

Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering



\$90,000

Annual
Mission Rally
Monday
September 24
7:00-8:00 p.m.
"We Would See Jesus"
(Rabbit Creek Community Church)

Pastors' Conference Tuesday September 25 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (Sunset Hills Baptist Church)

WMU Annual Meeting
Tuesday
September 25
8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
(Rabbit Creek Community Church)



Prepare Now for the Upcoming On Mission Celebrations October 20-28, 2012

with featured speaker
Daniel Egipciaco
National Church Planting Missionary
working with and training church planters
in South Florida, seeking opportunities to
start new groups and churches.

Annual Meeting
Alaska Baptist Convention
Tuesday-Wednesday
September 25-26
(Rabbit Creek Community Church)
Tuesday

Clarion
DEADLIN
Noon,
Room rate
single/d

Wednesday 10:00 am-12:30 pm (lunch provided) 1:30-4:40 pm (dinner provided) 5:55-8:00 pm

5:00-8:00 pm

Convention Hotel is Clarion Suites Downtown DEADLINE to reserve rooms: Noon, Thurs., August 23

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. A first night room and tax deposit and a major credit card number must accompany all individual reservations.

Your Cooperative Program giving impacts Alaska churches....



First Native Baptist Anchorage

I have always considered it a pleasure to give to the Lord. Giving is good, but giving with a joyful heart is best. As an individual and pastor, I have always encouraged our local body of Christ to give as the Lord leads and His flock has seldom disappointed Him. The people



Pastor Charles and Nancy Lane

of First Native **Baptist** Church Anchorage, among whom I labor, are a giving people who have never disappointed me or the Lord. They are faithful

in their consistent and full support of the Cooperative Program. God has blessed us in Alaska with a wonderful group of God-loving men and women who continually bless me.

Closing the Gap

The generation gap may not be as wide as once thought between millenials (18-30) and the so-called silent generation (65 and older). When asked what is the most important issue facing America now, the overwhelming majority on both sides (69% of millenials and 52% of the silent generation) said employment. Close behind for both groups were concerns over the country's deficit (41% of millenials and 39% of the silent generation) and health care (43% and 38%). Source: Time Magazine, November 14, 2011, reprinted in OnMission magazine, Spring 2012

God's Plan for Sharing in Alaska

			0			
Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Chugach Baptist Association						
Alaska Iu-Mienh First Bapt Church	\$119.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$119.00
Anch Hope Comm Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Aquillaq Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Calvary Baptist Church	\$2,093.00	\$871.00	\$1,027.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,991.50
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
Comm Baptist Church, Nome	\$594.00	\$30.00	\$633.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,257.00
Cowboy Church of Anchorage	\$1,283.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,283.00
Eagle River Korean Bapt Church	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Filipino Bible Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church of Anchorage	\$28,738.21	\$6,227.55	\$8,674.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$43,640.20
First Baptist Church of Eagle River	\$17,014.41	\$915.15	\$7,003.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$24,932.56
First Baptist Church, Kotzebue	\$1,000.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.00
First Baptist Church, Soldotna	\$5,347.00	\$1,142.00	\$875.00	\$0.00	\$84.27	\$7,448.27
First Hmong Baptist Church	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
First Korean Baptist Church	\$500.00	\$442.00	\$306.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,248.00
First Native Baptist Church	\$2,818.00	\$1,022.00	\$541.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,381.00
Frontier Baptist Church Grandview Baptist Church	\$1,914.23	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,914.23
	\$18,282.24 \$4,049.00	\$1,800.00 \$0.00	\$7,377.00	\$100.00 \$0.00	\$20.00	\$27,579.24
Greater Friendship Bapt Church Hillside Baptist Church		\$796.25	\$0.00 \$690.00		\$0.00 \$0.00	\$4,049.00
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$8,482.54 \$721.21	\$790.23	\$200.00	\$0.00 \$250.00	\$0.00	\$9,968.79 \$1,171.21
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	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.00
Mt Zion Missionary Bapt Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mtn View Community Church	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$5,350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,350.00
New Grace Christian Church	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$5,130.00	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,930.00
Rabbit Creek Community Church	\$1,666.85	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,666.85
River In The Desert Comm Church	\$1,517.00	\$0.00	\$72.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,589.00
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	\$200.00	\$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	\$10,581.11	\$4,148.83	\$3,658.00	\$0.00	\$500.50	\$18,888.44
The Church of New Beginnings	\$151.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$151.80
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$2,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,100.00
True North Church	\$3,125.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,125.00
University Baptist Church	\$4,943.90	\$2,081.00	\$1,861.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,885.90
Valley View Baptist Church	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Whittier Christian Community	\$175.00	\$98.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$273.00
Total	\$133,314.35	\$21,323.78	\$37,467.94	\$350.00	\$604.77	\$193,060.84
Hatcher Pass Baptist Association						
Big Lake Baptist Church	\$5,859.95	\$1,651.00	\$1,741.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$9,376.95
Bodenberg Butte Bapt Church	\$3,663.18	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,363.18
CrossCountry Church	\$750.00	\$400.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,400.00
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$3,826.92	\$0.00	\$2,650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,476.92
Ekwok Christian Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fairview Loop Baptist Church	\$10,497.36	\$2,586.94	\$2,940.90	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$16,025.20
First Baptist Church, Palmer	\$9,166.63	\$1,549.00	\$1,659.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,375.30
First Baptist Church, Valdez	\$9,609.93	\$3,262.00	\$2,944.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,815.93
First Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$16,145.59	\$1,823.25	\$2,355.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,324.34
First Baptist Church, Willow	\$2,047.26	\$1,080.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,127.26
King Salmon Comm Chapel	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$65.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$365.00
Montana Creek Baptist Church	\$1,892.19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,892.19
North Bear St 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	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$340.00
Schrock Road Community Church	\$2,043.00	\$1,822.20	\$422.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,288.00
Settler's Bay Community Church	\$2,499.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,499.30
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church Total	\$300.00 \$68,601.31	\$0.00 \$14,524.39	\$500.00 \$16,218.87	\$0.00 \$125.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$800.00 \$99,469.57
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Kenai Peninsula						
College Heights Baptist Church	\$22,748.04	\$2,863.89	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25,611.93
First Baptist Church, Kenai	\$2,737.01	\$405.00	\$289.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,431.01
Lighthouse Community Church	\$7,551.67	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,051.67
Moose Pass Community Church	\$216.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$216.00
Mount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,300.00
Total	\$33,552.72	\$3,768.89	\$3,289.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40,610.61

January-June 2012 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Other						
Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$347.00	\$2,676.25	\$0.00	\$85.00	\$65.00	\$3,173.25
Total	\$347.00	\$2,676.25	\$0.00	\$85.00	\$65.00	\$3,173.25
Tanana Valley Baptist Association						
Chinese Fellowship	\$328.50	\$332.00	\$245.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$905.50
Clearwater Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$6,501.00	\$1,620.00	\$1,387.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,508.00
Faith Baptist Church	\$2,660.00	\$1,253.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,913.00
First Baptist Church of Fairbanks	\$3,313.80	\$1,273.00	\$1,863.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,449.80
First Baptist Church of North Pole	\$13,658.18	\$100.00	\$1,246.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,004.18
First Baptist Church, Delta Jct	\$21,926.00	\$2,565.00	\$2,593.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$27,209.00
Friendship Baptist Church	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$514.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$814.00
Hispanic Mission	\$211.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$411.00
Korean Baptist Mission	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$190.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$640.00
Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$4,787.18	\$260.43	\$270.07	\$0.00	\$20.46	\$5,338.14
Morning Star Baptist Church	\$4,376.70	\$0.00	\$955.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,331.70
Mt 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	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,994.11
Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$860.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$860.00
St. John Baptist Church	\$5,689.43	\$463.00	\$671.81	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,824.24
Togiak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
University Baptist Church	\$8,330.00	\$1,767.00	\$5,274.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,371.00
Total	\$75,497.90	\$10,128.43	\$16,268.88	\$125.00	\$20.46	\$102,040.67
Tongass Baptist Association						
Anchor Baptist Church	\$2,246.75	\$379.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,725.75
Comm Bapt Church, Coffman Cove	\$441.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$441.00
Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$1,567.51	\$200.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,267.51
Filipino Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church, Juneau	\$5,454.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,454.26
First Baptist Church, Ketchikan	\$4,186.37	\$0.00	\$2,545.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,731.37
First Baptist Church, Petersburg	\$1,773.00	\$852.00	\$875.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.63
First Baptist Church, Sitka	\$3,432.27	\$975.00	\$52.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,459.84
Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$2,434.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,434.00
Hoonah Baptist Mission	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Juneau Korean Church	\$180.00	\$0.00	\$335.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$515.00
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	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$922.50
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	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$311.72
Total	\$20,576.38	\$5,566.50	\$4,571.70	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,714.58
Grand Total	\$331,889.66	\$57,988,24	\$77,816,39	\$685,00	\$690.23	\$469,069.52
Grand Total Goals	\$331,889.66 \$720,322.00	\$57,988.24 \$75,000.00	\$77,816.39 \$90,000.00	\$685.00 \$150,000.00	\$690.23	\$469,069.52

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 June 30, 2012:

First Quarter 2012 \$6074 Second Quarter 2012 \$6464 Third Quarter 2012 \$1229 Fourth Quarter 2012 \$1104

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 **203** regular contributors...imagine how much more we could do with an additional **1797** contributors?

Please Pray for our Pastorless Churches

Chugach Baptist Association

- Aquillaq 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

Disaster Relief

In 2011, U.S. residents were hit by 12 significant weather-related events, each of which cost at least \$1 billion in clean up and rebuild efforts. Looking to get involved in helping Southern Baptist support areas affected by disaster? Visit namb.net/dr.

Source: Time Magazine, January 9, 2012, reprinted in OnMission magazine, Summer 2012 issue.

Alaska Baptist Messenger

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Betsy Shilling, Associate Editor

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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, Delta Junction

FBC is getting a new roof and later this summer, will get new carpet and chairs. Dave Becker is pastor.



Southern Baptist Convention

Ministers' wives from the ABC enjoyed a luncheon at the annual meeting of the SBC in New Orleans. Pictured left to right: (back row) Ruby Stogsdill, Pam Strickland; (front row) Sheila Loeffler, Polly Rowell, Rebecca Procter and Sherry Worthy.



Winter Youth Celebration

WYC will be October 26-27 at First Baptist Church, Fairbanks. Cost is \$15 for Friday only, \$20 for Saturday only, \$25 for both days. Visit www.akwyc.com for additional information.

Pioneer Baptist Church, Wasilla

PBC is participating in the Summer Food Program until August 15. After a slow start, by mid-June they were providing lunch regularly to about 15 children. As a result of the food program, they have two new families with thirteen children attending Sunday services! During the process, eleven church members have been trained as site supervisors and all received their Alaska Food Handler cards. John Stewart is pastor.

Chugach Baptist Association

A 15-member mission team from Top of Texas Baptist Association, in partnership with CBA, assisted with JAM Camp this summer. Brad Foster, pastor of Calvary Baptist in Dumas, Texas, served as camp pastor.

Community Baptist Church, Nome

Mission teams from Anchorage, Texas and Georgia have helped CBC with carpentry, community outreach and VBS in Nome and Teller. Bruce Landry is pastor.

Alaska Baptist Convention



In late June, a mission team from Gwinnett Metro **Baptist** Association (Atlanta) renovated the two kitchenettes at the ABC office. Removing the old all-in-one units and cabinets, the

newly renovated downstairs kitchen now has a full-size double sink, stove, oven and refrigerator, cabinets, countertops and linoleum. The upstairs kitchen has

a full-size sink and countertop. Alan Dial and Butch Strickland answer the age-old question "how many Baptist preachers.....?" as they affix cabinet doors.



University Baptist Church, Fairbanks

UBC youth will attend Fusion in Anchorage, August 8-10. The college/career group will visit the Georgeson Botanical Garden. They are also continuing their Thursday Bible study.

Alaska WMU

Visit www.alaskabaptistconvention.com to see the proposed changes to the Alaska WMU by-laws. These changes will be voted on during the WMU annual meeting, Tuesday, September 25, 8:30 a.m., Rabbit Creek Community Church, Anchorage.

Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary

GGBTS has been approved to offer fully regional accredited Masters of Theological Studies online. Visit www.ggbts.edu for more information.

Greater Friendship Baptist Church, Anchorage

GFBC will have their annual back-toschool drive on August 18 at the church, 903 E. 13th Avenue. Needed items are school supplies or gift cards to purchase supplies. See the informational flyer at www.alaskabaptistconvention.com or contact the church directly.

Global Medical Alliance

International Mission Board and the GMA are sponsoring a health care missions conference at the International Learning Center in Richmond, Virginia, October 11-13. The event, "MedAdvance" is for all health care personnel, pastors and missions pastors and anyone interested in medical missions. Register at www.regonline.com/MedAdvance2012.

Fairview Loop Baptist Church, Wasilla

FLBC continues the construction of the new sanctuary with help from seven volunteer work crews from the Lower 48.



VBS saw two salvations; youth went to Kodiak and Old Harbor to help with VBS and various construction projects. The Bob Hearn Memorial Ballfield will be dedicated August 5 following the morning worship and will include a picnic and ballgame.

Cross Roads Baptist Church,

North Pole

CRBC is currently doing building upgrades, both inside and out. VBS resulted in five professions of faith; they also baptized in Chena Lakes. Pastor Troy and Denise Gourley celebrated 15 years at the church.

First Baptist Church Valdez

FBC hosted a mission team from New Orleans who helped to lead backyard Bible clubs, a "ManFEAST", and a "Truth or Dare" youth outreach event at the civic center. Twenty-two decisions were made as a result. FBC, along with Filipino Bible Church (Anchorage) conducted a VBS in Chitina. On July 14, the church led an outreach event during Valdez Kids Pink Salmon Derby.

First Baptist Church Petersburg

FBC hosted mission teams who conducted VBS, youth outreach events, and community construction projects. The projects included replacing a wheelcharirramp, an unsafe home deck and a garage conversion. Don Higgins is pastor.

FREE lunches in Wasilla!

Pioneer Baptist Church will continue to serve free lunches, Monday-Friday, Noon – 1:30 p.m. until August 15 to any child under the age of 18. There are no income or registration requirements. Contact the church for more information, 907.232.0182.

Women's Ministry Events

"Gifts That Keep Giving"

Thursday, September 6, 2012

6:00-9:00 p.m. (includes dinner) 2430 Parks Hwy (Wasilla) across from Lowe's No charge

For information and <u>registration</u>, contact Kay Carter, 907.232.6193, sgtcarter29@yahoo.com

"The Frontier Woman: Getting Back to Our Roots"

Friday, September 7, 2012

6:30-9:00 p.m. (includes dinner) Soldotna Sports Center \$5 payable at the door

For information and <u>registration</u>, contact Kecia Burrows, 907.690.1983, burrows330@yahoo.com

Children's Ministry Conference

This conference will be led by Jerry Vogel,
Director of Childhood Ministry Publishing
at Lifeway Church Resources and is targeted specifically
to those working in children's ministry (1st - 5th grades)
Mark your calendar now to attend one of these sessions:

Monday, October 1 in Fairbanks Tuesday, October 2 in Anchorage Thursday, October 4 in Palmer/Wasilla

Watch for more information

First Baptist Church Valdez cordially invites you to the

60th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee Celebration

August 18-19, 2012

Saturday, Church Picnic at 1 p.m. Sunday, Worship at 11 a.m. Anniversary Celebration at 2 p.m. Come and hear from our current and former pastors as they share of their joys in serving First Baptist Church, Valdez.

Please respond to let FBC know of your attendance. If you have any questions, please contact (907)835-4898 or e-mail office @fbcvaldez.org

Seven Habits of Highly Ineffective Leaders

Time-tested practices to ensure complete and utter failure.

- 1. Don't plan ahead. Don't fall into the trap of writing down your goals and objectives, or even worse, handcuffing yourself to specific times when you're supposed to feel obligated to do them. Instead, respond to things as they come up. Put off big projects until you have large chunks of uninterrupted time to accomplish them, or when you feel inspired. Then try to complete the task with one herculean effort.
- 2. Go it alone. If you need to have someone checking up on you, it's a sure sign of your incompetence and lack of self-control. Independent-minded people make the most progress when they bypass the team and do their own thing. Accountability is overrated.
- 3. Aim low. Only arrogant people set lofty goals. Those who dream big often end up flat on their face. At the end of the day, it's much better to aim for mediocrity and reach your goal rather than trying to do something extraordinary, and becoming frustrated when you can't quite accomplish it. Better safe than sorry. Those who risk the most never experience the security of living in the status quo.
- 4. Point out the mistakes of others. People need to be aware of their failures or they'll never be able to change. So, keep an eye out for others' missteps or mishaps and then lead the word to the rest of your employees or volunteers. Be specific and stern. Don't give the person a chance to explain his actions since that's usually just a way of denial or shirking responsibility. It's even more beneficial to make the shortcomings of others public, so that other people in the organization can keep them in line.
- 5. Mentally relive old failures. If you lost a job or got a demotion or didn't get the position you were vying for, brood over it. Dwelling on past mistakes, unresolved conflict and ongoing disagreements will help give you perspective on your current situation. Obsessing over negative experiences helps you avoid them in the future. Get into the habit of thinking about hurtful conversations you've had and coming up with things you wish you'd said, or clever comebacks that might've ended things right then and there. It'll give you that fire and motivation to speak up more authoritatively next time around.
- 6. Wait until the last minute. You never know what the future holds so why waste your time doing things that might not even end up being necessary? Who knows, you might get fired, quit, or die and you'd just have wasted all of that time on that project. It's much more beneficial if you just put off working on something until the consequences of not doing it outweigh the effort it takes to do it. If other people hassle you about this, it just shows that they're not as good at working under pressure as you are.
- 7. Take things personally. If people criticize your work, they are, in essence, attacking you. Criticism of a project you've worked on is a direct assault on your intelligence, personality, and character. As a matter of self-respect, it's important that you don't let them get away with that. If you don't stand up for yourself, you might come across as a pushover. So, show your strength and conviction by defending every idea you have. Rather than "choosing your battles," remember that if someone criticizes your decisions, actions, or suggestions, they've already chosen to attack your personal self-worth. Don't let them get away with that.

Steven James, Christianity Today, February 27, 2012

Alaska Baptist Convention



Mike Procter Executive Director

When I was a kid, I enjoyed rough and tumble games -- anything that allowed me to get dirty, bruised and bloody was fun. It was cool to have scars, scabs and stitches or even better, a cast. My mother never knew what shape I would be in when I walked through the door in the evening. The only guarantee she did have was that my clothes would be dirty, stained and often torn.

Sometime ago, Consumer Reports published a booklet titled, "How to Clean Practically Anything." It suggested cleaning solutions to use for nearly every kind of stain: vinegar for crayon stains; ammonia for blood stains; rubbing alcohol for grass stains; bleach for mildew stains; lemon juice for rust stains; glycerin for ink stains; hydrogen peroxide for magic marker stains. One stain that is not mentioned in "How to Practically Clean Anything" is the stain of sin. From the beginning of time, we have tried to cleanse ourselves or cover up the awful stain of sin, but we are powerless to remove it by ourselves. According to the Bible, there is only way to remove the stain of sin and that is through the blood of Jesus Christ.

Have you ever thought of that paradox? Usually we equate blood with stains and will try to remove the stain of blood from whatever it is on. But for the Christian, the blood of Jesus Christ, covers and "stains" us. How does blood cleanse? Let me try to give a simple illustration: let's say you put a blood pressure cuff on your arm and begin to pump it up. Then begin to make a fist, working the muscles in your arm. As the cuff gets tighter, and as your muscles work harder, the oxygenated blood is unable to get into your arm, and you will begin to experience pain. The pain is due to toxins being released into your bloodstream. Your "old" blood becomes polluted and dirty and needs to be cleaned. As you release the blood pressure cuff, almost immediately you will feel the difference as fresh, clean blood pours into your arm...the "new" blood has cleansed your arm of that which was harmful and toxic. The "new" blood was the cleaning agent.

Every person who has ever lived has sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. We have tried to cleanse ourselves by pumping our arms (good works) and as we come up short, we begin to hurt. When we hear about Jesus Christ and how He is able to cleanse our sins and we open our heart, spirit and soul to Him, the next thing we know "...we have been redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ, like that of a lamb without spot and blemish..." The words of the old hymn say, "what can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus."

It is my prayer that those who are reading this have been washed in the blood and know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. If you don't, please contact me (mike@alaskabaptistconvention.com, 907-344-9627, 800-883-9627) and I would be honored to share with you how you can be made clean by being "stained" with the blood of Jesus Christ.



Jimmy Stewart
Director of Evangelism and
Church Development

In talking with pastors around the state, I realize how busy our churches are reaching people with the Gospel, using Vacation Bible School (VBS), camps, block parties, outreach events and mission activities. If you conducted a VBS, please remember to make your report to Lifeway. Several churches have requested GPS evangelistic funds offered by NAMB and are conducting events where people are coming to know the Lord. This is exciting! There are still some funds available so if you are interested in conducting an evangelistic event in the fall, contact me about details.

Do you realize that Lifeway Christian Resources wants feedback about the impact they have on the local church? The authors and musicians at Lifeway want to know if they are contributing to the needs and the work of the local churches. I think all pastors want to know if they are positively contributing to their own church, don't they? I recently attended a meeting with Lifeway leadership and I am so impressed by their hearts toward the local church. They are trying to understand the needs and make it easy for churches to access good curriculum and materials to teach people to follow Jesus. There are some exciting things coming our way in the area of materials. Plan to attend the Bible Study Leadership Training events in November to learn about upcoming opportunities.

Several events and activities this fall need to be on your radar. Ladies in Fairbanks, Wasilla and Soldotna will have an opportunity to attend a training and evangelism event September 6, 7 or 8. For details and contact/registration information, visit www.alaskabaptistconvention.com. These events will provide an opportunity for our ladies to encourage an unchurched friend to attend a great evangelistic event. Our speaker is Debbie Stuart, from Prestonwood Baptist Church in Dallas. She is a tremendous women's leader and will help our ladies lead their ministries and reach their friends.

We will also have a special children's ministry conference with Jerry Vogel from Lifeway. Events will be held October 1 in Fairbanks, October 2 in Anchorage and October 4 in Wasilla. Anyone working specifically with children will want to attend this special workshop. Watch the Messenger, ABC website and Facebook for more information about this event.



Butch Strickland *Director of Church Planting and Missions*

During her college years, my daughter spent a summer working at the Baptist Conference Center in Glorieta, New Mexico. My wife and I had the opportunity to spend a few days there during that time and one day did what everyone eventually does if they go to Glorieta--we climbed the hill called "Baldy." It doesn't compare to the hiking we've done in Alaska, but it was a nice way to spend the afternoon with our daughter. When we descended from Baldy, we passed through the prayer garden. There was a nice breeze that made a very comforting sound as it rustled the leaves in the tops of the trees. I told my daughter to listen and we could hear what David heard when God told him that "when thou hearest the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry-trees, that then thou shalt go out to battle; for God is gone out before thee to smite the host of the Philistines." (I Chronicles 14:15)

The first time David fought the Philistines, he had come upon them straightaway, just like God told him and God gave him a victory over his enemies. This time however, as David inquired of God again whether he should go out against his enemies, God told him 'yes' but he was to use a different strategy. This time he was to turn away from them and fight them over against the mulberry trees. God told David when he heard the sound in the tops of the trees, he should go out to battle because God had gone out before him to destroy the Philistines.

I find a couple of interesting things in this event in David's life. First of all, David inquired of God whether he should go up against his enemies and how he was to do so. David knew he needed to ask God what His strategy was in waging the battle. Secondly, David knew God was way ahead of his enemies in knowing what He was going to do to gain the glory for Himself. He knew the enemies might have come up with a different tactic but God had already planned for that and had developed another strategy for the second battle. Just because God does something one way one time, doesn't mean He wants to do it that way the next. He needs to be consulted every time! That's when He fights for us, wins the victory, gives his champion fame in all the land, and brings the fear of him upon all nations. (v.17)

Rain Garden

You can help Alaska Baptist Family Services (ABFS) complete a very special project this summer! ABFS has two rain reservoirs on the campus that we are converting into "rain gardens". We will be planting native Alaskan plants and other water-loving varieties in an effort to keep the water levels in these areas to a minimum. The purpose of the project is to reduce an existing safety risk for the children and, at the same time, provide a beautiful landscape feature that will enhance the children's environment. UAA student engineers are volunteering their time and effort to create and implement the plan. Additionally, the Municipality of Anchorage will match up to \$10,000.00 of money raised for this project. The children of First Baptist Church Palmer have already raised \$1,100.00 by collecting coins during Vacation Bible School! You can get involved in this mission opportunity for the boys at ABFS by donating native Alaskan plants, making a designated donation to this project, or by joining us in building the gardens. If you would like more information, please contact ABFS at akfamilies@gci.net.

iTrust: the latest technological breakthrough!
Winter Youth Celebration
Friday-Saturday, October 26-27

First Baptist Church, Fairbanks

\$25 for event • \$15 Friday only • \$20 Saturday only For more information and registration www.akwyc.com; 907.456.4923

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August 2012

September 2012 Aug 23-Sep 3

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Social Issues Sunday FUSION Youth Conference, ABT Living with Urgency: Student Evangelism Day Alaska State Fair

Alaska State Fair Single Adult Sunday Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering Emphasis **Labor Day** ABC and ABF offices closed Women's Ministry events Church Music Emphasis Week **Anti-Gambling Sunday** Discipleship Rally **Annual Mission Rally**

wMu Annual Meeting

Pastor's Conference

25-26 **ABC Annual Meeting** Rabbit Creek Community Church

October 2012

1-31	Cooperative Program Emphasis Month
1-2, 4	Children's Ministry conference
7	Soul-Winning Commitment Day
14	World Hunger Sunday
16	National Boss Day
18	CBA Annual Meeting
20	HPBA Annual Meeting and
	Missions Celebration
20-28	Statewide OMC Rallies
26-27	Winter Youth Celebration



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Regularly check our website for information and registration for upcoming programs and events! www.alaskabaptistconvention.com