



Alaska

Baptist Messenger



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

67th Annual Meeting of the Alaska Baptist Convention September 24-26, 2012

MONDAY, September 24

Annual Mission Rally • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

"We Would See Jesus"

Location: Rabbit Creek Community Church, Anchorage

TUESDAY, September 25

WMU Annual Meeting • 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Location: Rabbit Creek Community Church, Anchorage

Pastors' Conference • 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Location: Sunset Hills Baptist Church, Anchorage

Annual Meeting • 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Location: Rabbit Creek Community Church, Anchorage

WEDNESDAY, September 26

Annual Meeting • 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Location: Rabbit Creek Community Church, Anchorage

**See page 5 inside
for additional information**

Annual Meeting

Messenger Registration for the 67th Annual Meeting is online only.

Registration opened June 1, 2012. In May, each church received an e-mail invitation to register messengers for the event. Call the ABC office if you have questions, 907.344.9627, 800.883.9627.

Messenger Registration

Pastors' Conference

(www.alaskabaptistpc.com)

Tuesday, September 25

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (lunch included)

Sunset Hills Baptist Church

12130 Old Seward Hwy., Anchorage

Urgency: Behold, Now is the Day of Salvation

Featured speakers:

- Glynn Stone, Mobberly Baptist Church, Mobberly, Texas
- Ed Stetzer, Lifeway Research, Nashville, Tennessee
- Eric Thomas, First Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia
- Doug Hixson, Connection Church, Spearfish, South Dakota

The goal of the Pastors' Conference is to encourage, challenge and inspire pastors of the Alaska Baptist Convention. There is nothing of greater importance in the life of a pastor than the urgency of the gospel. Alaska Baptists are greatly blessed to have this year's speakers along with worship, led by Tyler Wolfe and the True North Church worship band.

Thanks to the partnership of Crossway Books and 9 Marks Ministries, each pastor will receive several free books at the conclusion of the conference. Lunch will be provided free of charge courtesy of the International Mission Board.

8:00 a.m.	Registration
8:30	Session One
9:50	Session Two
10:40	Break
11:00	Session Three
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00	Session Four
2:00	Session Five
3:00	Conference concludes

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



Glacier Valley Baptist Juneau

I was born and raised in Idaho and as a boy I heard about the great Salmon River that crossed the state from east to west, entering the Snake River at the lower end of Hell's Canyon. Both rivers are quite famous and for good reason—they both contain huge whitewater rapids that have daunted explorers and river runners for years. They still do. When Lewis and Clark made their historic journey west, they had to detour north



Pastor Gordon and Kelly Mills

when they encountered the Salmon. The local Indians told them to not even try it. For them, it was known as the "River of No Return."

Lewis and Clark listened to the warnings and traveled north to find another route to continue their westward

journey. It was a good decision.

I remember the first time I saw the Salmon River. Our family had traveled to central Idaho and we crossed the river over one of its headwaters. It was nothing more than a babbling brook. I remember thinking, "this is the River of No Return?" It did not look the least bit threatening to me. As we drove north we crossed other small streams that joined the Salmon, and then we crossed the main river again. It had become a raging torrent of incredible force. I decided the river had been appropriately named after all. It was obvious that when a number of small streams came together, a lot of power could be produced. It is the same with the Cooperative Program (CP).

Even though Idaho, like Alaska, was (and is) a pioneer mission state for Southern Baptists, my church taught, advocated, and supported missions. I was impressed and intrigued when I heard about foreign missionaries and that even our church, small as it was, participated in making it possible for missionaries to serve both at home and abroad. The CP strategy developed by Southern Baptists to fulfill the Great Commission made that possible and it still does today. This strategy provides a venue for the support of missions where all churches can engage effectively in mission action. Even though what each church can give may seem insignificant, when it merges with gifts from all the other churches, the combined amount accomplishes a great deal.

If your church giving to CP seems like a "babbling brook," do not forget what can happen as things move "downstream." Continue to lead your church to help provide that river of support as Southern Baptists proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ around the world.

God's Plan for Sharing in Alaska

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Chugach Baptist Association						
Alaska Lu-Mienh First Bapt Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Anchorage Hope Comm Bapt Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Aquillaa Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Calvary Baptist Church	\$1,700.00	\$871.00	\$1,027.50	\$1,128.00	\$0.00	\$4,726.50
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	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cold Bay Chapel	\$567.85	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$967.85
Community Baptist Church, Nome	\$594.00	\$30.00	\$633.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$1,287.00
Cowboy Church of Anchorage	\$1,283.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,283.00
Eagle River Korean Baptist Church	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
Filipino Bible Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church of Anchorage	\$20,530.03	\$6,227.55	\$7,988.15	\$12,993.00	\$0.00	\$47,738.73
First Baptist Church of Eagle River	\$15,033.93	\$915.15	\$7,003.00	\$6,493.50	\$0.00	\$29,445.58
First Baptist Church, Kotzebue	\$1,000.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$1,750.00
First Baptist Church, Soldotna	\$4,341.00	\$1,142.00	\$0.00	\$953.00	\$84.27	\$6,520.27
First Hmong Baptist Church	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
First Korean Baptist Church	\$400.00	\$442.00	\$306.00	\$425.00	\$0.00	\$1,573.00
First Native Baptist Church	\$2,544.00	\$1,022.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,566.00
Frontier Baptist Church	\$1,507.55	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$765.00	\$0.00	\$2,272.55
Grandview Baptist Church	\$15,912.91	\$1,785.00	\$7,327.00	\$10,774.15	\$20.00	\$35,819.06
Greater Friendship Bapt Church	\$4,049.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$4,349.00
Hillside Baptist Church	\$6,048.59	\$796.25	\$650.00	\$1,525.00	\$0.00	\$9,019.84
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$633.54	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$875.45	\$0.00	\$1,608.99
Kiana Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Kobuk Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Korean New Central Bapt Church	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$1,100.00
Mt Zion Missionary Bapt Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mountain View Comm Church	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$125.00
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$3,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$316.64	\$0.00	\$3,916.64
New Grace Christian Church	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$4,303.00	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$5,603.00
Rabbit Creek Community Church	\$1,333.48	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$3,833.48
River In The Desert Comm Church	\$1,278.00	\$0.00	\$72.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,350.00
Samoa Alaska Baptist Church	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Sand Point Baptist Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Shungnak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Solid Rock Baptist Church	\$300.00	\$200.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Sunset Hills Baptist Church	\$8,629.48	\$4,148.83	\$3,558.00	\$3,620.09	\$500.50	\$20,456.90
The Church of New Beginnings	\$151.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$151.80
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$1,750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,750.00
True North Church	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00
University Baptist Church	\$3,918.90	\$2,081.00	\$1,861.00	\$2,314.00	\$0.00	\$10,174.90
Valley View Baptist Church	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$724.00	\$0.00	\$2,724.00
Whittier Christian Community	\$75.00	\$98.00	\$0.00	\$256.00	\$0.00	\$429.00
Total	\$108,260.06	\$21,308.78	\$35,075.65	\$47,142.83	\$604.77	\$212,392.09
Hatcher Pass Baptist Association						
Big Lake Baptist Church	\$4,015.86	\$1,651.00	\$1,741.00	\$3,182.00	\$0.00	\$10,589.86
Bodenberg Butte Baptist Church	\$3,663.18	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$4,713.18
CrossCountry Church	\$750.00	\$400.00	\$250.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$3,355.35	\$0.00	\$2,650.00	\$3,903.25	\$0.00	\$9,908.60
Ekwok Christian Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fairview Loop Baptist Church	\$9,051.21	\$2,586.94	\$2,940.90	\$7,923.68	\$0.00	\$22,502.73
First Baptist Church, Palmer	\$7,499.97	\$1,549.00	\$1,659.67	\$2,347.56	\$0.00	\$13,056.20
First Baptist Church, Valdez	\$7,758.39	\$3,262.00	\$2,894.00	\$6,912.98	\$0.00	\$20,827.37
First Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$14,550.23	\$1,823.25	\$0.00	\$9,521.93	\$0.00	\$25,895.41
First Baptist Church, Willow	\$1,744.06	\$1,080.00	\$0.00	\$3,238.00	\$0.00	\$6,062.06
King Salmon Community Chapel	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$65.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$365.00
Montana Creek Baptist Church	\$1,892.19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$490.00	\$0.00	\$2,382.19
North Bear Street Comm Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pioneer Baptist Church of Wasilla	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$340.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$1,140.00
Schrock Road Community Church	\$2,043.00	\$1,822.20	\$422.80	\$1,545.00	\$0.00	\$5,833.00
Settler's Bay Community Church	\$2,499.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,499.30
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.00
Total	\$59,372.74	\$14,524.39	\$13,813.37	\$40,914.40	\$0.00	\$128,624.90
Kenai Peninsula						
College Heights Baptist Church	\$19,284.51	\$2,863.89	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,148.40
First Baptist Church, Kenai	\$2,389.51	\$405.00	\$289.00	\$908.00	\$0.00	\$3,991.51
Lighthouse Community Church	\$6,708.67	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,208.67
Moose Pass Community Church	\$190.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$190.00
Mount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$1,550.00
Total	\$28,872.69	\$3,768.89	\$3,289.00	\$1,158.00	\$0.00	\$37,088.58

January-May 2012 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Other						
Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$307.00	\$2,676.25	\$0.00	\$85.00	\$65.00	\$3,133.25
Total	\$307.00	\$2,676.25	\$0.00	\$85.00	\$65.00	\$3,133.25
Tanana Valley Baptist Association						
Chinese Fellowship	\$328.50	\$332.00	\$245.00	\$280.00	\$0.00	\$1,185.50
Clearwater Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$5,450.00	\$1,620.00	\$1,387.00	\$4,232.22	\$0.00	\$12,689.22
Faith Baptist Church	\$2,270.00	\$1,253.00	\$0.00	\$1,628.00	\$0.00	\$5,151.00
First Baptist Church of Fairbanks	\$2,502.40	\$1,273.00	\$1,863.00	\$2,064.00	\$0.00	\$7,702.40
First Baptist Church of North Pole	\$10,854.50	\$100.00	\$1,246.00	\$3,027.00	\$0.00	\$15,227.50
First Baptist Church, Delta Junction	\$18,899.00	\$2,565.00	\$2,593.00	\$3,156.00	\$0.00	\$27,213.00
Friendship Baptist Church	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$514.00	\$831.00	\$0.00	\$1,595.00
Hispanic Mission	\$166.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$466.00
Korean Baptist Mission	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$190.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$640.00
Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$4,279.67	\$260.43	\$270.07	\$783.05	\$20.46	\$5,613.68
Morning Star Baptist Church	\$2,948.24	\$0.00	\$955.00	\$2,336.00	\$0.00	\$6,239.24
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church	\$250.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
North Star Baptist Church	\$42.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42.00
Salcha Baptist Church	\$2,674.11	\$320.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,994.11
Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
St. John Baptist Church	\$4,728.39	\$463.00	\$671.81	\$551.00	\$0.00	\$6,414.20
Togiak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
University Baptist Church	\$6,238.00	\$1,767.00	\$2,824.00	\$4,010.35	\$0.00	\$14,839.35
Total	\$62,330.81	\$10,128.43	\$12,958.88	\$25,023.62	\$20.46	\$110,462.20
Tongass Baptist Association						
Anchor Baptist Church	\$1,768.15	\$379.00	\$100.00	\$210.00	\$0.00	\$2,457.15
Comm Bapt Church, Coffman Cove	\$441.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,350.00	\$0.00	\$1,791.00
Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$1,343.64	\$200.00	\$500.00	\$295.00	\$0.00	\$2,338.64
Filipino Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church, Juneau	\$3,435.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$655.00	\$0.00	\$4,090.44
First Baptist Church, Ketchikan	\$3,482.97	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,345.00	\$0.00	\$5,827.97
First Baptist Church, Petersburg	\$1,484.00	\$852.00	\$875.63	\$1,761.00	\$0.00	\$4,972.63
First Baptist Church, Sitka	\$3,432.27	\$975.00	\$52.57	\$509.00	\$0.00	\$4,968.84
Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$2,434.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,434.00
Hoonah Baptist Mission	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$90.00
Juneau Korean Church	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$335.00	\$410.00	\$0.00	\$895.00
Kasaan Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope Fellowship	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$151.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$851.00
North Tongass Baptist Church	\$227.50	\$695.00	\$0.00	\$575.00	\$0.00	\$1,497.50
Tenakee Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Thorne Bay Baptist Church	\$267.72	\$31.50	\$12.50	\$33.00	\$0.00	\$344.72
Total	\$16,812.69	\$5,566.50	\$2,026.70	\$8,153.00	\$0.00	\$32,558.89
Grand Totals:	\$275,955.99	\$57,973.24	\$67,163.60	\$122,476.85	\$690.23	\$524,259.91
Goals:	\$720,322.00	\$75,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$150,000.00		
Over/Under Goals:	\$(444,366.01)	\$(17,026.76)	\$(22,836.40)	\$(27,523.15)		

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, January - December

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



Received as of May 31, 2012:

First Quarter 2012	\$5539
Second Quarter 2012	\$5429
Third Quarter 2012	\$549
Fourth Quarter 2012	\$544

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 201 regular contributors...imagine how much more we could do with an additional 1799 contributors?

Alaska Baptist Convention

Please Pray for our Pastorless Churches

Chugach Baptist Association

- Aquilaq Baptist Church
- First Baptist Church, Kotzebue
- Kiana Baptist Mission
- Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church
- Mountain View Community Church
- New Hope Baptist Church
- Sand Point Chapel
- Shungnak Baptist Mission
- University Baptist Church

Hatcher Pass Baptist Association

- Ekwok Christian Church
- King Salmon Comm Baptist Chapel

Kenai Peninsula

- First Baptist Church, Kenai

Tanana Valley Baptist Association

- Chinese Fellowship
- Moose Creek Baptist Church
- North Star Baptist Church
- Shannon Park Baptist Church

Tongass Baptist Association

- Hoonah Baptist Mission
- North Tongass Baptist Church

The Totem Mystery

If you have any details about the totem at the Alaska Baptist Convention office, please call right away. We are trying to find out its origin, meaning and sculptor. The name "Vern Seifert" is written on a card attached to the back of the totem, so information you might have about him would be greatly appreciated. 907.344.9627, 800.883.9627.

Alaska Baptist Messenger

(ISSN 0901947834)

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

Subscriptions:

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

Periodicals postage paid at Anchorage, AK 99530-9653

POSTMASTER:

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MILEPOST MOMENTS

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

First Baptist Church, Valdez

During their VBS, Pastor Chad Richardson promised to shave his head if 100 children attended. They ended their week with 102 “passengers” (children) and 35 “pilots” (workers) so Chad made good on his promise! In the photo, member Corinn Gussert does the honors.



Frontier Baptist Church, Kodiak

FBC hosted a mission team from Fairview Loop Baptist Church, Wasilla.

Community Baptist Church, Nome

CBC will host four summer missionaries this year. They have already assisted with a community chili feed and raised \$650 for a church member battling cancer. Several churches and organizations will be witnessing in Savoonga and Nome this

summer as well.

University Baptist Church, Fairbanks

Children of UBC will attend Camp Baldwin and JAM Camp this month. The Chinese Fellowship is having a family camp at Camp Baldwin as well. Preschool Play Day at Pioneer Park is July 7. On July 22, Bobby Lewis will preach and Eustace Johnson will play the piano; a church-wide potluck will follow the morning service.

First Baptist Church, Petersburg

FBC had a booth at the May “Little Norway” celebration where they handed out over 200 “Life: Alaska” DVDs. Members also shared information about church programs and their upcoming VBS. Don Higgins is pastor.

First Korean Baptist Church,

Anchorage

FKBC held a Summer Leader school May 21-June 15 for preschool to 6th grade students. They had 50 in attendance. Church and volunteer staff provided various activities including a Bible class, Korean tradition class and field trips. During the fourth week, members of First Baptist Church Valdez lead VBS. James Lee is pastor.

Pastors’ Wives... we get you...

Ministry wives need someone who understands them—somebody who “gets it.” Ministry life is not a burdened life with which we are dismally saddled. Yet, we operate in a unique culture. One you almost have to live in to really understand.

This past summer under the leadership of Kevin Ezell, the North American Mission Board launched a ministry to pastors’ wives. Flourish is an online equipping community created for ministry wives. It has been developed and led by a team of ministry wives who live and understand the unique role of this calling.

Flourish is a word carefully chosen to represent what we hope is a passion in wives’ hearts. A passion to desire to “grow well, to thrive.” Additionally it means for us to “reach the height of development or influence.” The Flourish team wants ministry wives to flourish spiritually, emotionally and physically.

Ministry wives need a place to connect with other ministry wives for support, encouragement and resources. They can now engage with women who walk the same path at www.flourish.me.

Kathy Ferguson Litton, national consultant for NAMB’s ministry to pastors’ wives.



Summer Food Program Feeds Kids for Free!

FREE lunch will be served at the following locations this summer to any child under the age of 18. **There are no income or registration requirements.**

Pioneer Baptist Church (Wasilla)

June 1-August 15, Monday-Friday, Noon-1:30 p.m.

(contact Pioneer Baptist Church for more information, 907.232.0182)

Cheney Lake, Kanchee, and Arctic-Benson parks (Anchorage)

June 4-August 3, Monday-Friday, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

(contact Grandview Baptist Church for more information, 907.276.6027)

Each year the U.S. Department of Agriculture partners with local organizations to provide free meals to children when school is out for the summer. For more information about statewide Summer Food Service Sites, visit www.aksummerfood.com.

67th Annual Meeting of the Alaska Baptist Convention

Monday-Wednesday, September 24-26, 2012

Rabbit Creek Community Church, Anchorage

All events take place at Rabbit Creek Community Church unless noted otherwise.

Monday, September 24

Annual Mission Rally, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

"We Would See Jesus"

Finger food fellowship following.

Tuesday, September 25

- WMU Annual Meeting, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (continental breakfast and lunch included)
(Rabbit Creek Community Church)
- Pastors' Conference, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (lunch included)
"Urgency: Behold, Now is the Day of Salvation"
(Sunset Hills Baptist Church)

Tuesday Evening, September 25

5:00 Annual Meeting Registration
5:50 Call to Order
5:55 Worship through Music
6:05 Welcome from host church
6:10 Scripture and Prayer
6:15 Adoption of Program
6:20 Seating of Messengers
6:25 Worship through Music
6:30 IMB Report
6:55 Prayer for IMB
7:00 Worship through Music
7:15 NAMB Report and Message
7:45 Prayer for NAMB
7:50 Announcements
7:55 Prayer/Benediction

Wednesday Morning, September 26

10:00 Call to Order
10:05 Worship through Music
10:10 Scripture and Prayer
10:15 Introduction of New Personnel to State
10:25 Committee on Committees Report
10:30 Nomination for President and Recording Secretary
10:40 Worship through Music
10:45 Constitution and Bylaws Report
10:50 Evangelism and Church Development Report
11:05 Prayer for Evangelism
11:10 Miscellaneous Business
11:15 Alaska Baptist Foundation Report
11:30 Alaska Partnership Report
11:45 WMU Report
12:00 Worship through Music
12:05 President's Message
12:30 Benediction
12:35 Lunch

Wednesday Afternoon, September 26

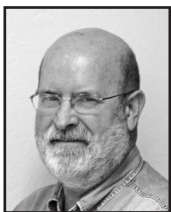
1:30 Call to Order
1:35 Worship through Music
1:40 Scripture and Prayer
1:45 Election of President and Recording Secretary
1:55 Committee on Board Report
2:00 State Mission Report
2:15 Nominations for Vice Presidents
2:25 Adoption of 2013 ABC Budget
2:35 LifeWay Christian Resources Report
2:50 Executive Board Actions
2:55 Worship through Music
3:05 Last Miscellaneous Business
3:15 Time, Place, and Preacher Committee Report
3:20 Wayland Baptist University, Anchorage
Wayland Baptist University, Fairbanks
3:35 Alaska Baptist Family Services Report
3:55 Resolutions Committee
4:00 Worship through Music
4:10 Executive Director's Report
4:25 Prayer for ABC
4:30 Announcements
4:35 Benediction
4:40 Supper

Wednesday Evening, September 26

5:55 Call to Order
6:00 Worship through Music
6:10 Scripture and Prayer
6:15 Election of Vice Presidents
6:25 SBC Executive Committee
Prayer for SBC
7:10 Recognitions; Vice President Results; Installation of Officers
7:20 Worship through Music
7:35 Annual Sermon
8:00 Adjournment, Announcements
Benediction

Clarion Suites Downtown is our convention hotel.

Room rate is \$79/night (plus tax), single/double occupancy, plus \$10 for extra person. To reserve your room, call (907)222-5005 and use the group code: AK Baptist. Rooms are available at this special rate September 23-26. DEADLINE to reserve rooms is noon, August 23. A first night room and tax deposit and a major credit card number must accompany all individual reservations.



Mike Procter
Executive Director

With the advent of e-mail, Facebook, Skype, Oovoo and other electronic communication methods, it appears written letters are on the way out. As reported in the June issue of “Stand Firm”, according to theatlanticwire.com, not counting birthday or holiday cards, Americans only receive a personal letter in the mail once every seven weeks. This is a decrease from one personal letter every two weeks in 1987. Despite those who would hate to see Saturday mail delivery stopped, many probably would not mind as most of us receive only bills or unsolicited junk mail via the United States Postal Service (USPS) anyway. I am not bashing the USPS; I have several friends who work for the USPS and they are conscientious, hard-working public servants who are often maligned and criticized. Rodney Kovtynovich (pastor, Schrock Road Community Church in Wasilla), Karen Ellison (pastor’s wife, St John Baptist Church in Fairbanks) and my neighbor, Alan, a member of Filipino Bible Church in Anchorage, all work for the USPS.

Let’s think a moment about another “letter” we have which we so often overlook or take for granted. This is a letter that spans time and, while it applies to all humanity, it is as personal as if it were written just to me. It is the best-selling letter in the world and many of us have multiple copies of it in our homes. It comes in multiple languages and in several different English versions. For years, it has been criticized and condemned, contemplated and complied to, destroyed and defended, rejected and read. While reading and heeding this letter, through the ages people have found comfort, assurance, confidence, strength, revival, restoration, hope, peace and salvation. While written using human hands, its author is God and its message is timeless and eternal. Every time I read it, I discover something new that applies to my life, something that applies to the current situation I am in. That letter is the Bible. It is a letter that comes in printed, audio, electronic and pictorial versions. It is a letter that I would encourage you to read, memorize, meditate on and follow for the rest of your life.

As I write this, I am thinking back to times I received a personal note, card or letter in the mail and how encouraging it was. Most of the time, my communication with others is by e-mail or telephone and, while these are often sufficient for what needs to be done, it lacks the personal touch of a letter. I think I am going to start writing more notes and cards to those who are in my life, just to remind them I appreciate them. After all, that is what God’s letter is -- a letter from God reminding us how much He loves us.

If you should receive a letter from me, I hope you will read it. You have received a letter from God, I pray you are reading it.

Blessings!



Butch Strickland
*Director of Church Planting
and Missions*

“And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.” Hebrews 11:39-40

What an awesome heritage we have! When we look at the context of these verses and see the list of our heroes in the faith, we have to come to the conclusion we have an awesome heritage. These heroes were too good for this world. The world did not deserve them nor know how to value them. It was also said of them that they obtained a good report. They were commended by their faith. Through their faith, they had the honor to be enrolled in this “hall of fame” of Old Testament characters.

But God has provided something better for us! Not even our faithful forefathers were made perfect without us. And surely there was a reason the author of Hebrews, being inspired by the Holy Spirit, would say such a thing. Could it be he was “provoking Christians to a holy jealousy and emulation” that they should not suffer themselves to be outdone in the exercise of faith by those who came so short of them in all the helps and advantages for believing? He tells the Hebrews that God had *provided some better things* for them (Hebrews 11:40), and therefore they might be assured he expected at least as good from them. (Matthew Henry)

Hebrews 11:33-35 tells us through faith they conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead back by resurrection. And the author expects even more from Christians?!

We are involved in a challenge of faith. As your state Director of Church Planting and Missions, it is my responsibility to help promote our state mission offering named for our own heroine of faith, Valeria Sherard. We have a goal that will challenge us. Alaska Baptists have been so generous and faithful -- will our faith motivate us to conquer kingdoms, enforce justice and obtain promises? Will it motivate us to give generously so the gospel of Jesus can be heard even in the darkest parts of our state?

In 1979, the Northwest Baptist Convention established a goal of \$79,000 for their state mission offering. It was to be used to establish the Northwest Center of Golden Gate Seminary in Portland. It was significantly more than they had ever taken up before. That year, Baptists in the Northwest responded by giving over \$100,000. I know that we are not the Northwest Baptists of 1979. We are the Alaska Baptists of 2012 and our goal this year is \$90,000 – a higher goal than ever before. Let’s do it!

2012 Summer Camps

Camp Baldwin, Delta Junction

July 2-6: Grades 3-4 • July 9-13: Grades 5-6

July 16-20: Grades 7-8 • July 23-28: Grades 9-12

Contact the Tanana Valley Baptist Association office, 907.474.4989,
www.tananavalleybaptistassociation.com
for additional information.

Laverne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp, Wasilla

July 22-26: JAM Camp

Visit www.hpbaak.org for additional information.

"Welcome Backpack" Ministry

Alaska Baptist Family Services are in need of volunteers for our "Welcome Backpack Ministry." Each year, many of the children who come to us arrive with just the clothes on their backs or a trash bag of tattered things. The Welcome Backpack Ministry ensures they are welcomed immediately at the door with a large backpack filled with a Bible, welcome card of encouragement, school supplies so they can be ready to go to school the very next day, their own personal hygiene items and a \$50 gift card to WalMart to help with any incidentals they may still require. It makes for a very different welcome than they are used to, and tells them that not only are we happy to have them come and stay with us, but there are people who don't even know them but who are praying for their success and salvation.

The following items are needed for each backpack:

- large backpack
- teen Bible
- welcome card
- small hygiene/toiletry bag with toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, comb, deodorant, bar of soap with container
- one 3" binder with divider tabs
- two 1" binders with divider tabs
- one pack of pencils and one pack of pens
- two packs of loose-leaf, college-ruled paper
- two spiral notebooks, college-ruled
- one pair of flip-flops (shower shoes)
- \$50 WalMart gift card

The backpacks usually cost about \$100-\$150 to fill and send so this ministry opportunity lends itself well to a small group mission project. Please contact Lorie Morris for more information, akfamilies@gci.net.

Doggie Dentifrice

Alan Dial

Alaska Native Church Planter Catalyst



This morning as I was filling my coffee "to-go" cup, I noticed a toothbrush and tube of paste in a jar above the sink. Something prodded me to examine it and much to my surprise I saw it was toothpaste for the dog. We have a dog who has commandeered our home and installed himself as the center of everything. His formal name is "Mr. Buttons" but he answers to "Stinky." He is a miniature schnauzer with a glandular defect and amazingly bad halitosis.

We have attempted, to no avail, to cure his issues with dental chews; I didn't even know toothpaste was available for pooches...especially poultry flavored. It seems our society is always trying to do the unnatural... fresh breath for dogs? Aren't they supposed to have "doggy breath"? According to the American Pet Products Association, \$50.96 BILLION dollars was spent on pet products in 2011; estimates for 2012 are \$52.87 BILLION. By contrast, the total spent on world missions to non-evangelized peoples is less than \$2 billion each year and foreign missions to other Christian lands is about \$13 billion. That brings the total for world missions to \$15 billion. Do you notice the discrepancy in the money spent on pet products and that for lost souls throughout the world? Show me your checkbook, and I'll show you your priorities in life (thank you, Larry Burkett). Christ spent three days in the tomb, and we have been building bigger and better, fancier and more fabulous tombs ever since. We can entomb God in a \$115 million campus upgrade and expansion including a fountain, thinking, and even believing, the general revelation of modern Christian architecture will point people to Christ and we can visit Him where and when it is safe. We are a group of sick puppies...but that's where all this started.



Valeria Sherard
State Mission Offering
Statewide Goal for 2012

\$90,000

Alaska Baptist Messenger



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 The Messenger is provided through gifts to the Cooperative Program, Annie Armstrong Mission Offerings and individual subscriptions.

PERIODICAL POSTAGE
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 ANCHORAGE, AK

July 2012

1 Citizenship and Religious Liberty Sunday
 2-6 Grades 3-4 Summer Camp, Camp Baldwin
 4 Independence Day
 ABC and ABF offices closed
 9-13 Grades 5-6 Summer Camp, Camp Baldwin
 15 Serving Your Community Sunday
 16-20 Grades 7-8 Summer Camp, Camp Baldwin
 22-26 JAM Camp
 23-28 Grades 9-12 Summer Camp, Camp Baldwin

August 2012

5 Social Issues Sunday
 8-10 FUSION Youth Conference, ABT
 12 Living with Urgency:
 Student Evangelism Day
 23- Sep 3 Alaska State Fair

September 2012

Aug 23-Sep 3
 2 Alaska State Fair
 2-9 Single Adult Sunday
 3 Valeria Sherard State Mission Emphasis
 Labor Day
 ABC and ABF offices closed
 9-15 Church Music Emphasis Week
 16 Anti-Gambling Sunday
 17 Discipleship Rally
 24 Annual Mission Rally
 25 wMu Annual Meeting
 25 Pastors' Conference
 25-26 ABC Annual Meeting
 Rabbit Creek Community Church



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 and registration for upcoming programs and
 events! www.alaskabaptistconvention.com