



Alaska

Baptist Messenger



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

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

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

OBEDIENT
HIS HEART / HIS HANDS / HIS VOICE



P U R S U I N G

G O L D

Bible Study Leadership Training

Saturday, November 10 • Faith Baptist, Fairbanks • 9:00 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Lunch is included if you sign-up by NOON, Nov. 8

Monday, November 12 • First Baptist, Palmer • 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Dinner is included if you sign-up by NOON, Nov. 8

Tuesday, November 13 • Sunset Hills Baptist, Anchorage • 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Dinner is included if you sign-up by NOON, Nov. 12

Thursday, November 15 • First Baptist, Soldotna • 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Dinner is included if you sign-up by NOON, Nov. 14

Sign up at www.alaskabaptistconvention.com

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



**Since 1925, Southern Baptists have
been reaching people around the
world through Cooperative Program
(CP) Missions.**

CP Missions Fast Facts:

- It unites all Southern Baptist into a missions team fulfilling the Great Commission. (Matthew 28:19-20)
- It supports the missions and ministries of your state convention.
- The work of 5,380 international missionaries engages more than 1,400 people groups around the world through the International Mission Board (IMB), undergirded by CP Missions.
- New churches numbering over 1,788 are planted through the efforts of more than 5,204 North American missionaries, whose efforts are coordinated through your North American Mission Board and individual state conventions.
- Because of your participation in CP Missions, 816,436 people were baptized worldwide.
- More than 15,250 future missionaries, pastors, and church leaders were equipped last year through the work of six seminaries.
- CP Missions supports the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, the Annuity Board, the Baptist World Alliance, and the Southern Baptist Foundation.
- CP Missions is the most expansive, efficient, and effective way of reaching people and supporting missions.

(all statistics are from the 2003 SBC Book of Reports and are subject to change)

For more information and resources concerning CP Missions and ministries, call the ABC office (907.344.9627, 800.883.9627) or the CP Missions Development Division of the Executive Committee at 800.722.9407. You may also log on to www.cpmissions.net.

God's Plan for Sharing in Alaska

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Chugach Baptist Association						
Alaska Iu-Mienh First Baptist Church	\$216.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$216.50
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	\$3,769.00	\$202.00	\$1,027.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,998.50
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
Comm 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	\$39,122.90	\$3,105.00	\$8,674.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50,902.34
First Baptist Church, Eagle River	\$25,333.93	\$890.00	\$7,003.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$33,626.93
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	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$306.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,106.00
First Native Baptist Church	\$3,695.00	\$0.00	\$541.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,236.00
Frontier Baptist Church	\$3,274.97	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,274.97
Gilead Ministries	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Grandview Baptist Church	\$26,261.53	\$45.00	\$7,377.00	\$405.00	\$70.00	\$34,158.53
Greater Friendship Bapt Church	\$6,386.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,386.88
Hillside Baptist Church	\$11,319.96	\$0.00	\$690.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,009.96
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$995.31	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$1,445.31
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	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Mtn View Comm Church	\$225.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$225.00
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$8,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,250.00
New Grace Christian Church	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$7,696.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,196.00
Rabbit Creek Community Church	\$3,000.33	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.33
River In The Desert Comm Church	\$1,517.00	\$0.00	\$72.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,589.00
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
Samoa Alaska Baptist Church	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Sunset Hills Baptist Church	\$16,928.27	\$0.00	\$3,658.00	\$0.00	\$500.50	\$21,086.77
The Church of New Beginnings	\$151.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$151.80
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$3,150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,150.00
True North Church	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00
University Baptist Church	\$7,972.65	\$0.00	\$1,861.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,833.65
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
Total	\$194,822.23	\$5,392.00	\$37,467.94	\$1,055.00	\$654.77	\$239,391.94
Hatcher Pass Baptist Association						
Big Lake Baptist Church	\$9,055.26	\$0.00	\$1,741.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$10,921.26
Bodenberg Butte Baptist Church	\$4,971.94	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,321.94
CrossCountry Church	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,450.00
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$5,507.28	\$0.00	\$2,650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,157.28
Ekwok Christian Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fairview Loop Baptist Church	\$15,816.05	\$0.00	\$2,940.90	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,756.95
First Baptist Church, Palmer	\$12,499.95	\$0.00	\$1,890.67	\$231.00	\$0.00	\$14,621.62
First Baptist Church, Valdez	\$15,446.72	\$0.00	\$2,944.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,390.72
First Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$22,718.81	\$0.00	\$2,355.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25,074.31
First Baptist Church, Willow	\$3,245.98	\$0.00	\$296.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,542.65
King Salmon Comm 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 St Comm Church	\$66.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$66.00
Pioneer Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$340.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$340.00
Schrock Road Comm Church	\$3,692.81	\$356.10	\$949.00	\$526.20	\$0.00	\$5,524.11
Settler's Bay Comm Church	\$4,702.11	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,702.11
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$950.00
Total	\$102,616.83	\$356.10	\$17,272.74	\$882.20	\$0.00	\$121,127.87
Kenai Peninsula						
College Heights Baptist Church	\$34,308.92	\$0.00	\$3,669.00	\$5,499.80	\$0.00	\$43,477.72
First Baptist Church, Kenai	\$4,178.80	\$0.00	\$289.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,467.80
Lighthouse Community Church	\$9,884.67	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,384.67
Moose Pass Community Church	\$356.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$356.00
Mount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Total	\$49,028.39	\$0.00	\$6,958.00	\$5,499.80	\$0.00	\$61,486.19

January-September 2012 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Other						
Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$370.00	\$225.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$720.00
Total	\$370.00	\$225.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$720.00

Tanana Valley Baptist Association

Clearwater Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$10,502.00	\$0.00	\$1,387.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,889.00
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	\$20,541.54	\$0.00	\$1,246.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$21,787.54
First Baptist Church, Delta Jct	\$33,205.00	\$0.00	\$2,593.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$36,298.00
Friendship Baptist Church	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$514.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$964.00
Hispanic Mission	\$315.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$515.00
Korean Baptist Mission	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$190.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$940.00
Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$7,293.55	\$0.00	\$270.07	\$0.00	\$20.46	\$7,584.08
Morning Star Baptist Church	\$6,357.52	\$0.00	\$955.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,312.52
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church	\$500.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
North Star Baptist Church	\$42.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42.00
Salcha Baptist Church	\$5,789.09	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,289.09
Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$860.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$860.00
St. John Baptist Church	\$7,936.48	\$0.00	\$671.81	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,608.29
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
Total	\$115,447.74	\$150.00	\$18,025.88	\$500.00	\$20.46	\$134,144.08

Tongass Baptist Association

Anchor Baptist Church	\$3,601.20	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,701.20
Comm Bapt Church, Coffman Cove	\$1,623.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,623.00
Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$2,631.05	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,131.05
Filipino Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist Church, Juneau	\$7,522.82	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,522.82
First Baptist Church, Ketchikan	\$6,762.54	\$0.00	\$2,895.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,657.54
First Baptist Church, Petersburg	\$2,876.00	\$0.00	\$875.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,751.63
First Baptist Church, Sitka	\$5,265.57	\$0.00	\$52.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,318.14
Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$17,237.50	\$0.00	\$3,662.00	\$3,586.85	\$0.00	\$24,486.35
Juneau Korean Church	\$270.00	\$0.00	\$335.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$605.00
Hoonah Baptist Mission	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
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	\$557.21	\$0.00	\$162.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$719.71
Total	\$49,624.39	\$0.00	\$8,733.70	\$3,586.85	\$0.00	\$61,944.94

Grand Total	\$511,909.58	\$6,123.10	\$88,458.26	\$11,523.85	\$800.23	\$618,815.02
Goals	\$720,322.00	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$160,000.00		
Over/Under Goal	(\$208,412.42)	(\$83,876.90)	(\$1,541.74)	(\$148,476.15)		

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 September 30, 2012:

First Quarter 2012	\$6124
Second Quarter 2012	\$6749
Third Quarter 2012	\$6625
Fourth Quarter 2012	\$1434

It takes just 2000 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 206 regular contributors...imagine how much more we could do with an additional 1794 contributors?

Alaska Baptist Convention

Welcome

Scott Morgan, Sand Point Chapel

**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
 Shungnak Baptist Mission
 University Baptist Church

Hatcher Pass Baptist Association

Ekwo 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

ACP IS DUE!

Your Annual Church Profile (ACP) is due November 15.

If you need assistance, please contact Debra Long,
 907.344.9627, 800.883.9627,
 debra@alaskabaptistconvention.com

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:

Send address changes to *The Alaska Baptist Messenger*,

Mike Procter, Editor; Betsy Shilling,

Associate Editor

1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507

MILEPOST MOMENTS

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

First Korean Baptist Church, Anchorage

FKBC celebrated with four being baptized in August!



University Baptist Church, Fairbanks

UBC will dedicate their Operation Christmas Child boxes during morning worship services on November 18. This month, the college/career group will have a retreat, will join the Chinese congregation for a worship service and potluck and

will have a progressive dinner. November 23, the Chinese congregation will have a Chinese Thanksgiving in the church fellowship hall.

Valley View Baptist Church, Eagle River

VVBC will begin a new community outreach ministry, "Saturday Afternoon at the Movies" on November 3, 4:00 p.m. The church will show family-friendly movies and offer free popcorn and sodas. The premier event will feature "Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted." Call the church for additional information, 907.694.7736.

Condolences

Condolences to the family of Jonathan Wilson, who passed away October 9, 2012. Jonathan pastored First Native Baptist Church in Anchorage for many years. You may reach the family by calling 336.432.4117 or, joellenwilkinson@gmail.com.

A Disconnected Generation

Three out of every five young Christians disconnect from the local church either permanently or for an extended period of time after the age of 15. In an effort to combat this trend, the Barna Group conducted research to discover why young Christians turn away from church. They found the top six reasons:

1. Churches seem overprotective.
2. Our experience in church seems shallow.
3. Church comes across as antagonistic to science.
4. The way church relates to sexuality is judgmental and simplistic.
5. We wrestle with the exclusivity of Christianity.
6. The church is unfriendly to those who doubt.

Consider how your church might respond to each of these concerns and better reach this younger generation of Christians.

Source: Barna Group, September 28, 2011. OnMission magazine, Spring 2012 issue.

2013 State Evangelism Conference January 28-29 • First Baptist Church, Anchorage

Faithful through the Storms

"... 'Master, Master, we're going to die!' Then He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves. So they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?'"

Luke 8:24-25a (HCSB)

With featured guests:

**Fred Luter, Jr., President, Southern Baptist Convention and Senior Pastor,
Franklin Avenue Baptist Church, New Orleans**

Dennis Watson, Lead pastor, Celebration Church, Metairie, Louisiana

Dr. Mark Foley, President, University of Mobile, Alabama

Aaron Coe, Vice President of Mobilization, North American Mission Board

Dwight Fitch, Worship Leader, Celebration Church, Metairie, Louisiana

Vicki Watson, Women's Ministry Director, Celebration Church, Metairie, Louisiana

Thank you Rabbit Creek Community Church in Anchorage for hosting the 67th annual meeting of the Alaska Baptist Convention!



The 2012-13 ABC Leadership, pictured l to r: Outgoing president Charles Worthy; Mike Procter, Executive Director; Don Shannon, president; Jack Sherman, second vice president; Johnny McCoy, first vice president; Mary Sue Foster, recording secretary.



Mike Procter (l), Charles Worthy (r)



Volunteer cook team, pictured l to r: Beverly Chamra, Denise Wilhelm, Greg Chamra, Mel Piper, (Debra Long), Larry Wilhelm.



Mark Goodman,
Pastor, Rabbit Creek
Community Church



Connie Dixon, Director, WMU
Baptist Convention of
New Mexico



Willie Tauanuu, Pastor
Samoa Alaska Baptist Church



Dr. Ken Weathersby
North American Mission Board



Priestley Lee, Pastor
First Hmong Baptist Church



Charles Worthy (l), Pastor, First Baptist Church,
Willow and 2012 President, ABC; Keith Bennett
(r), Pastor of Worship and Music, First Baptist
Church, Anchorage



Lorie Morris, Director
Alaska Baptist Family Services



The 2012-2013 WMU Leadership Team, pictured l to r: Barbara Young, Judy Rice, Ruby Stogsdill, (Connie Dixon), Dawn Downing, Judy Zach, Melinda Krise, Tiffany McNeely.



Jimmy Stewart, ABC, Director of
Evangelism and Church Development



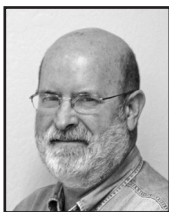
Don Shannon, Pastor
Sunset Hills Baptist Church



Val Natcher, Pastor
Filipino Bible Church



Butch Strickland, ABC, Director of
Church Planting and Missions



Mike Procter
Executive Director

Yes, it is true! I do hear voices in my head! I usually have a “Blue Tooth” in my ear which enables me to use my cell phone hands-free. There are pros and cons associated with using a Blue Tooth but I have found it useful. There are times when I am having a telephone conversation and a person standing by me doesn’t know I am on the telephone and assumes I am talking to them. This has caused some interesting situations. Sometimes they try to join the conversation, not really knowing what the conversation is about. Other times they will ask, “are you talking to me?” Some people just look at me like I am nuts and give me a wide berth as they pass by.

When was the last time you had a conversation with God? God’s “telephone number” is JER 333 (Jeremiah 33:3) which says, “Call unto me and I will answer you...” When you talk with God, He will answer. He may not communicate verbally, like you and I would in a conversation, although there have been times when He has done that. Today He usually speaks to us through that “still, small voice” we know to be the Holy Spirit. Do you know there was at least one time when a person was speaking to God and those by her misunderstood and thought she was drunk (read 1 Samuel 1:9-18)?; it might be said today “she is crazy and hears voices in her head”. If someone was able to eavesdrop on your conversations with God, what would they think?

This month, as we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, instead of thinking of all of the things you do not have or about how tough your life is, I encourage you to think of all the ways you can thank God for His blessings and each day, while you are talking with God, thank Him for those blessings. Do you remember the words to the old hymn “Count Your Blessings”? -- “...count your many blessings, name them one by one...count your many blessings, see what God has done...count your blessings, name them one by one...count your many blessings, see what God has done...” In this day and age of pessimism and negativity, when you count your many blessings and tell people what God has done for you, they may look at you like you are crazy, but it’s a great opportunity to speak about the abundant life God promises to those who are His.

Next time you see me walking down the street and it appears I am talking to myself, please don’t think I am crazy. I might be on my Blue Tooth, or trying to engage you in conversation or praying and talking with God. Whatever I am doing, I hope to be positive and encouraging, and to direct the conversation to God’s many blessings!

I pray you will have a great Thanksgiving. Blessings!



Butch Strickland
*Director of Church Planting
and Missions*

This note comes from a page in the Bible of Mrs. Tanna Collins, found in 1994 at the scene of an airline crash in Tibet in which the entire family perished: “Lord, here in your precious Word I give myself, my husband, my children, and all that I have or ever shall possess, all to you. I will follow Your will, even to China. Lord, open doors, and I will go and tell the Chinese of Your great love. In time of need, supply for us; in time of sorrow, give us peace; in times of joy, send someone to share. Help me to never murmur nor complain. I love You, Lord Jesus.”

Sometimes we think the greatest missionaries lived in the past. However, there have always been, and will always be, those willing to give everything in order for Christ to be honored – from the apostle Paul to Hudson Taylor, C. T. Studd to William Carey, David Brainerd to Adoniram Judson, Jim Elliot to Tanna Collins.

One of the goals of the Alaska Baptist Convention is to send at least one missionary from every church. In our first church plant, my wife Pam led the ladies to establish a permanent prayer list. One of the items on that list was that they would live their lives as examples of the missionary spirit so their children would grow up with the passion to see the world won to Christ and experience the call to go anywhere, at any cost. Let’s make that our prayer! Let’s pray God will use us to urge the called missionary from our church – the missionary who will be willing to give anything to see Alaska, and the world, become part of Christ’s Kingdom.

For those of us praying along those lines:
HOW MUCH SHALL I GIVE?

1. If I refuse to give anything to missions this year, I cast a ballot in favor of the recall of every missionary.
2. If I give less than before, I favor reduction of the missionary forces proportionate to my reduced contribution.
3. If I give the same as formerly, I favor holding the ground already won; but I oppose any forward movement. My song is “Hold the Fort,” forgetting the Lord never intended His army to take refuge in a fort. All His soldiers are commanded to “Go.”
4. If I increase my offering beyond former years, I favor an advance movement in the conquest of new territory for Christ.

Remember our Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering goal is \$90,000.

Church planting challenges

A study conducted by LifeWay Research revealed the top seven issues most church planters face in their ministry.

1 Leadership development

2 Financial self-sufficiency

3 Mobilizing launch teams and volunteers

4 Systems, processes and cultures

5 Casting vision

6 Evangelism and discipleship

7 Spiritual, physical and mental health of the planter

As you pray about how your church might work to support church planters through Send North America, consider how you can come alongside them to specifically help combat these common issues they face on the mission field.

Source: Lifeway Research, January 2011; On Mission magazine, Winter 2012

Alaska Baptist Family Services Christmas Gift Drive

Gifts donated will be used throughout the year to celebrate special occasions like Christmas, Birthdays, Easter and other events

Gift Cards:

- Wal-Mart, Fred Meyers, Old Navy, Barnes & Noble, Journey's

Recreation & Pool Passes:

- zoo, Spenard Recreation, YMCA, movie tickets

Food Gift Cards

- Subway, McDonalds, Golden Corral

Miscellaneous items:

- board games
- hoodie sweatshirts
- educational computer software
- 2 Wii controllers
- winter boots
- fishing poles and equipment
- craft kits
- appropriate video games (Wii)
- glow-in-the-dark items
- bath towels
- journals and writing pens
- basketballs and footballs
- mp3 players
- snow pants (Med, Large and Extra Large)
- sleds
- anything Legos
- DVD's (G, PG & PG-13)
- craft building projects
- backpacks
- sports posters
- water bottles

Cottage needs:

- vacuum in good working condition
- new first aid supplies (Band-Aids, Neosporin, etc.)
- hand-held Nintendo 3DS
- Ipods
- Kindle e-book readers
- Xbox system

*Please make sure any donations arrive at 1600 O'Malley Road, Anchorage AK 99507 by **Wednesday December 9** or call (907) 349-2222. If you are located out of Anchorage or state a check may be sent to ABFS c/o Christmas Wish List and gifts will be purchased locally on your behalf!*

God Bless,

Lorie Morris, Executive Director

Alaska

Baptist Messenger



1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507 • (907)344-9627V • (907)344-7044F • www.alaskabaptistconvention.com
The Messenger is provided through gifts to the Cooperative Program, Annie Armstrong Mission Offerings and individual subscriptions.

PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT
ANCHORAGE, AK

November 2012

4	Children's Missions Celebration Day
4	Daylight Savings Time Ends
5	Baptist Women World Day of Prayer
6	Election Day
8	ABF New Trustee Orientation and ABF Trustee meeting
10	TVBA Bible Study Leadership Training
12	ABC Executive Board meeting
12	HPBA Bible Study Leadership Training
13	ABC Executive Board meeting
13	CBA Bible Study Leadership Training
15	Annual Church Profiles Due
15	Kenai/Soldotna Bible Study Leadership Training
22	Thanksgiving ABC and ABF offices closed

December 2012

2-9	Week of Prayer and Mission Study for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering ABC and ABF offices closed
24-Jan. 1	

January 2013

2-6	January Bible Study
20	Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
27	Day of Prayer for the SBC
28-29	State Evangelism Conference