



# Alaska Baptist Messenger



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

**Celebrate** God's work in the world  
**Anticipate** your role in God's mission  
**Participate** in an on-mission lifestyle



## Join the Celebration Statewide On Mission Celebrations

- October 20 • First Baptist Church, Willow
- October 21 • Whittier Christian Community Church (morning worship)  
Evening worship location TBD
- October 22 • Lighthouse Community Church, Nikiski
- October 23 • Faith Baptist Church, Fairbanks
- October 24 • First Baptist Church, Petersburg
- October 27 • Community Baptist Church, Coffman Cove
- October 28 • First Baptist Church, Ketchikan

### Alaska Native Baptist Fellowship Annual Meeting

Sunday-Tuesday, October 21-23, 2012  
 Sunset Hills Baptist Church, Anchorage

#### Sunday, October 21

5:00 p.m. Dinner and registration  
 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Program

#### Monday, October 22

8:30 a.m. Continental breakfast  
 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ANBF Business Meeting  
*(lunch on your own)*  
 5:00 p.m. Dinner  
 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Program

#### Tuesday, October 23

8:30 a.m. Continental breakfast  
 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ANBF Business Meeting  
*(lunch on your own)*  
 5:00 p.m. Dinner  
 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Program

*For information, please call First Native Baptist Church, 907.272.5547.*



In Step  
with the  
Spirit



**Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer  
Monday, November 5, 2012**

*(see page 4 for additional information)*

## Your Cooperative Program Giving...



When you give to the Cooperative Program (CP), you partner with other churches in Alaska supporting missions throughout the state:

- Vacation Bible School training
- Training Teens Today
- Bible Study Leadership Training
- Discipleship training
- Stewardship training and resources
- Student ministries
- English as a Second Language
- State Evangelism Conference
- Youth Evangelism Conference
- Women on Mission Celebration
- Alaska Leadership Event
- Ministers and Spouses Retreat
- Bible Study Directors Retreat
- GraceWorks
- Healthy Church Consultations
- Church information published in the Alaska Baptist Messenger
- Summer missionaries and volunteers
- Evangelism materials
- Evangelism programs
- Men's Ministries
- Women's Ministries
- Pastoral/Leadership coaching
- Alaska Baptist Family Services
- Mission assistance to new congregations
- New pastor orientation
- Alaska Native Baptist Fellowship annual meeting
- Black Church Leadership Conference
- Korean Church Leadership Conference
- Woman's Missionary Union
- Partnership Missions
- Disaster Relief
- Hunger Relief
- Conflict Resolution

## God's Plan for Sharing in Alaska

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
<b>Chugach Baptist Association</b>						
Alaska lu-Mienh First BaptChurch	\$119.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$119.00
Ancho Hope Comm Bapt 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	\$3,002.00	\$0.00	\$1,027.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,029.50
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	\$1,100.20	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.20
Community Baptist Church, Nome	\$704.00	\$0.00	\$633.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,337.00
Cowboy Church of Anchorage	\$1,283.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,283.00
Eagle River Korean Bapt Church	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Filipino Bible Church	\$1,750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,750.00
First Baptist Church, Anchorage	\$32,581.80	\$0.00	\$8,674.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$41,256.24
First Baptist Church, Eagle River	\$22,693.79	\$110.00	\$7,003.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$29,806.79
First Baptist Church, Kotzebue	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
First Baptist Church, Soldotna	\$6,358.00	\$0.00	\$875.00	\$0.00	\$84.27	\$7,317.27
First Hmong Baptist Church	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
First Korean Baptist Church	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$306.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,006.00
First Native Baptist Church	\$3,380.00	\$0.00	\$541.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,921.00
Frontier Baptist Church	\$2,848.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,848.47
Gilead Ministries	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grandview Baptist Church	\$23,839.71	\$30.00	\$7,377.00	\$305.00	\$20.00	\$31,571.71
Greater Friendship Bapt Church	\$5,771.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,771.00
Hillside Baptist Church	\$10,589.49	\$0.00	\$690.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,279.49
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$901.85	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$1,351.85
Kiana Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Kobuk Baptist Mission	\$185.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$185.00
Korean New Central Bapt Church	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,100.00
Mountain View Comm Church	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$7,150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,150.00
New Grace Christian Church	\$2,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,100.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$6,931.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,431.00
Rabbit Creek Community Church	\$2,666.96	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,666.96
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	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Solid Rock Baptist Church	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
Sunset Hills Baptist Church	\$15,003.28	\$0.00	\$3,658.00	\$0.00	\$500.50	\$19,161.78
The Church of New Beginnings	\$151.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$151.80
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$2,800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,800.00
True North Church	\$4,375.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,375.00
University Baptist Church	\$7,067.90	\$0.00	\$1,861.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,928.90
Valley View Baptist Church	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Whittier Christian Community	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$175.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$173,645.25</b>	<b>\$1,140.00</b>	<b>\$37,467.94</b>	<b>\$555.00</b>	<b>\$604.77</b>	<b>\$213,412.96</b>
<b>Hatcher Pass Baptist Association</b>						
Big Lake Baptist Church	\$7,825.52	\$0.00	\$1,741.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$9,691.52
Bodenberg Butte Baptist Church	\$4,971.94	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,321.94
CrossCountry Church	\$1,050.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,300.00
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$4,833.18	\$0.00	\$2,650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,483.18
Ekwok Christian Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fairview Loop Baptist Church	\$14,183.19	\$0.00	\$2,940.90	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$17,124.09
First Baptist Church, Palmer	\$11,666.62	\$0.00	\$1,890.67	\$231.00	\$0.00	\$13,788.29
First Baptist Church, Valdez	\$15,446.72	\$0.00	\$2,944.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,390.72
First Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$20,739.84	\$0.00	\$2,355.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23,095.34
First Baptist Church, Willow	\$2,851.79	\$0.00	\$296.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,148.46
King Salmon Community Chapel	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$65.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$365.00
Montana Creek Baptist Church	\$2,943.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,943.92
North Bear Street Comm Church	\$66.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$66.00
Pioneer Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$340.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$340.00
Schrock Road Community Church	\$3,447.41	\$242.10	\$873.00	\$450.20	\$0.00	\$5,012.71
Settler's Bay Community Church	\$4,702.11	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,702.11
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$95,428.24</b>	<b>\$242.10</b>	<b>\$17,196.74</b>	<b>\$806.20</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$113,673.28</b>
<b>Kenai Peninsula</b>						
College Heights Baptist Church	\$30,470.91	\$0.00	\$3,669.00	\$5,499.80	\$0.00	\$39,639.71
First Baptist Church, Kenai	\$3,804.50	\$0.00	\$289.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,093.50
Lighthouse Community Church	\$8,740.67	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,240.67
Moose Pass Community Church	\$336.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$336.00
Mount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$43,652.08</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$6,958.00</b>	<b>\$5,499.80</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$56,109.88</b>

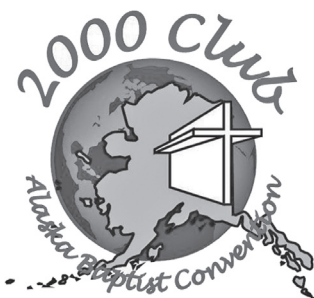
## January-August 2012 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
<b>Other</b>						
Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$347.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$110.00	\$457.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$347.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$110.00</b>	<b>\$427.00</b>
<b>Tanana Valley Baptist Association</b>						
Clearwater Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$9,127.00	\$0.00	\$1,387.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,514.00
Faith Baptist Church	\$3,325.00	\$0.00	\$1,144.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,469.00
First Baptist Church, Fairbanks	\$5,190.06	\$0.00	\$1,863.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,053.06
First Baptist Church, North Pole	\$17,723.71	\$0.00	\$1,246.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,969.71
First Baptist Church, Delta Jet	\$29,857.00	\$0.00	\$2,593.00	\$375.00	\$0.00	\$32,825.00
Friendship Baptist Church	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$514.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$914.00
Hispanic Mission	\$305.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$505.00
Korean Baptist Mission	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$190.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$940.00
Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$6,740.10	\$0.00	\$270.07	\$0.00	\$20.46	\$7,030.63
Morning Star Baptist Church	\$5,725.44	\$0.00	\$955.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,680.44
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
North Star Baptist Church	\$42.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42.00
Salcha Baptist Church	\$5,227.48	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,227.48
Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$860.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$860.00
St. John Baptist Church	\$7,487.79	\$0.00	\$671.81	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,159.60
Togiak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chinese Fellowship	\$517.50	\$0.00	\$245.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$762.50
University Baptist Church	\$12,733.00	\$0.00	\$5,387.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,120.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$105,401.08</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$17,525.88</b>	<b>\$375.00</b>	<b>\$20.46</b>	<b>\$123,322.42</b>
<b>Tongass Baptist Association</b>						
Anchor Baptist Church	\$3,014.91	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,114.91
Comm Bapt Church, Coffman Cove	\$1,623.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,623.00
Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$2,293.84	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,793.84
Filipino Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church, Juneau	\$5,912.21	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,912.21
First Baptist Church, Ketchikan	\$6,025.96	\$0.00	\$2,895.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,920.96
First Baptist Church, Petersburg	\$2,565.00	\$0.00	\$875.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,440.63
First Baptist Church, Sitka	\$4,792.77	\$0.00	\$52.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,845.34
Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,662.00	\$3,586.85	\$0.00	\$7,248.85
Hoonah Baptist Mission	\$305.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$305.00
Juneau Korean Church	\$240.00	\$0.00	\$335.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$575.00
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	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$227.50
Tenakee Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Thorne Bay Baptist Church	\$267.72	\$0.00	\$12.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$280.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,967.91</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$8,583.70</b>	<b>\$3,586.85</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$40,138.46</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$446,441.56</b>	<b>\$1,382.10</b>	<b>\$87,732.26</b>	<b>\$10,822.85</b>	<b>\$735.23</b>	<b>\$547,114.00</b>
<b>Goals</b>	<b>\$720,322.00</b>	<b>\$90,000.00</b>	<b>\$90,000.00</b>	<b>\$160,000.00</b>		
<b>Over/Under Goal</b>	<b>\$(273,880.44)</b>	<b>\$(88,617.90)</b>	<b>\$(2,267.74)</b>	<b>\$(149,177.15)</b>		

Legend:

CP: Cooperative Program, January - December  
 SMO: State Mission Offering, August - July  
 AA: Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, January - December  
 LM: Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, June - May  
 WH: World Hunger, January - December

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



Received as of August 31, 2012:

First Quarter 2012	\$6074
Second Quarter 2012	\$6734
Third Quarter 2012	\$5410
Fourth Quarter 2012	\$1229

*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 207 regular contributors...imagine how much more we could do with an additional 1793 contributors?**

Alaska Baptist Convention

## Please Pray for our Pastorless Churches

### Chugach Baptist Association

Aquillaq Baptist Church  
 Chugach Resort Ministries  
 Kiana Baptist Mission  
 Mountain View Community Church  
 New Hope Baptist Church  
 Sand Point Chapel  
 Shungnak Baptist Mission  
 University Baptist Church

### Hatcher Pass Baptist Association

Ekwoq Christian Church  
 King Salmon Comm Baptist Chapel

### Kenai Peninsula

First Baptist Church, Kenai  
 Moose Pass Community Church

### Tanana Valley Baptist Association

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

### Tongass Baptist Association

Hoonah Baptist Mission  
 North Tongass Baptist Church



### 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

October 2012 • 3



# MILEPOST MOMENTS

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

## **Schrock Road Community Church, Wasilla**

In partnership with Converge Auburn, the Mat-Su Substance Abuse and the Hatcher Pass Baptist Association, SRCC sponsored



a back-to-school block party at the Forest Hills apartments in Wasilla. Over 100 people attended



and new shoes, socks, toothbrushes, toothpaste and dental floss were given to each child in attendance. A

need to provide affordable transportation to medical appointments for disabled and elderly people was discovered. To find out how your congregation or ministry can be involved in this ministry, contact Larry or

Sharon Hale, lshale11@yahoo.com.

## **First Baptist Church, Valdez**

FBC celebrated their 60th anniversary in August. Former pastors joined in the celebration (pictured L to R); Leonard Everman (1970-1979), Lane Olson (1976-1978), Glenn Willis (1985-1989), Gene Medaris (1989-1995), Glen Little (1995-2008), Chad Richardson (2008-present).



## **Anchor Baptist Church, Craig**

Anchor Baptist has voted to sponsor a new work in Hydaburg. Willie and Gail Austin, formerly of Thorne Bay, will serve as leaders. Relocating from Mississippi, they hope to be on the field and ready to start work in November! Anchor Baptist Church, Community Baptist Church, Coffman Cove and Thorne Bay Baptist Church all worked together to conduct VBS in Hydaburg in August. Please pray for the Austins and Anchor Baptist Church

as they begin to reach the lost in Hydaburg.

## **University Baptist Church, Fairbanks**

UBC hosts the Bible Study Fellowship International meetings on Thursday mornings, and have up to 200 ladies in attendance! They also open their building to the 100-member Symphony Chorus who rehearses every Thursday evening. The Women's LIFE Group (which reaches out to Mothers) meets twice monthly and their WMU meets once a month.

## **First Baptist Church, Palmer**

FBC will host a women's event, "Life's a Journey", October 12-13. Festivities begin at 5:30 on Friday with supper included. Cost is \$15. Pre-register at [www.firstbaptistpalmer.com](http://www.firstbaptistpalmer.com). For questions, contact [cgteach@ak.net](mailto:cgteach@ak.net), (907)232-6193.

## **First Baptist Church, Petersburg**

Pastor Don Higgins suffered a heart attack in early August. After surgery in Anchorage, he returned to Petersburg where he continues to recuperate. Praise God!

## **Camp Dates for 2013!**

Laverne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp is already planning for 2013 summer camps.

## **Baptist Women's Day of Prayer Monday, November 5, 2012**

The annual observance of Baptist World Day of Prayer is the means for promoting understanding and sympathy and for drawing together Baptist women around the world. European women were the first to organize themselves into a continental union and gave birth to the idea of a special day of prayer among Baptist women. After the devastation of World War II, Baptist women in Europe felt compelled to begin the healing processes for women isolated by war and national loyalties. The first Day of Prayer was promoted as "a means to reunite Baptists separated by the pain and devastation of war, and to strengthen the spiritual bonds in years to come."

The Day of Prayer observance links women of the world, providing spiritual lifelines that strengthen and give hope. Who can measure the courage

gained by these women, realizing that their sisters in other countries are praying for them? In some parts of the globe, women are known to walk several miles, some over and down mountains, to reach appointed places of prayer. In parts of Asia and Africa it is reported that women swim small rivers and streams to participate in the Day of Prayer. Is it any wonder the movement has grown? With such courage and devotion, Baptist women will continue to be the strength of their churches.

*For additional information and resources, visit [www.bwawd.org](http://www.bwawd.org).*

They are: Alaska Native Youth Camp, June 10-14; X-Faith Youth Camp, June 17-21; Boys Camp, June 24-28; Girls Camp, July 1-5; Jesus, Arts & Music (JAM) Camp, July 21-25.

## Quick Quote

“Sometimes we can get overwhelmed with the numbers, but the reality is, God’s given us a tremendous gift and we are positioned like no other to make an incredible dent in lostness in North America.”

*Aaron Coe, NAMB vice president of mobilization, speaking at the Send North America Conference.*

## 2012 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Week of Prayer for International Missions, December 2-9



**Statewide goal: \$160,000**

### Winter Youth Celebration

Friday-Saturday, October 26-27, 2012

First Baptist Church, Fairbanks

### “God’s Graffiti”

Register online at [www.akwyc.com](http://www.akwyc.com) • 907.456.4923  
\$25 for both days; \$15 Friday only; \$20 Saturday only

## PURSuing GOLD

## Bible Study Leadership Training

### Morning Schedule:

9:00 a.m.	Light breakfast and registration
9:30 a.m.	General Session (for all)
10:00 a.m.	Base conferences: preschool, children, youth, adult, general officers
Noon	Lunch (provided)
12:45 p.m.	Elective break-out sessions
1:45 p.m.	Dismiss

### Evening Schedule:

5:00 p.m.	Elective break-out sessions
6:00 p.m.	Supper (provided)
6:45 p.m.	General Session (for all)
7:10 p.m.	Break
7:15 p.m.	Base conferences: preschool, children, youth, adult, general officers
9:00 p.m.	Dismiss

**Saturday, November 10 • Faith Baptist, Fairbanks**  
(morning schedule) *Sign-up deadline is NOON, Nov. 8*

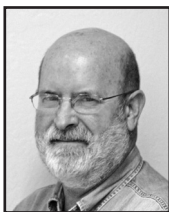
**Monday, November 12 • First Baptist Church, Palmer**  
(evening schedule) *Sign-up deadline is NOON, Nov. 8*

**Tuesday, November 13 • Sunset Hills Baptist, Anchorage**  
(evening schedule) *Sign-up deadline is NOON, Nov. 12*

**Thursday, November 15 • First Baptist Church, Soldotna**  
(evening schedule) *Sign-up deadline is NOON, Nov. 14*

**Sign up at**  
**[www.alaskabaptistconvention.com](http://www.alaskabaptistconvention.com)**





**Mike Procter**  
*Executive Director*

Some time ago, Debra Long, office manager and bookkeeper for the Alaska Baptist Convention (ABC) provided a printout of the most recent Annual Church Profiles, as submitted by our congregations. This information is very useful since it allows us to examine how our congregations are doing from one year to the next and provides information as to who comprises the ABC.

On December 31, 2011, there were 102 congregations in the ABC. Since then, we have added two new congregations: Gilead Ministries in Anchorage and OnMission Church in Wasilla. Of the original 102 congregations, 19 are missions and 83 have constituted:

- Total membership is 14,936; approximately 7481 worship in one of our congregations on any given Sunday.
- Our largest congregation averages 800 on Sunday morning; our smallest averages two.
- On Sunday morning, 4278 attended Sunday school or Bible study.
- 4287 children attended Vacation Bible School.
- We had 567 public professions of faith expressed by believer's baptism; with 387 other additions.
- We gave \$10,505,048 in tithes and offerings; \$1,804,232 was given to mission causes.
- Twelve of our congregations are predominately Alaska Native; seven are predominately African-American; six are predominately Korean; two are predominately Filipino.
- We have one congregation each predominately Mienh, Chinese, Hmong, Samoan and Hispanic.
- The remaining 70 congregations are predominately Anglo or are multi-ethnic.
- Twenty-seven of our congregations are off the road system and only accessible by airplane or boat.
- Our congregations are spread out east to west by 1400 miles; north to south by 1500 miles.
- Some of our congregations are considered traditional in their ministry and worship styles; others are very contemporary or a blend of both.
- One congregation has had the same pastor for 30 years; eighteen congregations are currently without a pastor.

What does this say to me? No matter the size of congregation, where it is located, the ethnicity, if a mission or constituted church, we are all partners and we need each other. It is true that, as Baptists, we are independent and autonomous, but we are also inter-dependent. When one congregation does well, we all rejoice. When another has struggles, we pray for and support that congregation in any way we can. The Apostle Paul reminded believers in his day they were part of the body of Christ and each part of the body had its importance, so each of our congregations makes up the body of the ABC and each congregation is important.

I hope you will pray for each of our congregations and thank the Lord for them because they are serving Him and His people in a way or in a location your congregation does not.

Thank you for allowing me the joy of serving our Lord and you in Alaska. Remember, we are all partners!



**Jimmy Stewart**  
*Director of Evangelism and Church Development*

Fall is the time to tune up your Bible teaching classes and give attention to discipleship plans for those following Christ in your church. Not only are we trying to reach people through praying, equipping, and sowing, we need to have great Bible Study classes and groups as well as a discipleship plan for believers. Does your church have a discipleship plan for members that carries them from being an infant in Christ to a fully developed follower who seeks to lead others to Christ? In an address to Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, President Jeff Iorg spoke about our present efforts and the state of developing followers:

"As churches have abandoned their teaching role over the past 20 years, knowledge of the Gospel has dimmed in Southern Baptist churches, the president said, encouraging the Golden Gate community to remedy the error. Iorg noted an elimination of programs like discipleship training, mission education and music training, changes, he said, often taken to streamline and sharpen ministry's focus. 'But the long-term result, which we're already reaping,' he said, 'is an absence of doctrinal conviction among Christians, particularly among Baptists. We have substituted thematic preaching, short courses and conferences for the core responsibility to teach the Gospel and its implications in a systematic fashion.' He challenged the seminarians to be the teaching church and emulate the model of Antioch in the New Testament."

Since we don't have the teaching plans or curriculum used in Antioch, we need to look at materials currently available to help us teach believers. I am excited about the "Gospel Project" that has just been released. I think it has great potential to lead our people to better understand the Word of God and the history of faith and revelation we see in the Bible. There are also some other great options that have been around a long time. MasterLife is still a top choice to disciple believers; T3 students must learn this material as a part of their training and some of our churches use MasterLife as the basis for their discipleship training. The "Growing Disciple Series" (Claude King) from Lifeway is a good resource. Seven books make up the series and teach believers six disciplines of the faith. Learners discover how to abide in Christ, live in the Word, pray in faith, fellowship with believers, witness to the world and minister to others. One of our churches is using the Training for Trainers (T4T) Discipleship Revolution book to train believers and are having good results. This model has been used for years at the International Mission Board. The best thing about this material is that it is action based -- the student must immediately use lessons he is learning to tell others and it has a multiplying effect. What are you using to disciple believers at your church?

In November, Dwayne Lee and his training team from the Ohio Baptist Convention will be our guest teachers for Bible Study Leadership Training. I hope you will encourage your Bible study workers to attend. In honor of the Olympics, we are "Pursuing Gold" as our theme. Information about the training events are in this issue and also on our website. Since we provide a meal at these events, we need your leaders to register.



## Butch Strickland

### Director of Church Planting and Missions

I came to Alaska from a wonderful church that celebrated its 170th anniversary while I was pastor. It was a church filled with people who will be my friends forever; they have continued to be a blessing to me in their prayers, support and encouragement. During my nine-year tenure, I had a recurring thought, "You know, Butch, anyone could pastor this church. With the maturity of the believers here, anyone could pastor this church." There were people all over that state who would have loved to have been in my shoes. I was the 44th pastor and if the Lord tarries, there will be 44 more. I was just a small drop in a very big bucket.

What a difference from being a church planter in Venezuela! As missionaries, Pam and I planted several churches. We always had three goals before we felt like we had completed a church plant: each church had to have a good solid group of baptized believers; a place to meet; and a Venezuelan pastor. Each time we left a church I had three thoughts: "If I hadn't been there, there would be no church"; "Yeah, but God could have used anybody to start that church"; "But He didn't. He used me." What a profound sense of fulfillment and satisfaction.

I am including in this article a letter written by a missionary. Read carefully what she says about the missionary heart and see if you share her thoughts. If so, it may cost you. Karen Watson, a missionary recently martyred, wrote this letter to be read in the event of her death. It was read at her funeral.

"Dear Pastor,

You should only be opening this letter in the event of my death. When God calls, there are no regrets. I tried to share my heart with you as much as possible, my heart for the nations. I wasn't called to a place; I was called to Him. To obey was my objective, to suffer was expected, His glory my reward, His glory my reward...

The missionary heart: cares more than some think is wise; risks more than some think is safe; dreams more than some think is practical; expects more than some think is possible.

I was called not to comfort or to success but to obedience... There is no Joy outside of knowing Jesus and serving Him. I love you and my church family. In His care,  
Karen"

### Pray! Go! Give!

Remember our Valeria Sherard State Missions Offering goal this year is \$90,000.

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# Alaska

## Baptist Messenger



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PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
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### October 2012

1-31	Cooperative Program Emphasis Month	5	Baptist Women World Day of Prayer
	Pastor Appreciation Month	6	Election Day
1	TVBA Children's Ministry conference	8	ABF Trustee meeting
2	CBA Children's Ministry conference	10	TVBA Bible Study Leadership Training
4	HPBA Children's Ministry conference	12	ABC Executive Board meeting
7	Soul-Winning Commitment Day	12	HPBA Bible Study Leadership Training
13	TVBA Annual Meeting	13	ABC Executive Board meeting
14	World Hunger Sunday	13	CBA Bible Study Leadership Training
16	National Boss Day	15	Annual Church Profiles due
16-18	Critical Incident Stress Management	15	Kenai/Soldotna Bible Study Leadership
18	CBA Annual Meeting		Training
20	HPBA Annual Meeting	22	Thanksgiving
	and Missions Celebration		ABC and ABF offices closed
20-28	Statewide OMC Rallies		
26-27	Winter Youth Celebration		

### November 2012

4	Living with Urgency:	
	Children's Missions Celebration Day	24-Jan. 1
4	Daylight Savings Time Ends	

### December 2012

2-9	Week of Prayer and Mission Study
	for International Missions and the
	Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
	ABC and ABF offices closed