.00	\$468.00	\$0.00	\$15,276.87
Togiak Baptist Mission	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
University Baptist Church	\$23,138.00	\$1,767.00	\$5,591.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,496.78
Total	\$163,926.26	\$9,600.43	\$23,991.37	\$5,947.22	\$0.00	\$203,465.28
Tongass Baptist Association						
Anchor Baptist Church	\$6,058.84	\$379.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$6,457.84
Comm Bapt Church, Coffman Cove	\$3,161.70	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$3,211.70
Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$3,456.70	\$200.00	\$590.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,246.70
Filipino Baptist Church	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
First Baptist Church, Juneau	\$10,897.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$655.00	\$0.00	\$11,552.75
First Baptist Church, Ketchikan	\$16,323.98	\$0.00	\$2,458.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,781.98
First Baptist Church, Petersburg	\$4,093.00	\$852.00	\$500.00	\$1,626.00	\$0.00	\$7,071.00
First Baptist Church, Sitka	\$5,798.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,798.85
Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$12,704.02	\$2,434.00	\$2,661.28	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$17,799.30
Hoonah Baptist Mission	\$442.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$452.00
Juneau Korean Church	\$360.00	\$0.00	\$280.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$640.00
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 Bapt Church	\$1,004.90	\$695.00	\$545.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,244.90
Tenakee Community Church	\$230.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$230.00
Thorne Bay Baptist Church	\$567.50	\$5.00	\$102.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$684.50
Total	\$66,049.24	\$4,565.00	\$7,272.28	\$2,371.00	\$0.00	\$80,257.52
Grand Total	\$718,383.54	\$52,768.29	\$89,392.25	\$43,835.96	\$11,858.2	\$916,238.28
Goals:	\$772,855.00	\$75,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$150,000.00		
Over/Under Goal:	(\$54,471.46)	(\$22,231.71)	(\$10,607.75)	(\$106,164.04)		

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 December 31, 2011:

First Quarter 2011	\$7015
Second Quarter 2011	\$7360
Third Quarter 2011	\$6495
Fourth Quarter 2011	\$7515

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 251 regular contributors...imagine how much more we could do with an additional 1749 contributors?

Alaska Baptist Convention

Welcome

Chugach Baptist Association

Brandon (Nicole) Jones
 Shungnak Baptist Mission

**Please Pray for
 our Pastorless
 Churches**

Chugach Baptist Association

Aquillaq Baptist Church
 Kiana Baptist Mission
 Mountain View Community Church
 Sand Point Chapel
 University Baptist Church

Hatcher Pass Baptist Association

Ekwo Christian Church
 King Salmon Community Baptist Chapel

Tanana Valley Baptist Association

Chinese Fellowship
 Moose Creek Baptist Church
 North Star Baptist Church

Tongass Baptist Association

Emmanuel Baptist Church
 Hoonah Baptist Mission

serving in church

The number of adults serving in the local church **has dropped by 80%** in the last two decades. Today **only one in five adults** (roughly 19%) dedicate their time on a weekly basis to serving in some area of their local church.

Source: The Barna Group, July 26, 2011

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

MILEPOST MOMENTS

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

Our Condolences

Our condolences to the family and friends of Bernice Gillespie, former longtime member of Immanuel Baptist Church, Anchorage, who died December 16, 2011. The funeral was held Monday, December 19, 2011 at Mount Tabor Baptist Church in Clemson, South Carolina.

Laverne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp

LGYRC is in need of donations of coats, stocking hats, gloves, socks, blankets, backpacks and hygiene items. You can also make a tax deductible donation in order to purchase needed items. Because of limited space, they are unable to accept clothing items beyond what is mentioned above. For more information, contact LGYRC at lgycr@mtaonline.net.

First Baptist Church, Palmer

The men's ministry of FBC enjoyed an overnight Ice Fishing trip January 7-8 at Laverne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp.

College Heights Baptist Church, Soldotna

Diane Somers, member of CHBC, was featured in the LifeWay Vacation Bible School (VBS) blog in December. As the VBS director for CHBC, Diane assisted the LifeWay VBS graphic designer in procuring photos of Alaska-related animals (elk and puffins) and thus began a friendship with the LifeWay VBS team. During 2008, Diane experienced serious health issues and had to relinquish her duties with VBS. She is just now able to help with VBS again and is praising God for allowing her to continue her ministry.

University Baptist Church, Anchorage

UBC youth presented their Christmas musical, "Mayhem in Bethlehem" on December 18. They baptized three on Christmas morning and celebrated communion. There have been 13 baptisms since August.

North Star Baptist Church, Anderson

Pastor Hugh Long thanks the congregations of the Alaska Baptist Convention (ABC) for giving to the Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering which enabled NSBC to receive funds for heating oil this winter.

Chugach Baptist Association

CBA will sponsor a Camp Forum on Thursday, February 16 at First Baptist Church, Eagle River, 5:30-9:00 p.m. They will discuss how our churches can best utilize Laverne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp. Camp directors and trustees will attend this meeting that will include dinner. Please encourage your church leadership to attend.

Grandview Baptist Church, Anchorage

Mike Blakeney, Minister of Youth and Community Outreach at GBC, is featured on Governor Sean Parnell's website, gov.alaska.gov as one of "the many Alaskans who make Alaska the greatest state in the nation." In the Heart of Alaska 2011 feature "Michael Blakeney stepped up this spring with a bright idea, Alaska Summer Food, to help spread the word about summer food programs for children. It allows providers a way to keep information up-to-date. Michael, who works with Grandview Baptist Church, designed the Alaska Summer Food website, demonstrated its use to Food Bank of Alaska, and launched it."

Faith Baptist Church, Fairbanks

FBC will host "Total Money Makeover" (Dave Ramsey) live simulcast on March 17, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Cost to attend is \$39 and includes lunch and snacks. Please call the church to get your tickets, (907)479-5063.

Shugnak Baptist Mission

SBM welcomes new pastor Brandon (Nicole) Jones and their children Caydon, Selene, Natalie, Walter and James.



First Baptist Church, Wasilla

On January 15, FBC honored their pastor Stephen (Dana) Shrimplin on his 10th anniversary at the church. The celebration included a potluck and special program.

First Native Baptist Church, Anchorage

This congregation baptized three on November 13 (Trey Dock pictured right). With a growing youth group, Angel and Frank Beltran have stepped in as volunteer youth workers. The church started "Experiencing God" in January and had such good response, they will plan another class in the spring. Charles Lane is pastor.



Big Lake Baptist Church

BLBC packed their worship center on January 15 when they presented the movie "Courageous" to their church family and community. At the end of the movie, men were challenged to take a stand for God and their families, to be men of integrity and to make an impact on their children.

Alaska Baptist Convention

The Alaska Baptist Convention (ABC) is happy to introduce our newest staff member, Robbie Courtney, IT Specialist. Robbie fills the position vacated by Mike Blakeney, who was called to a full-time position at Grandview Baptist Church in Anchorage. Robbie is a member of The Crossing @ Birchwood and has lived in Chugiak most of his life. He served with the Marines for five years, and was deployed to Iraq two times, first for 13 months, and then for nine. Currently a student at UAA, Robbie is pursuing a degree in Management Information Systems. His hobbies include hunting, fishing and motorcycle riding. Next time you are in the ABC office, take a moment to introduce yourself to Robbie and welcome him to the ABC family.



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.



2012 Vacation Bible School Training
with musical guest Jeff Slaughter
Monday, April 16 • Fairview Loop Baptist, Wasilla
Tuesday, April 17 • FBC Anchorage
Thursday, April 19 • College Heights Baptist, Soldotna
Saturday, April 21 • FBC North Pole

Complete the 2012 SBC Church Compensation Survey today!

Sponsored by your Baptist state convention, GuideStone Financial Resources and LifeWay Christian Resources, the 2012 survey is again online. In 2010 about 12,000 church employees participated, and we're counting on you to make this year's survey a success.

- The survey takes less than 10 minutes to complete.
- Your individual results are kept anonymous: results are reported in aggregate at the state or national level for churches of similar size and budget.

For almost two decades, the SBC Church Compensation Survey's results have been used by church finance and personnel committees to establish competitive compensation packages for ministers and support staff. Your participation will help make this year's survey the most complete yet. Ministers, secretaries and maintenance/custodial staff are invited to participate.

Visit www.GuideStone.org/CompensationSurvey by May 31 to take the online survey.



Avalanche '12

"Truth or Consequences"

Youth Evangelism Conference

March 16-17, 2012

Friday 7-10pm (doors open at 6pm)

Saturday 9:30-11:30am; 1:30-4pm

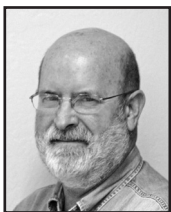
Anchorage Baptist Temple

Featuring

Sean McDowell and CBU Praise Band

Cost: \$20 • No pre-registration required

2007 Shaun Lunt



Mike Procter
Executive Director

January 2012 is over; the first month of the new year, with all of its promises, is done. How are you doing with your new year resolutions? To date, I have been able to keep mine: eat more, exercise less, watch more television and gain 20 pounds. I am just kidding! I worked too hard to lose the 20 pounds I did in 2011 and I do not want to gain it back.

With 2012 still in its infancy, how do you anticipate the Lord will work in your life? What would you like to see Him do? Are you prepared to make the commitment for Him to exercise full control of your life--“to be the Lord of your life”? In order for Him to be Lord, you must be totally committed to Him and His will for you.

As he realized his time on earth was coming to an end, the apostle Paul wrote, “for I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing.” (2 Timothy 4:6-8)

Notice in this passage Paul states three truths we should be able to claim in our walk with the Lord:

1. He mentions a **victorious past** “...I have fought a good fight...I have finished my course...I have kept the faith...”
2. He mentions a **peaceful present** “...I am now ready”
3. He mentions a **glorious future** “...henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord...shall give me...”

On Sunday, January 8, I had the privilege of sharing these truths with the congregation at Mountain View Community Church in Anchorage. After the service, someone told me the message was an encouragement to her and she shared two additional thoughts I wish I had included:

1. God is not God of the past, but God of the present, for He said, “I Am” and not “I Was.” Is this why we are encouraged to forget those things that are behind us and press forward?
2. While we can expect God to be faithful in the future, He is not a future God or a God for someday down the road; He is the God of today. He did not say, “I Will Be” but said, “I Am.” Is this why we are encouraged to not worry about tomorrow? Why worry about an unknown future when we have a known God present with us today?

In 2012, I pray you experience the daily presence of the living great “I Am” and as we partner together, we will witness God doing a great and mighty work in Alaska. Blessings!



Jimmy Stewart
Director of Evangelism and Church Development

2012 started with a “Call to Prayer.” The leadership of the International Mission Board and North American Mission Board asked churches to focus on praying for our nation, churches and unreached people and people groups in our circle of influence. Have you ever thought that perhaps a person who does not have a relationship with God does not want to be prayed into a relationship with God? Before becoming a Christian, I didn’t want to give my life to the Lord. I don’t know if someone was praying for me to come to Christ, but I am sure there were people in my life who knew I needed to be in a transformational relationship with God. Many who are without Christ don’t really want to change. In trying to understand this, we have to realize there is spiritual blindness to the attractiveness of the Gospel. Recently I read a letter to the editor in USA today where someone asked, “Does anyone want our President, when faced with a significant decision, sitting in the Oval Office thinking ‘what would Jesus do?’” His response was “I don’t.” I think his letter intended to say he wants a president who makes decisions “based on validated information, evidence, logic, reason and the U.S. Constitution...” Is he talking about the Constitution that guarantees religious freedom? There are people who believe God is a myth and a product of man’s imagination. Some of us may have had those same thoughts at one point in our lives. So, how do we pray for people? We don’t have to pray that God will save them; God already wants to do that. There are three ways we need to pray that others will be transformed; first, pray for an awareness of God. This prayer is for the soul that is rejecting God because they enjoy living a life of sin. I believe the majority of people without salvation are those who enjoy their sinful habits. These unbelievers need to see the undeniable evidence of God’s existence. Romans 1 is a good chapter to review. Pray that those without God will not be able to deny His existence. Do you know many people come to know Christ after the birth of their first child? Also, people tend to see God’s handiwork following illness and restoration to health. For those who live for themselves, a dramatic intervention of God in times of crisis may cause them to choose to quit ignoring God. I once asked a father how he would like it if his own children decided to ignore him and not to be in his life. He answered he would not like that. When I told him he was doing that same thing to God, he realized he was ignoring his heavenly Father but he still didn’t give his life to the Lord. He still needed to be convinced of the benefit of knowing God.

Next month I will share how you can pray for the lost in two other areas in their life. Praying people into awareness should keep you busy. In March, there will be a two-week “awareness” media campaign “Hope: Find it Here.” Give me a call and I will give you more information.



Butch Strickland

***Director of Church Planting
and Missions***

As 2012 moves forward, there are some 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. The first and most important thing we can do is pray.

- 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.
- Let's also pray the Holy Spirit will lead the church to set apart those whom He has called.
- Let's pray about our own response to His calling.
- Let's pray that He will prepare the hearts of those who need a witness.
- Let's pray for members of our churches to be aware of the opportunities we have to be a witness.
- Let's pray our lives will be lived in such a manner in front of our children that they will see how important the mission of Christ is to us and that our example might be used in their lives to call them to missions.
- Let's pray God will show us how to be resources for those who go, if we can't go ourselves.

C. H. Spurgeon once said, "Did not our Saviour say that 'men ought always to pray, and not to faint;' and did he not imply, by that form of expression, that if they did not pray, they would be sure to faint?"

When Jesus saw the multitude, it was an encouragement that the harvest was so plenteous. Take a few minutes and log onto YouTube and watch a four and a half minute video called "Get Service." There is a world of opportunity that calls for a double effort on our part. We must work! We must not faint!

"It was a pity when it was so that the laborers should be so few. It is ill with the church, when good work stands still, or goes slowly on, for want of good workmen; when it is so, the laborers that there are have need to be very busy," (Matthew Henry).

Once there was an elderly country pastor who believed his life should be spent in serving people in the name of Jesus. He knew the Bible promised him a rest that would be his when he ceased from his own works (Hebrews 4:9-10). His commitment to do so was seen in a conversation he had with a city preacher who asked him, "What time do you go to work?" "Brother," he replied, "I don't go to work. I'm surrounded with it."

I know how busy you are. I know how hard you work for the kingdom of God. But keep it up. There remains a rest for the people of God. "Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." (Galatians 6:9)

Pick.Click.Give.

Alaska Baptist Family Services is pleased to announce we are again part of the Pick, Click, Give campaign for 2012!

Thanks to all those who donated last year: Dr. George Stewart, Mary Burns, Jacob Falter, Ashley Shannon, Earl Pargeter, Donna George, Kathy Stewart, Dustin Shannon, Lorie Morris and other anonymous donors. Your support enabled us to open our new home for children ages 9-13 years old.

This is how you can **Join the Movement**:

1. Click the "Gift of Giving" option on your PFD application.
2. Search for organization: Alaska Baptist Family Services.
3. Choose the amount you would like to donate.
4. Enter your contact information so we are able to acknowledge your contribution.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR
North American Missions
March 4-11, 2012

Whatever It Takes



FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

Alaska Goal: \$90,000

National Goal: \$70 Million

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PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT
ANCHORAGE, AK

February 2012

1	ABC Executive Board Meeting	25
1-28	"True Love Waits" Emphasis	
4	Yukon Quest Dog Race	29-31
	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	15
4	Iditarod Restart, Willow	16
4-10	Youth Week	17
4-11	Week of Prayer and Mission Study	19
	and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering	21
11	Daylight Savings Time starts	22
16-17	Avalanche '12	25
18	Substance Abuse Prevention Sunday	26-28

On Mission Together:
Planting New Congregations Sunday
Alaska Leadership Event

April 2012

1	SBC Seminaries Sunday
	Palm Sunday
	Easter Sunday
8-9	TBA annual meeting
12-14	Women on Mission Celebration
15	Life Commitment Sunday
16	VBS Training, HPBA
17	VBS Training, CBA
19	VBS Training, Kenai
21	VBS Training, TVBA
22	Cooperative Program Sunday
25	New Pastor and full-time staff orientation
26-28	Ministers and Spouses Retreat