

May 2013 Vol 68 • No 5

The Alaska Baptist Convention is congregations cooperating together to **SEEK** Christ, **SHARE** Christ, **STRENGTHEN** congregations, **START** congregations and **SEND** Christians.



Jesus said, "...I have come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."



Your Local Baptist Association Is Glad to Be Your Mission Partner



### I am the Cooperative Program

Bill (Becky) Little Journey Church, Wasilla



Becky and I have planted churches, and helped others restart churches, in North Carolina, Kenya and Alaska and we have discovered planting a church in Alaska is not the same as planting one in Africa. In Africa you need a few people, a tarp or tree, and someone to preach. However in Alaska, you need a bit more. A new church plant like Journey Church in Wasilla needs to build relationships, but also needs supplies and equipment. The great thing about Southern Baptists is the people and organizations that support new church planters. The Alaska Baptist Convention, North American Mission Board, local Church Planter Catalyst, and your Cooperative Program giving help support us in Alaska and provide things we need like insurance, sound equipment, children's supplies, and Bible study materials. Without your giving to support the work here, planting new churches like Journey Church would be much more difficult. Your prayers, support, and physical help – like volunteering - are making an eternal difference in our lives and the lives of those we touch in Wasilla.

God's P	llan it	dir Slha	uning i	n Alas	<u>8</u> 2	
Organization	СР	SMO	AA	LM	WH	То
Chugach Baptist Association						
laska Iu-Mienh First Baptist Church	\$234.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$234.
Inchorage Hope Comm Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.
quillaq Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.
Calvary Baptist Church	\$1,002.00	\$302.00	\$705.00	\$760.00	\$0.00	\$2,769.
Christ Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.
Chugach Resort Ministries	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.
City on a Hill Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.
Cliffside Community Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.
Cold Bay Chapel	\$0.00	\$310.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$310.
Community Baptist Church, Nome	\$260.00	\$156.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$416. \$0.
Cowboy Church of Anchorage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	* · · ·
agle River Korean Baptist Church	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$850.
alse Pass Christian Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0. \$1.007
ilipino Bible Church, Anchorage	\$0.00 \$12.175.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,007.00	\$0.00	\$1,007.
irst Baptist Church, Anchorage	\$13,175.91	\$4,665.00	\$0.00	\$12,006.78	\$0.00	\$29,847.
irst Baptist Church, Eagle River	\$7,693.61	\$1,955.00	\$0.00	\$7,587.65	\$0.00	\$17,236.
irst Baptist Church, Kotzebue	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.
irst Baptist Church, Soldotna	\$2,810.00	\$1,098.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,908.
irst Hmong Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.
irst Korean Baptist Church	\$300.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$430.00	\$0.00	\$1,080.
rst Native Baptist Church	\$1,228.00	\$603.00 \$250.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$655.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$1,831.
rontier Baptist Church	\$789.00 \$266.00	\$250.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$655.00 \$130.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$1,694.
ilead Ministries	\$366.00	\$305.00		4	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$801
randview Baptist Church	\$8,948.14 \$2,442.00	\$1,950.00	\$55.00	\$8,830.00	\$0.00	\$19,783
reater Friendship Bapt Church	\$2,442.00 \$2,055.28	\$0.00 \$212.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$861.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$2,442
illside Baptist Church	\$2,955.28	\$313.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$861.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$4,129
nmanuel Baptist Church	\$182.45	\$1,097.68 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$2,508.85	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$3,788
iana Baptist Mission	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.
obuk Baptist Mission	\$124.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$124
orean New Central Bapt Church	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$385.00	\$0.00	\$685
ountain View Comm Church	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75
uldoon Road Baptist Church	\$2,700.00	\$1,170.42	\$0.00	\$710.35	\$0.00	\$4,580
ew Beginnings Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.
ew Grace Christian Church	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$750.
ew Hope Baptist Church	\$1,829.24	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$2,829
abbit Creek Community Church	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$3,900
iver In The Desert Comm Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0
amoa Alaska Baptist Church	\$159.15	\$0.00	\$136.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$295
and Point Baptist Chapel	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500
ungnak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0
olid Rock Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0
unset Hills Baptist Church	\$5,826.67	\$3,567.00	\$0.00	\$4,595.00	\$0.00	\$13,988
he Crossing @ Birchwood	\$1,050.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,050
rue North Church	\$1,250.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,250
rue North Downtown	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.
niversity Baptist Church	\$1,634.53	\$1,309.00	\$0.00	\$3,617.00	\$0.00	\$6,560
alley View Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,664.00	\$0.00	\$1,664
hittier Christian Comm Church otal:	\$0.00 \$60,734.98	\$225.00 \$22,126.35	\$0.00 \$1,296.36	\$437.00 \$50,384.63	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$662 \$134,542
atcher Pass Baptist Association						
g Lake Baptist Church	\$3,152.74	\$2,217.00	\$0.00	\$2,821.00	\$0.00	\$8,190
odenburg Butte Baptist Church	\$1,880.54	\$270.00	\$0.00	\$2,821.00	\$0.00	\$2,230
ommunity Christian Fellowship	\$1,880.54	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,230
ossCountry Church	\$450.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$830.00	\$0.00	\$1,530
Illingham Bible Fellowship	\$2,887.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,387
irview Loop Baptist Church	\$2,887.15	\$2,839.47	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$10,392
rst Baptist Church, Palmer	\$3,333.32	\$2,194.85	\$0.00	\$2,643.00	\$0.00	\$8,171
rst Baptist Church, Valdez	\$3,290.14	\$2,044.07	\$0.00	\$7,440.68	\$0.00	\$12,774
rst Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$2,934.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,918.83	\$0.00	\$10,853
rst Baptist Church, Willow	\$1,270.00	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$3,316.00	\$0.00	\$5,036
urney Church	\$1,270.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$5,050
ontana Creek Baptist Church	\$1,825.55	\$760.00	\$0.00	\$905.00	\$0.00	\$3,490
oriah Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0
orth Bear Street Community Church	\$49.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$53.01	\$0.00	\$102
Mission Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$102
oneer Baptist Church of Wasilla	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$655.00	\$0.00	\$655
verside Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0
hrock Road Community Church	\$1,316.24	\$1,185.30	\$279.80	\$1,079.00	\$0.00	\$3,860
ettler's Bay Community Church	\$4,210.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,210
asilla Korean Baptist Church	\$4,210.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$4,210
otal:	\$34,302.97	\$12,210.69	\$279.80	\$30,791.52	\$0.00	\$77,584
enai Peninsula						
ollege Heights Baptist Church	\$9,844.82	\$2,790.00	\$0.00	\$11,314.92	\$0.00	\$23,949
rst Baptist Church, Kenai	\$867.72	\$385.00	\$0.00	\$1,712.00	\$0.00	\$2,964
ghthouse Community Church	\$2,655.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,605.00	\$0.00	\$4,260
loose Pass Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,200
lount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$1,200.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$4,950
recourse supror church	<u></u> 00.00	÷.,000.00			40.00	φ1,750.

#### January-March 2013 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	СР	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Tota
Other						
Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$0.00	\$3,775.00	\$0.00	\$1,090.00	\$40.00	\$4,905.0
Fotal:	\$0.00	\$3,775.00	\$0.00	\$1,090.00	\$40.00	\$4,905.0
Tanana Valley Baptist Association						
Anderson Church Plant	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.0
Clearwater Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.0
Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$2,532.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,870.88	\$0.00	\$5,402.8
Faith Baptist Church, Fairbanks	\$3,904.77	\$873.00	\$0.00	\$2,297.00	\$0.00	\$7,074.7
First Baptist Church of Fairbanks	\$1,235.48	\$916.00	\$0.00	\$2,001.00	\$0.00	\$4,152.4
First Baptist Church of North Pole	\$6,128.14	\$1,951.00	\$0.00	\$5,571.20	\$0.00	\$13,650.3
First Baptist Church, Delta Junction	\$12,469.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,375.00	\$0.00	\$16,844.0
Friendship Baptist Mission	\$100.00	\$346.00	\$0.00	\$490.00	\$0.00	\$936.0
Hispanic Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.0
Korean Baptist Mission	\$150.00	\$115.00	\$0.00	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$435.0
Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$2,114.48	\$336.27	\$0.00	\$374.35	\$0.00	\$2,825.1
Morning Star Baptist Church	\$766.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,120.00	\$0.00	\$2,886.9
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.0
North Star Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.0
Salcha Baptist Church	\$1,849.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,400.00	\$0.00	\$7,249.9
Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$360.00	\$1,050.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,410.0
St. John Baptist Church	\$2,798.79	\$350.00	\$310.00	\$596.00	\$0.00	\$4,054.7
Togiak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$200.0
JBC-Chinese Fellowship	\$106.00	\$305.00	\$0.00	\$362.00	\$0.00	\$773.0
Jniversity Baptist Church	\$5,894.00	\$1,187.00	\$0.00	\$5,322.00	\$0.00	\$12,403.0
Fotal:	\$40,409.57	\$7,679.27	\$310.00	\$32,649.43	\$0.00	\$81,048.2
Tongass Baptist Association						
Anchor Baptist Church	\$953.20	\$160.00	\$0.00	\$260.00	\$0.00	\$1,373.2
Comm Baptist Church, Coffman Cove	\$1,698.70	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$1,948.7
Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$698.90	\$116.00	\$0.00	\$198.00	\$0.00	\$1,012.9
Filipino Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.0
First Baptist Church, Juneau	\$2,456.23	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$160.00	\$0.00	\$2,616.2
First Baptist Church, Ketchikan	\$1,409.65	\$2,645.00	\$0.00	\$2,183.00	\$0.00	\$6,237.6
First Baptist Church, Petersburg	\$1,506.64	\$1,141.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,647.6
First Baptist Church, Sitka	\$1,049.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$904.00	\$0.00	\$1,953.2
Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,586.85	\$0.00	\$3,586.8
Ioonah Baptist Mission	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$60.0
Iydaburg Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.0
uneau Korean Church	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$370.00	\$0.00	\$460.0
Kasaan Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.0
New Hope Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.0
New Hope Fellowship	\$700.00	\$70.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$870.0
North Tongass Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.0
fenakee Community Church	\$202.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$202.2
Thorne Bay Baptist Church	\$98.82	\$0.00	\$18.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$116.8
Fotal:	\$10,923.67	\$4,132.00	\$18.00	\$8,261.85	\$0.00	\$23,335.5
Grand Total:	\$160,938.73	\$54,598.31	\$2,904.16	\$139,059.35	\$40.00	\$357,540.5
Goals:	\$683,679.00	\$90,000.00	\$95,000.00	\$160,000.00		
Over / Goal:	\$(522,740.27)	\$(35,401.69)	\$(92,095.84)	\$(20,940.65)		

Legend: CP: SMO:

AA:

LM:

WH:

Cooperative Program, January - December Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering, August - July Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, January - December Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, June - May World Hunger, January - December



Received as of March 31, 2013 • 172 contributors

1st Qtr \$18125 • 2nd Qtr \$835 • 3rd Qtr \$805 • 4th Qtr \$815

#### Your Cooperative Program dollars at work in Alaska...



Pray for Pastor Billy (Laura) Barnhill and the congregation of Moriah Fellowship as they plant a new work in Chugiak. Your congregation's mission support through the Cooperative Program is a vital resource to this new congregation.

#### Please Pray for our Pastorless Churches

**Chugach Baptist Association Chugach Resort Ministries Kiana Baptist Mission** New Hope Baptist Church Shungnak Baptist Mission New Beginnings Baptist Church University Baptist Church Kenai Peninsula First Baptist Church, Kenai Moose Pass Community Church Tanana Valley Baptist Association Chinese Fellowship Friendship Baptist Church **Tongass Baptist Association** Hoonah Baptist Mission North Tongass Baptist Church



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

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Alaska Baptist Convention

# MILEPOST MOMENTS

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

#### Biennial Reports for non-profit corporations are due July 2

Check the website http://commerce.alaska.gov/occ/home\_corporations.html to see if the biennial report is due for your church.

#### **Condolences**

Our condolences to the family of Jesse Misa, pastor Filipino Baptist Church in Ketchikan, who passed away on April 3. His memorial service was held at First Baptist Church, Ketchikan on April 7. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at jesuscmisa@yahoo. com.

#### **Condolences**

Our condolences to the family of James Studstill, who passed away in April. He was the first full-time music director at First Baptist Church, North Pole.

#### Laverne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp, Wasilla

Camp Clean-Up Day, May 18th from 10 am to 4 pm. Lunch will be provided. Come and lend a hand to get the camp in shape for the summer season; AK Native Youth Camp, June 10-14th. This camp is for AK native teens in 6th through 12 grade. Camp fee is \$175; X-Faith Youth Camp, June 17-21st.

This camp is for teens who have completed 6th grade through 12th grade. Camp fee is \$175; Boys Camp, June 24-28th. This camp is for boys who have completed Kindergarten through 6th grade. Camp fee is \$175; Girls Camp, July 1- 5th. This mission-focused week is for girls who have completed Kindergarten through 6th grade. Camp fee is \$175.Camp forms can be downloaded from website: www.lgyrc. org or email us at lgyrc@mtaonline. net for forms. Contact Walter and Sherry if you have questions: 907-376-6887.

#### Journey Church, Wasilla

Journey Church officially launched on Easter Sunday, with 15 in attendance. The church hosted a ladies retreat on April 27, "Depression and its Biblical Answers."

#### **False Pass Christian Fellowship**

On Easter, FPCF held a sunrise service at 8:00 a.m. and then had their regular worship service at 3:00 p.m.

#### First Baptist Church, Petersburg



On Easter, FBC started off with a breakfast potluck, followed by a youth group drama performance and music. Pastor Higgins concluded with an Easter message.

#### **Rabbit Creek Community Church, Anchorage**

RCCC recently purchased property on the Old Seward Highway that will be used as a "center of outreach into the community," according to senior pastor Dr. Mark Goodman. Renovation has already begun and will continue throughout the summer. The church also welcomed Steve (Sarah) Edwards as Praise and Worship leader. Dr. Goodman says, "Steve is a gifted vocalist and musician and we are blessed that God has called him and his family to RCCC."

#### The Alaska Baptist Milepost is going electronic!

Beginning with the August 2013 issue of the Alaska Baptist Milepost, we are converting to an online edition. The



yearly cost savings for the Alaska Baptist *Intepost*, we are converting to an online cathol. The January, April, July and October issues will <u>still be mailed</u> to all subscribers. These four mailed issues will include the 2000 Club flyer and contribution envelope. Issues for the other eight months will be e-mailed.

To subscribe to the e-mail issues, please read this Quick Response (QR) code with your smartphone or visit www.alaskabaptistconvention.com/registration.

#### <u>University Baptist Church,</u> <u>Fairbanks</u>

UBC will have a special service celebrating their graduates. They will also conduct their Vacation Bible School.

#### First Baptist Church, North Pole

Johnny (Pattie) McCoy, pastor of FBC for over 30 years, announced his retirement. His last Sunday will be May 5. McCoys will relocate to Tennessee.

#### <u>Cross Roads Baptist Church,</u> <u>North Pole</u>

At their business meeting, CRBC voted to become the sponsoring church for Friendship Baptist Mission in Fairbanks.

#### <u>Fairview Loop Baptist Church,</u> <u>Wasilla</u>

FLBC welcomes Peter (KD) Kanz who will serve as youth pastor. The church held their annual halibut fish fry on April 26. FLBC will have revival services Sunday, May 5-Wednesday, May 8. Sunday services will be at 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.; weekday services will be at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Keith Miles, Central Baptist Church, Lawton, Oklahoma will be the guest speaker. There will be special music each night and nursery is provided.



#### Jesus, Arts and Music Camp 2013 July 21-25 Laverne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp, Wasilla



For campers who have completed 3rd - 9th grade

visit www.hpbaak.org for information and registration

# HELP WANTED

#### **Bi-vocational Youth Director**

Montana Creek Baptist Church, Talkeetna, Alaska has a job opening for a bi-vocational youth director, working primarily with youth grades 7-12. This individual must be a servant leader with a passion for young people; have strong communication skills; be able to coordinate and oversee all youth activities. Housing and utilities are provided. Please send resume and (a minimum of) three references to: Montana Creek Baptist Church, attn: Youth Director Search Committee, HC 89, Box 8571, Talkeetna, AK 99676; mtcrkbaptist@gmail.com.

## Lack of Confidence

Americans are showing a steady decline in the confidence they have in organized religion. Only 44% say they hold a great deal of confidence in churches or organized religion, a decline from the 68% who held this stance two decades ago. What can your church do to remedy this lack of confidence in church and organized religion in your community and point those around you back to Christ?

*The Week*, July 27, 2012. Reprinted from *OnMission* magazine, Winter 2013 issue.



#### Mike Procter Executive Director

Southern Baptists have a unique denominational structure. Each of our entities, beginning with the local congregation, is autonomous and independent with no ecclesiastical governing body. Ideally, each entity (the local congregation, association and state convention), while autonomous and independent, partners together and cooperates in such a way as to maximize the gifts, resources and abilities God has provided in order to impact our local community and state for Jesus Christ. *The Alaska Baptist Convention is congregations cooperating together to Seek Christ, Share Christ, Strengthen congregations, Start congregations and Send Christians.* Each May, we recognize the impact of the partnership and contribution made by the local association. In Alaska, we have four associations and one affinity group:



**Chugach Baptist Association** (CBA) is housed in Anchorage and supports congregations in the greater Anchorage/Eagle River area, Kenai Peninsula, Northwest Arctic and the Aleutian Islands chain. Dr. David George is the CBA Church Planter Catalyst (CPC).

Hatcher Pass Baptist Association (HPBA) is

housed in the Palmer/Wasilla area and supports congregations in the Mat-Su Valley, Valdez and Bristol Bay areas. Rev. Gary Bearce is the HPBA CPC.



TananaValleyBaptistAssociation(TVBA) is housed in Fairbanks and sup-

ports congregations in Fairbanks, North Pole, Salcha, Delta Junction, Healy and Bristol Bay. Currently, there is no CPC for this association.

Tongass Baptist Association (TBA) is housed in Ketchikan and supports congregations throughout the panhandle of Southeast Alaska. Rev. Joe Boney is TBA CPC.



In addition, Rev. Alan Dial is our Alaska Native CPC

tasked with facilitating new congregations among our indigenous peoples.

The 2013 Associational Mission Week emphasis is "Life on Life: Missional Living." I hope you will pray for each of our Church Planter Catalysts as they seek to be mission-

al in their lives, to be an example to all Alaska Baptists and to encourage and lead our congregations to be missional in their strategy, vision and ministry.



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

Summer is coming – it may not feel like it right now, but yes! Summer is coming! What are your plans for this summer? I know mine include the usual hiking, biking and fishing and this year, we are including the wedding of our son, Stephen. This summer will include ministry and evangelism efforts throughout the state, so how is your church planning to connect to families in your community? Vacation Bible School (VBS) is one of the biggest outreach opportunities we have as Southern Baptists. Many of our churches will conduct VBS with over 4000 participants statewide. Pastors, I hope you will take full advantage of reaching children and families through your VBS. This year, Lifeway has written a new Backyard Bible Club curriculum which is a condensed version of the main VBS event. It is a great way to take the same VBS activities out to your neighborhoods. Also, there is "Club VBS" for smaller churches. If you have questions about any of these resources, please call me and I will be happy to help you plan ways to reach the families in your community.

Many of our churches conduct block parties and park events during the summer. Did you know there are block party trailers available for your association? They are a very helpful tool in planning an event. Contact your associational Church Planter Catalyst for help. Another activity in which some churches are involved is a food program. One of our churches in Wasilla had a great evangelistic and family outreach last summer due to their food program. A food program might be just right for your community since so many children face the possibility of not having lunch during the summer months when school is not in session. Call me for information.

Some of our churches do very creative things during the summer time; one does a music camp for children; others conduct sports camps, general camps and other activities to give children and youth an opportunity to hear the gospel. If you need ideas or already have an activity planned and would like some help, give me a call. Summer can be your best opportunity to share Christ with people. I hope you will take time to fill out the "My Great Commission" booklets you received at the State Evangelism Conference. If you didn't get one, let me know and I will be glad to share this great tool to help you be intentional in sharing your faith.





#### **Butch Strickland** Director of Church Planting and Missions

Jimmy Stewart, the last of the stars of the golden age of Hollywood, was involved in the establishment of the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C. from its inception. He said every time he went to Washington he made a point to visit. His motivation was that his son Ronald was killed in Vietnam on Sunday, June 8th, 1969, as an active duty Marine officer. Ronald's name is one of 58,000 engraved on the memorial, but Mr. Stewart said, "I can pick out my son's name with my eyes closed."

It is amazing what we can do when properly motivated. In 2 Corinthians 11:23-28, the Apostle Paul made a list of all the things he had suffered for the Kingdom's sake. He spoke of being flogged, exposed to death, beaten, stoned, shipwrecked, and in danger. He mentioned being imprisoned and laboring and toiling, going without food and being naked and cold. What would motivate him to endure such things? In 2 Corinthians 5:14, he said "For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died." There is no greater motivation than love -- and in our work, the love of Christ.

For whom do we pray? Whom do we desire to see come to Christ? For whom would we pay any price to see in the path with Jesus? Are they not the ones we love? Isaiah 54:2 says, "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes." The children of Israel were to grow to be so numerous that their borders had to be extended to contain them. May the Lord enlarge our tent. May He cause our heart to grow to include all those He loves. May we be so motivated by our love for the lost that we cannot help but tell them about Jesus.

And who are these lost people? There are seven billion people in the world consisting of 11,299 people groups. Of those, 4.2 billion make up 6392 <u>unreached</u> people groups and 210 million, or 3057 <u>unengaged</u> people groups. God can only lead you on the basis of information you have and now you know.

## Americans Going to Church – Online

ore than one-fifth of adult Americans, or 22 percent, have visited a place of worship's website during the past six months, according to a recently released survey conducted by Grey Matter Research and Consulting of Phoenix, Ariz. The survey studied the web surfing habits of 2,011 adults spread across all 50 states.

According to the research, 12 percent of Americans have visited a church (or other place of worship) website during the past 30 days. The results of the survey were broken down into three groups: those who regularly attend that church's service, those who attend another church's service, and those who do not regularly attend service at any congregation.

Among the first group, 28 percent of approximately 21.5 million Americans have visited their own congregation's website in the last 30 days, 44 percent or 34 million visited the site in the last six months, and 57 percent or 44.8 million have visited their congregation's website in the last year. A total of 68 percent of congregants have visited their house of worship's website while attending services there, and 32 percent either have never visited, or their church does not have a website.

According to the Grey Matter Research results, approximately 13 percent of churchgoers, or 10.4 million people, visited another church's website during the past 30 days. Those numbers increase to 27 percent and 21 million over six months and 37 percent or 28.7 million for the past year. Among non-churchgoers, 2 percent of 1.6 million Americans visited a church's website in the past 30 days, 10 percent or 10.6 million visited in the last six months, and 16 percent visited in the last year, which translates to 17.4 million visitors.

The most common reason cited for visiting a church's website was checking the service schedule, at 43 percent of the respondents. Checking the times for other activities such as youth group, Bible study groups and special events came in at 29 percent, and consuming streaming audio and video both were cited by 28 percent of those surveyed.

Other reasons for visiting included researching the church's religious beliefs (22 percent), requesting a prayer (18 percent), downloading a podcast (15 percent), sending a message (12 percent) and utilizing the congregation's forum or online bulletin board (5 percent).

The NonProfit Times, www.thenonprofittimes.com, June 15, 2012

# ALASKA BAPTIST

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

> PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT ANCHORAGE, AK

# calendar

#### May 2013

2	National Day of Prayer	27-
5	Senior Adult Sunday	30
6-7	ABC Executive Board meeting	
9	ABF Trustee meeting	Jul
12	Mother's Day	1-5
12-18	Christian Home Week	2-6
19-25	Baptist Association Emphasis	4
27	ABC and ABF offices closed, Memorial Day	9-1
28-29	CISM Training	16-
		21
June 20	13	21-
7-8	Crossover	23-
9-10	WMU annual meeting	
10-14	Alaska Native youth camp, LGYRC	รถ
11-12	SBC annual meeting	U
14-21	Training Teens Today (T3)	FU
16	Baptist Men's Day	Val
17-21	X-Faith youth camp, LGYRC	AB
23	Mission: Dignity Sunday	ľ
24-28	Boys camp, LGYRC	Sta
		Siu

7-29	K-2nd grade camp, Camp Baldwin
0	Citizenship and Religious Liberty Sunday

#### July 2013

1-5	Girls camp, LGYRC
2-6	3rd-4th grade camp, Camp Baldwin
4 A	BC and ABF offices closed, Independence Day
9-13	5th-6th grade camp, Camp Baldwin
16-20	7th-8th grade camp, Camp Baldwin
21	Serving Your Community Sunday
21-25	JAM Camp, LGYRC
23-28	9th-12th grade camp, Camp Baldwin

## upcoming events

FUSION Youth Conference Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering emphasis ABC annual Mission Rally, Alaska WMU annual meeting, ABC annual meeting Statewide OMC rallies