

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

Happy Birthday America!

On July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was approved by the Continental Congress, setting the 13 colonies on the road to freedom as a sovereign nation. Consider these “fun facts” about this holiday:

- **2.5 million:** in July 1776, the estimated number of people living in the newly independent nation.
- **316.2 million:** in July 2013, the estimated population of America.
- **56:** the number of signers to the Declaration of Independence.
 - Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston comprised the Committee of Five that drafted the Declaration. Jefferson, regarded as the strongest and most eloquent writer, wrote most of the document.
 - John Hancock, President of the Second Continental Congress, was the first signer. This merchant by trade did so in an entirely blank space making it the largest and most famous signature – hence the term “John Hancock” which is still used today as a synonym for signature.
- Benjamin Franklin (age 70), who represented Pennsylvania, was the oldest of the signers. Edward Rutledge (age 26), of South Carolina, was the youngest.
- Two future presidents signed, John Adams (second President) and Thomas Jefferson (third President). Both died on the 50th anniversary of signing the Declaration (July 4, 1826).
- Robert Livingston, who represented New York, was on the Committee of Five but was recalled by his state before he could sign the Declaration.
- Charles Carroll, Maryland representative, was the last surviving member of the signers of the Declaration. He died in 1832 at the age of 95.
- **The British are Coming!**
 - **\$109.8 billion:** dollar value of trade last year between the United States and the United Kingdom, making the British, our adversary in 1776, our sixth-leading trading partner today.

continued on page 6, Birthday

2000 Club

Goal: \$20,000 each quarter

ARISE AND BUILD

3rd quarter recipient: Aquillaq Baptist Mission

*assistance with
building repairs*

Make your check payable to the Alaska Baptist Convention, 1750 O'Malley Rd., Anchorage, AK 99507. Note the quarter for which you are contributing.

**DO YOU WANT TO CONTINUE
TO RECEIVE THE
ALASKA BAPTIST MILEPOST?**



Beginning with the August 2013 issue of the Alaska Baptist Milepost, we are converting to an online edition. To subscribe to the e-mail issues, please read this Quick Response (QR) code with your Smartphone or visit www.alaska-baptistconvention.com/registration.



The support staff of the
Alaska Baptist Convention



back (l to r) Eugene, Debra
front (l to r) Sylvia, Betsy

The contributions you make to the Cooperative Program (CP) through your local church undergird the ministry work of the Alaska Baptist Convention (ABC) support staff. Just as the program staff is responding to their call of God by serving in ministry, the support staff is responding to their call of God by serving as ministry assistants, facilitating the work of the Kingdom. Without ministry assistants, the logistics necessary to help the work of "Seeking Christ, Sharing Christ, Strengthening congregations, Starting congregations and Sending Christians" would be far less effective. Using their God-given talents and skills, the support staff is: Debra Long, office manager, bookkeeper and ministry assistant to the ABC Executive Board; Sylvia Rylander, receptionist and ministry assistant to the Executive Director; Betsy Shilling, associate editor of the "Milepost" and ministry assistant to the Directors of Evangelism and Church Planting and Missions; and Eugene Ward, Information Technologist/computer specialist. There is much work involved in ministry and missions, both seen and unseen. The ABC support staff count it a joy to serve you, and most importantly our Lord and Savior, as we work together to advance the Kingdom.

God's Plan for Sharing in Alaska

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Alaska Iu-Mienh First Bapt Church	\$234.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$234.00
Anchor Baptist Church	\$1,441.68	\$160.00	\$110.00	\$260.00	\$0.00	\$1,971.68
Anch Hope Comm Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Anderson Church Plant	\$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
Big Lake Baptist Church	\$5,716.42	\$2,217.00	\$2,348.02	\$2,821.00	\$0.00	\$13,102.44
Bodenburg Butte Bapt Church	\$2,715.05	\$270.00	\$0.00	\$280.00	\$0.00	\$3,265.05
Calvary Baptist Church	\$1,723.00	\$302.00	\$1,030.00	\$760.00	\$0.00	\$3,815.00
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
City on a Hill Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Clearwater Baptist Church	\$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	\$341.45	\$310.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$651.45
College Heights Baptist Church	\$18,809.09	\$2,790.00	\$6,692.58	\$11,314.92	\$0.00	\$39,606.59
Comm Bapt Church, Coffman Cove	\$2,462.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$2,712.20
Community Baptist Church, Nome	\$470.00	\$156.25	\$366.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$992.25
Community Christian Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cowboy Church of Anchorage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$5,651.00	\$0.00	\$3,323.80	\$2,870.88	\$0.00	\$11,845.68
CrossCountry Church	\$750.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$830.00	\$0.00	\$1,830.00
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$4,179.41	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$6,679.41
Eagle River Korean Baptist Church	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$950.00
Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$1,752.29	\$116.00	\$360.00	\$198.00	\$0.00	\$2,426.29
Fairview Loop Baptist Church	\$11,580.90	\$2,839.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,420.37
Faith Baptist Church	\$5,386.72	\$873.00	\$0.00	\$2,297.00	\$0.00	\$8,556.72
False Pass Christian Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Filipino Baptist Church, Ketchikan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Filipino Bible Church, Anchorage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,007.00	\$0.00	\$1,007.00
First Baptist Church, Anchorage	\$22,426.18	\$4,665.00	\$5,674.75	\$12,006.78	\$0.00	\$44,772.71
First Baptist Church, Eagle River	\$13,165.90	\$1,955.00	\$3,813.95	\$7,587.65	\$0.00	\$26,522.50
First Baptist Church, Fairbanks	\$3,205.58	\$916.00	\$1,300.00	\$2,001.00	\$0.00	\$7,422.58
First Baptist Church, North Pole	\$10,263.28	\$1,951.00	\$0.00	\$5,571.20	\$0.00	\$17,785.48
First Baptist Church, Delta Jct	\$21,670.00	\$0.00	\$4,080.00	\$4,625.00	\$0.00	\$30,375.00
First Baptist Church, Juneau	\$3,893.77	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$160.00	\$0.00	\$4,053.77
First Baptist Church, Kenai	\$2,081.15	\$385.00	\$660.00	\$1,812.00	\$0.00	\$4,938.15
First Baptist Church, Ketchikan	\$3,933.38	\$2,645.00	\$3,029.00	\$2,283.30	\$0.00	\$11,890.68
First Baptist Church, Kotzebue	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
First Baptist Church, Palmer	\$6,666.64	\$2,444.85	\$2,849.00	\$2,793.00	\$0.00	\$14,753.49
First Baptist Church, Petersburg	\$2,248.12	\$1,141.00	\$889.12	\$1,125.00	\$0.00	\$5,403.24
First Baptist Church, Sitka	\$2,687.00	\$0.00	\$1,263.00	\$904.00	\$0.00	\$4,854.00
First Baptist Church, Soldotna	\$4,695.00	\$1,098.00	\$1,363.09	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,156.09
First Baptist Church, Valdez	\$6,712.27	\$2,044.07	\$4,035.40	\$7,440.68	\$0.00	\$20,232.42
First Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$5,274.20	\$0.00	\$2,227.05	\$7,918.83	\$0.00	\$15,420.08
First Baptist Church, Willow	\$2,644.04	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$3,316.00	\$0.00	\$6,410.04
First Hmong Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Korean Baptist Church	\$500.00	\$350.00	\$487.00	\$430.00	\$0.00	\$1,767.00
First Native Baptist Church	\$1,978.00	\$603.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,581.00
Friendship Baptist Mission	\$100.00	\$346.00	\$0.00	\$490.00	\$0.00	\$936.00
Frontier Baptist Church	\$1,342.75	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$655.00	\$0.00	\$2,247.75
Gilead Ministries	\$577.25	\$305.00	\$105.00	\$130.00	\$0.00	\$1,117.25
Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$10,565.28	\$1,633.50	\$0.00	\$8,447.11	\$0.00	\$20,645.89
Grandview Baptist Church	\$15,013.76	\$1,950.00	\$1,862.00	\$9,080.00	\$0.00	\$27,905.76
Greater Friendship Bapt Church	\$3,880.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,880.87
Hillside Baptist Church	\$4,705.52	\$313.00	\$745.11	\$861.00	\$0.00	\$6,624.63
Hispanic Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Hoonah Baptist Mission	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Hydaburg Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$451.06	\$1,097.68	\$870.00	\$2,508.85	\$0.00	\$4,927.59
Journey Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Juneau Korean Church	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$310.00	\$370.00	\$0.00	\$830.00
Kasaan Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Kiana Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Kobuk Baptist Mission	\$316.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$316.63
Korean Baptist Mission	\$300.00	\$115.00	\$170.00	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$755.00
Korean New Central Bapt Church	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$385.00	\$0.00	\$1,285.00
Lighthouse Community Church	\$4,104.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,605.00	\$0.00	\$5,709.00
Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$500.00	\$7,914.31	\$150.00	\$1,090.00	\$80.00	\$9,734.31
Montana Creek Baptist Church	\$4,121.08	\$760.00	\$240.00	\$905.00	\$0.00	\$6,026.08
Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$3,520.71	\$336.27	\$328.40	\$374.35	\$0.00	\$4,559.73
Moose Pass Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Moriah Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Morning Star Baptist Church	\$1,349.75	\$0.00	\$2,160.00	\$2,120.00	\$0.00	\$5,629.75
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church	\$500.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
Mount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$1,200.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$4,950.00

January-May 2013 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Mtn View Community Church	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$125.00
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$3,608.00	\$1,170.42	\$646.00	\$710.35	\$0.00	\$6,134.77
New Beginnings Baptist Church	\$319.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$319.13
New Birth Christian Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Grace Christian Church	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$3,936.24	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$5,436.24
New Hope Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope Fellowship	\$700.00	\$70.00	\$120.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$990.00
North Bear St Comm Church	\$49.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$53.01	\$0.00	\$102.19
North Star Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
North Tongass Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
OnMission Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pioneer Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$655.00	\$0.00	\$755.00
Rabbit Creek Community Church	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$4,400.00
River In The Desert Comm Church	\$0.00	\$144.00	\$110.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$374.00
Riverside Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
Salcha Baptist Church	\$4,142.81	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,400.00	\$0.00	\$9,542.81
Samoa Alaska Baptist Church	\$289.23	\$0.00	\$136.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$425.59
Sand Point Baptist Chapel	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Schrock Road Comm Church	\$1,316.24	\$1,185.30	\$279.80	\$1,079.00	\$0.00	\$3,860.34
Settler's Bay Community Church	\$4,210.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,210.15
Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$360.00	\$1,050.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,410.00
Shungnak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Solid Rock Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
St. John Baptist Church	\$4,570.72	\$350.00	\$519.00	\$596.00	\$0.00	\$6,035.72
Sunset Hills Baptist Church	\$10,782.56	\$3,567.00	\$9,588.50	\$4,595.00	\$0.00	\$28,533.06
Tenakee Community Church	\$202.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$202.26
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$1,750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,750.00
Thorne Bay Baptist Church	\$403.65	\$0.00	\$70.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$473.65
Togiak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
True North Church	\$2,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00
True North Downtown	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
UBC-Chinese Fellowship	\$291.01	\$305.00	\$250.00	\$362.00	\$0.00	\$1,208.01
University Baptist Church, Anch	\$3,797.38	\$1,309.00	\$1,804.00	\$3,617.00	\$0.00	\$10,527.38
University Baptist Church, Fbks	\$8,613.00	\$1,187.00	\$3,441.00	\$5,322.00	\$0.00	\$18,563.00
Valley View Baptist Church	\$2,125.00	\$0.00	\$558.00	\$1,664.00	\$0.00	\$4,347.00
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
Whittier Christian Comm Church	\$300.00	\$375.00	\$115.00	\$437.00	\$0.00	\$1,227.00
Grand Total:	\$289,697.94	\$60,915.12	\$74,229.93	\$146,214.91	\$80.00	\$571,137.90
Goals:	\$683,679.00	\$90,000.00	\$95,000.00	\$160,000.00		
Over/Under Goals:	\$(393,981.06)	\$(29,084.88)	\$(20,770.07)	\$(13,785.09)		

Legend:

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



Received as of May 31, 2013 • 173 contributors

**1st Qtr \$18582.50 • 2nd Qtr \$5679.50
3rd Qtr \$1008 • 4th Qtr \$979**

Your Cooperative Program dollars at work in Alaska...



Pray for Pastor Mike (Angela) Balos and the congregation of CrossCountry Church as they minister in Wasilla. Your congregation's mission support through the Cooperative Program is a vital resource to this congregation.

Please Pray for our Pastorless Churches

Chugach Baptist Association

Chugach Resort Ministries
Cowboy Church of Anchorage
Greater Friendship Baptist Church
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
First Baptist Church, North Pole
Friendship Baptist Church

Tongass Baptist Association

Hoonah Baptist Mission
North Tongass Baptist Church

Out of the Word

The average American spends very little time reading or memorizing Scripture on a daily basis. Only **19%** say they daily read the Bible and more than half say they have not spent time memorizing Scripture in the last six months.

Source: *Facts and Trends*, Fall 2012

Alaska Baptist Milepost

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Mike Procter, Editor

Betsy Shilling, Associate Editor

1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507

Welcome New Pastors and Wives to the Alaska Baptist Convention



John and Cindy Bills
Moose Creek, North Pole



Willie (Gail) Austin
Hydaburg church planter

The Alaska Baptist Convention (ABC) hosted the New Pastor and Wife Orientation at the ABC office in Anchorage on April 24, 2013. Please join the ABC staff in welcoming the newest additions to our Convention: John (Cindy) Bills is pastor of Moose Creek Baptist Church in North Pole; Scott (Judith) Morgan is pastor of Sand Point Chapel; Willie (Gail) Austin is a church planter in Hydaburg; and Russ (Rhonda) Olsen is pastor of Riverside Chapel in King Salmon. Please pray for these families as they develop relationships with their new congregations.



Scott and Judith Morgan
Sand Point Chapel



Russ and Rhonda Olsen
Riverside, King Salmon

HE IS ABLE

Mission Rally and 68th annual meeting of the Alaska Baptist Convention
Mon-Wed., September 23-25, 2013 • Glacier Valley Baptist Church, Juneau

Messenger Registration for the 68th Annual Meeting is online only.

Registration opened June 1, 2013. In May, each church received an e-mail invitation to register messengers for the event. Call the ABC office if you have questions, 907.344.9627, 800.883.9627.

If you plan to drive, get your ferry reservations early! Conference hotel is Extended Stay America.

Church messengers must be registered by September 1.

Monday, September 23
Mission Rally
7:00-8:00 p.m.
Glacier Valley Baptist

Extended Stay America
907.790.6435

Tuesday, September 24
WMU Annual Meeting
8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Glacier Valley Baptist
Pastor's Conference
8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
First Baptist, Juneau

Tuesday, September 24
ABC Annual Meeting
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, September 25
10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Glacier Valley Baptist

Alaska Baptist Convention (ABC)

Executive Board Actions

1. On November 26, 2012, the ABC Executive Committee approved the following special offering goals for 2013: \$95,000 for Annie Armstrong Easter Offering; \$90,000 for Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering; and \$150,000 for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.
2. On January 3, 2013, the ABC Executive Committee approved vacating the reverter clause attached to the parsonage of Friendship Baptist Mission.
3. On January 3, 2013, the ABC Executive Committee elected Reggie Chambers to replace Jeff Baxter on the Alaska Baptist Foundation (ABF) Board of Trustees with term expiring 2014; and Scott Edwards and Bud Senko to serve on the ABF Board of Trustees with terms expiring 2015.

May 6-7, 2013 ABC Executive Board Actions

1. Approved the March 31, 2013, financial reports of ABC.
2. Approved the 2014 Proposed ABC Budget that reflects a 5% raise for program staff and a 2% raise for support staff.
3. Approved creating a designated account called Account 8316 Designated Summer Missionary to roll over any unspent funds at fiscal year-end from Budget Account 5396. Funds will be used for Summer Missionary travel expenses.
4. Approved the 2013-2014 Alaska Baptist Convention Proposed Calendar.
5. Approved to grant the Alaska Baptist Family Services official permission to seek and receive donations from Mother's Day Giving; Pick, Click, Give program; love offerings from staff speaking at events or church activities; and personal giving via ABFS website.
6. Approved granting the Executive Director of ABC the authority to make the selection of ministry material that will be provided to individuals consistent with the terms of the Rebecca Procter Trust Fund. The Executive Director may at his discretion sub-assign this responsibility to another individual of his choosing, with the understanding that the Executive Director bears ultimate responsibility to the Executive Board to ensure that the funds are used appropriately for the designated charitable purpose described in the Rebecca Procter Trust Fund held through ABF.
7. Approved dedicating the 2013 Book of Reports to Alaskans serving with the International Mission Board.
8. Approved granting New Birth Christian Church of Fairbanks membership in ABC.
9. Approved using funds in Designated Account 8572 New Work/Sand Lake Area to start a church plant in the Sand Lake area. Chugach Baptist Association would sponsor this new church plant until a church can be found to sponsor the work.
10. Approved funding a Russian church plant \$7000 (\$1000 per month). Funds will be made payable to Chugach Baptist Association, sponsor for the Russian church plant, and the work will be reassessed at the end of the year.
11. Approved funding \$4000 per month, beginning September 1, if the assessment from the work done in Kanchee Park shows the viability of a church plant. Grandview Baptist Church will be the sponsor for this new work and funds will come from Account 5342 if a church plant is created.
12. Approved to request \$900 from ABF Emergency Travel Assistance Fund to be paid to First Baptist Church, Ketchikan for assisting Wilma Misa (surviving spouse of Jesse Misa, pastor of Filipino Baptist Mission in Ketchikan) travel expenses to return to live with family in the Philippines.
13. Approved to assign Hillside Baptist Church as second quarter 2013 recipient of the 2000 Club Call (Account 8140). Funds will be used to assist with exterior painting of the church building to extend the life of the building.
14. Approved to assign Aquillaq Baptist Mission as third quarter 2013 recipient of the 2000 Club Call (Account 8140) and the funds will be held until the mission provides information of how the funds will be used in the building reconstruction of the church. The Executive Committee will determine when funds will be released.
15. Approved to release up to \$24,000 (upon presentation of receipts) to remodel the existing building in Tok, making it useable as an outreach facility to start a work in Tok. The approach should be to recruit, train, and mentor an indigenous Athabaskan to grow the body of believers from within the village instead of without. Funds will be taken from the State Mission Fund Account 8196.
16. Approved to release \$5,000 from State Mission Fund Account 8196 to be used in the 2014 ABC Budget Account 5342 in order to receive matching funds from the North American Mission Board at 95/5 ratio.
17. Approved ABC entering a partnership with the Central Coast Baptist Association in California.

MILEPOST MOMENTS

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

Condolences

Our condolences to Fred Bennett in the death of his wife Martha Jo, who passed away May 21. Bennetts served at Sutton Baptist Fellowship, Victory Baptist Church (now Mountain View Community Church), South Anchorage Baptist Church (now Christ Community Church) and First Baptist Church, Soldotna. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to Fred Bennett, 48795 Knutsen Avenue, Soldotna, AK 99661.

Condolences

Our condolences to Cynthia Gregory in the death of her brother Dr. Bruce Edkin, who passed away May 29. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to Cynthia Gregory, in care of First Baptist Church, 1100 W. Tenth Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501.

Alaska Baptist Family Services

Lorie Morris, Executive Director was featured in an article for SBC Life featuring Baptist children's homes across the nation.

New Birth Christian Church, Fairbanks

NBCC will hold a joint July 4 celebration and fellowship with Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church at Lion's Park. They will also host an outreach retreat at Birch Lake, July 12-14.

University Baptist Church,

Fairbanks

UBC will host a work team in August who

will be doing construction and painting on the church building.

The Crossing @ Birchwood

Mike Rud, son of Pastor Brad (Laura) Rud was recognized as valedictorian for Birchwood Christian High School.

Sand Point Chapel

SPC hosted the annual Community Fishermen's Dinner on June 2. Pastor Scott Morgan shared a message based on Psalms 107:23-30 and more than 100 community members and fishermen enjoyed the great food, fellowship and the blessing of being together.



Wayland Baptist University,

Anchorage campus

WBU-Anchorage has faculty positions available for Math and Science (full time) and Counseling (adjunct). If you are interested, please contact Dr. Eric Ash, 907.375.4515, ashe@wbu.edu

Waste Not

Around 40% of all food in the United States is thrown out or wasted each year. On average, a family of four throws away close to 20 pounds of food per person each month. With hunger on the rise in North America, how can your family reverse this trend? Visit namb.net/hunger for more details.

Source: *The Week*, September 7, 2012

Birthday, continued from front page

The Pledge of Allegiance:

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

- The Pledge of Allegiance received official recognition by Congress in an Act approved on June 22, 1942. However, the pledge was first published in 1892 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America.
- In its original version, the pledge read "my flag" instead of "the flag of the United States." The change in the wording was adopted by the National Flag Conference in 1923. The rationale for the change was that it prevented ambiguity among foreign-born children and adults who might have the flag of their native land in mind when reciting the pledge.
- The phrase "under God" was added to the pledge by a Congressional Act approved on June 14, 1954. At that time, President Eisenhower said: ***"in this way we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America's heritage and future; in this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country's most powerful resource in peace and war."***

information found at www.usa.gov

Who, Why, Where
4 to 6 people
Renovate Crie Haven Retreat Center (a missionary retreat center)
Rockland, Maine

Purpose
to refurbish, renovate and enlarge an existing facility to accommodate more missionaries, pastors and ministry leaders that need a place for a get-away.

Skills Required
renovation and construction

MISSION TEAM NEEDED
Saturday, October 12, through Saturday, October 19, 2013

Cost
\$1200 per person includes:
• roundtrip airfare Anchorage to Boston
• local room and board
• transportation
• general sightseeing

Payment Schedule
• \$800 due July 15
• \$200 due August 15
• \$200 due September 15

make check payable to:
Alaska Baptist Convention
1750 O'Malley Road
Anchorage, AK 99507

Indicate payment is for the
Maine mission trip

Work Needed

- frame and hang doors
- fit new thresholds
- remove and paint two dormer windows and possibly re-glaze them
- patch and prime
- paint all walls ceilings and baseboards in rooms and closets
- apply textured wall covering and border
- install two wall light fixtures (the wiring is in place)
- scrub and paint bare wood floors two coats
- hang window shutters inside windows
- install shelves

For additional information
please contact Mike Procter:
mike@alaskabaptistconvention.com
907-344-9627 or 800-883-9627

Biblical Frustrations

According to a recent study, many Americans indicated they experience a variety of frustrations when it comes to reading the Bible. The majority (32%) say their greatest frustration is never having enough time to read it while a smaller group (27%) attribute their frustration to a lack of excitement about the Bible. A smaller 16% find the language too difficult to understand. Consider what kinds of studies and ministry opportunities your church can offer members in your congregation to help them better navigate and understand the Bible.

Source: *Christianity Today*, June 2012

Summer Food Program Feeds Kids for Free

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

June 3 – August 2, Monday-Friday, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Kanchee Park, Dave Rose Park, Turpin Park, George Smith Memorial Park, Chester Creek Estates, Arctic Benson Park, Kiwanis Fish Creek Park.

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

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.



Thank You

Please join me in wishing Marita Wolverton congratulations and best wishes as she retires from Alaska Baptist Family Services (ABFS) where she has faithfully served as Financial Coordinator for 12 years. Marita moved to Alaska in 1970 to teach school in Yakutat. She met and married her husband, Jim Wolverton, in 1972. Before joining the ABFS team, Marita served her community as a director of child care services in various not-for-profit organizations, and as a Sunday school teacher for 35 years. She was also an Associational Sunday school director and served on the ABFS Board of Directors. Currently, Marita resides in Nikiski and worships at Lighthouse Community Church. Her dedication to ABFS is evidenced by her 360-mile weekly commute to work: "I have witnessed the Holy Spirit's work in the young people at ABFS. My role extends beyond the job description in encouraging our residents. I enjoy telling Baptists and others in the community about the work accomplished at ABFS. God has not just provided a challenging job for me; He's leading me on an amazing adventure as ABFS moves into a new century."

Congratulations Marita! Thank you for so diligently serving God by serving others in need. You are loved and will be missed by the board, staff and children of Alaska Baptist Family Services!

Lorie Morris, Executive Director



Mike Procter
Executive Director

On a recent trip Outside, Rebecca and I drove from St. George, Utah to Flagstaff, Arizona. We had just passed through Fredonia, Arizona and were beginning the ascent over a mountain pass. As the cruise control kicked in to accelerate up the hill, an Arizona Highway Patrolman turned on his lights, made a U-turn and chased me down. He told me I was going 53 miles-per-hour (mph) in a 40 mph zone. I explained the last speed limit sign I had seen was for 55 mph and that we had not seen a 40 mph sign. The patrolman said the 40 mph sign was at the bottom of the hill near a stand of trees. As he wrote out my speeding ticket, while he did not say it, **I was guilty** of breaking the law and was being held accountable. Presenting the ticket to me, the patrolman did show a measure of mercy (pity or compassion) because he reduced my fine from \$198 to \$98, however I was hoping he would show grace (forgiveness, clemency or pardon). He did not.

After getting my ticket, we continued on our way as the Lord reminded me that when we try to gain salvation by keeping the law, we will always fall short because we are guilty, even if we only break one law. I broke one law – speeding. I was not weaving, passing illegally or talking on my cell phone but **I was guilty** of speeding even though I did not know it at the time. In Galatians 3, we are reminded that we are redeemed from the penalty of the law because Jesus Christ had mercy on us and paid the price of our sin. Because of His grace we are now pardoned or forgiven. Most of us know when we have broken the law found in God's Word and do not want to be held accountable. But we are guilty and held accountable for our sins unless we trust Jesus Christ to become our Lord and Savior. I had to pay the \$98 fine for speeding. Nobody else paid it for me, however, according to 1 Peter 1:18-19 Jesus paid the penalty for my sins.

On July 4, as we celebrate our freedom as a nation, I pray you celebrate your freedom from the penalty of sin (breaking the law) because you have asked Jesus Christ to forgive you of your sins and to become your Lord and Savior. Romans 3:23 reminds us "...all have sinned and come short..."; Romans 6:23 reminds us "...the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord" and John 8:36 reminds us that "If the Son sets us free, we are indeed free."

On Independence Day, celebrate your freedom as an American but, even more importantly, be sure to celebrate your spiritual freedom as a Christian.



Butch Strickland
*Director of Church Planting
and Missions*

"To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you." *1 Corinthians 9:22-23*

A few years ago I bought a book in a way that was definitely out of character for me. Usually when I buy a book, I look at the table of contents, read some excerpts from sections of the book, read what others have said about it, etc. I bought this one just because of the title, Opie Doesn't Live Here Anymore. It was written by Walt Mueller, who is the founder and president of the Center for Parent/Youth Understanding, and is an authority on youth culture and family issues. The title intrigued me because I am of the generation that grew up with Opie, Aunt Bea and Sheriff Andy Taylor, and the idea that "Opie doesn't live here anymore" made me think that I needed to figure out a way to better relate to younger generations. I guess I bought the book to see if I could somehow become more relevant in the way I communicate the gospel that never changes, to generations that are always changing. I loved the book! I don't know if I accomplished what I bought the book to do. Maybe I need to ask some of the young people with whom I try to share because, even though I try to speak "youth-ese," I am still OLD as far as they are concerned!

Recently I was exposed to some of the things I read about in the book. I was doing what I enjoy most about ministry -- I was in a park looking for someone with whom I might share the gospel. Under an awning sat a young couple who, at least in my mind, were holding up a sign that read, "Hey, Butch, come talk to us." So I approached, introduced myself and after the initial pleasantries, asked them to tell me their story. It sounded exactly like some of the stories of young people I had read about in the book -- stories of seeking, hurt, feelings of uselessness -- even a story that the world might be better off without them. When they heard that God loved them and Jesus came so they could have a life filled with all the things they were missing, they began to quietly cry. They were embarrassed and turned away so that neither I, nor any of the passersby, could see their tears. They weren't ready to trust Jesus yet, but I shared with them where they could find others who would love them and share more of how He could make a huge difference in their lives. I am praying for them.

First Impressions

10 ways to make visitors feel welcome

People never get a second-chance at a first impression. Neither do churches. Nearly everything about a Sunday morning worship service communicates something to first-time visitors. From the church bulletins to the parking lot layout, churches demonstrate how much – or how little – they care about people. Here are some tips you might find useful:

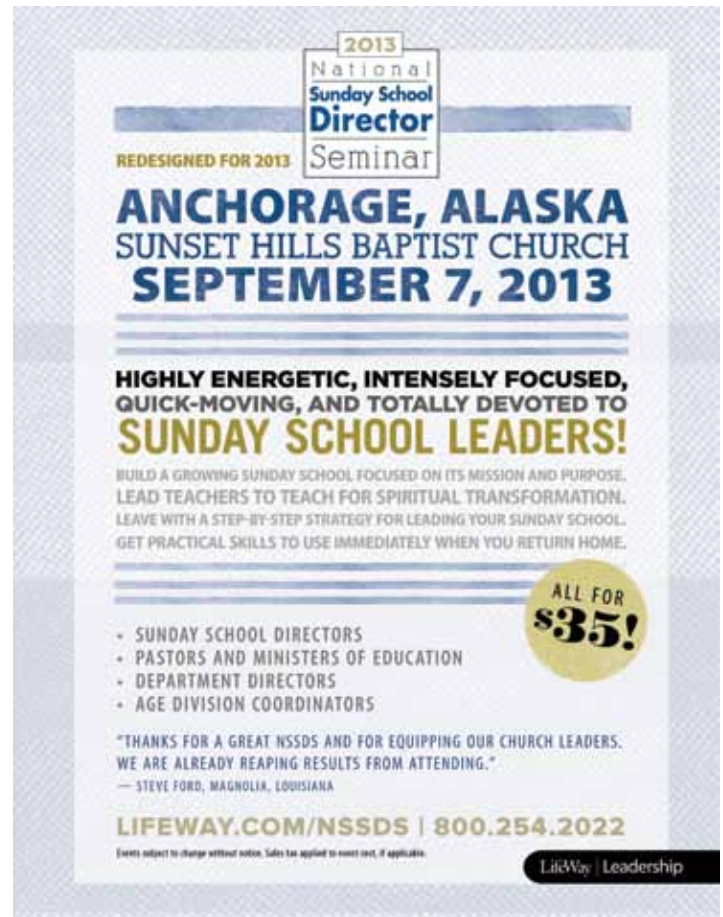
- **Create a culture of hospitality.** Hospitality is not just for Martha Stewart types. In fact, the Bible exalts hospitality as a godly virtue (3 John) for all believers. Emphasize, as often as it takes, the value of hospitality with your leaders.
- **Train your greeters.** Not everyone at your church is qualified to be a greeter at the door. Not only should you be selective when you choose greeters, you should invest time in training. A genuine smile that engages the eyes, a handshake and a friendly “Hello!” all go a long way to make visitors feel welcome.
- **Design a logical flow of traffic.** First-time visitors can become easily frustrated when it’s unclear where they should go.
- **Spell-check everything.** Typos on your website, signage, worship guides and even song lyrics can send the message you don’t care. Set up a system to ensure all written communication is checked for spelling errors.
- **Mark your entrances.** When visitors come to your church, do they know what entrance they should use?
- **Avoid awkward greeting times.** Many churches include a time of greeting between members at the beginning of a worship service. For visitors, it’s the first day of school

Remember, first impressions matter. With a well thought out, pre-service plan, your church can show visitors just how much you care and want them back.

- **Have a concise explanation of the child care system ready.** Families with young children will be anxious about leaving their kids with strangers.
- **Be careful how you gather information.** Some churches are too pushy. While it’s important to gather information for follow-up with visitors, be careful you don’t send the wrong message in how you ask.
- **Train members to assume they’re the only point of contact.** Unless everyone has this mindset, everyone will defer their responsibility to be hospitable. Don’t miss an opportunity to take an interest in visitors.
- **Treat visitors like VIPs.** Most of all visitors want to feel respected and welcomed. Offer reserved parking close to the front door. Have volunteers escort visitors from the parking lot to the child care area and auditorium.

Excerpts from *Facts and Trends*, Winter 2013 issue; article by Devin Maddox

all over again. Explain the purpose behind the greeting time and coach your people on how to do it well.



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Foundation Builder

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When bigger is not better....



In the December 20, 2011 issue of "Stand Firm", a monthly men's devotional magazine, an intriguing question was posed: which of the following is comparable to the size of a typical three-car garage?

1. a fast food restaurant
 2. a basketball court
 3. an Olympic-sized swimming pool
 4. the average home built in the 1950s
- The answer? 4. the average home built in the 1950s.

Isn't that amazing? The space many people use today to store their possessions was all the living space a family needed just 60 years ago. The first house I clearly remember was 800 square feet and had two bedrooms, one bathroom, a small living room and kitchen. There was no family room, dining room, home office, or any of the rooms many of us feel we need today.

Do more "things" make us happy? It is interesting to note the last time most Americans called themselves very happy was not in 2007, or 1997, or even 1987, but 1957. Can it be that "more" and "bigger" do not translate to happiness? When Rebecca and I were first married, we had a small black and white television (TV). When one of our friends got a larger black and white TV than we had, we just needed a larger one too. That was fine until we saw a color TV, then we had to have a color

TV. You know how the story goes -- we got a bigger color TV! Then giant TVs were introduced, with all the bells and whistles, and now there are 3-D TVs that are more like computers than TVs. Each successive TV is bigger, better, more expensive and complicated, and with each new model, we are no longer satisfied with our old one. We feel deprived if we do not have the newest model and we are willing to spend beyond our income to get it.

Heavy debt is one of the problems many American families face today. We spend more than we make and we experience inhibiting debt. Many people pay only the minimum on their credit card balance each month and juggle bills, because there is more month than money. David Waganer, Resource Director for the Stewardship Development Association, recommends six steps to get out of debt:

1. Create a budget
2. Give the Lord His tithe through your church
3. Determine the difference between a need and a want
4. Pay off debt as quickly as possible
5. Establish a savings plan
6. Live within your means.

In addition to estate planning, the Alaska Baptist Foundation is willing to assist any congregation with developing a ministry which will aid their

people with debt retirement and teach them how to be better stewards of the resources God has provided.

May the Lord bless you exceedingly and abundantly, as you endeavor to be wise stewards of the resources with which He has blessed you!

Mike Procter
Executive Director/Treasurer



Linda Taylor (r), executor for the estate of Marian Parks, presents a check to Adam Long, Alaska Baptist Foundation Coordination Director. The funds are to be placed in the Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering trust to be used to support missions and missionaries in Alaska. Marian and husband Claude were members of First Baptist Church, Wasilla.

are



ready?

Many people believe that estate planning is only for the wealthy. But did you know that if you die intestate (without a Last Will and Testament [Will]), your estate will be distributed according to the laws of the state in which you are living at the time of death? This can be a slow, expensive and sometimes inequitable process. Key to proper planning of your estate are three documents -- the Will, Healthcare Directives, and Durable Power of Attorney which lay the foundation to an effective estate plan.

The Last Will and Testament (Will)

More than half of all Wills are outdated because of the implications of new laws. More than a third are outdated because of changes in personal possessions and family situations. While this sounds alarming, even more alarming is that, while statistics can vary, evidence indicates that some seven out of 10 people die without a Will. So what is a Will?

A Will is a legal document that directs how you want your estate distributed. The Will is especially important if minor children are involved as guardianship issues are addressed.

Keep in mind that not every asset passes by terms of the Will. Things such as jointly-held checking accounts and life insurance policies with designated beneficiaries are an example of these two types of property transfer. So it is important to make sure beneficiary designations are up-to-date.

Another estate document is a trust. Whereas a Will expresses wishes after death, a trust can take effect before or after death. It allows individuals to control the distribution of their estate. A trust places assets in a fund that is managed for your benefit or other beneficiaries. Trust can be revocable or irrevocable. The biggest advantage to a trust instru-

ment is that it is not subject to public probate procedures.

Healthcare Directive (Living Will)

A Healthcare Directive, or Living Will, ensures wishes are known if you become incapacitated and no longer able to make decisions. It directs family and medical specialists whether to keep artificial life support and appoints someone to make healthcare decisions for you.

Durable Power of Attorney

A Durable Power of Attorney is a revocable written document that allows someone else to make decisions for you on your behalf. It is an important distinction that it is a durable instrument, as this type of instrument will remain in effect upon your incapacitation. A standard power of attorney typically becomes unenforceable upon an individual's incapacitation. A Durable Power of Attorney is generally broader in scope than a Living Will and encompasses all healthcare situations where one cannot make decisions for oneself.

Every individual of legal age (18-years-old in Alaska) should consider having in place the three core documents: the Will, Healthcare Directives, and a Durable Power of Attorney. An attorney can help determine how best to draft these instruments as well as discuss related issues such as whether a living trust is an appropriate estate planning instrument for you and your family.

This information should not be considered tax or legal advice. Please consult your own tax and legal adviser(s) for specific details about your personal situation.

Information taken from www.guidestone.org/retirement/aboutus/articles/yourlegacy, http://wiki.answers.com/Q/What_is_the_difference_between_a_Durable_Power_of_Attorney_and_General_Power_of_Attorney, <http://www.elderlawanswers.com/understanding-the-differences-between-a-will-and-a-trust-7888>, <http://www.producersweb.com/r/pwebmc/d/contentFocus/?pcID=90a02397a8c12ec6fb666db571c42445>

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calendar

July 2013

1-5	Girls Camp, LGYRC
	3rd-4th grade camp, Camp Baldwin
4	Independence Day
	ABC and ABF offices closed
8-12	5th-6th grade camp, Camp Baldwin
15-19	7th-8th grade camp, Camp Baldwin
21	Serving Your Community Sunday
21-25	JAM Camp, LGYRC
22-27	9th-12th grade camp, Camp Baldwin

August 2013

4	Social Issues Sunday
7-9	FUSION Youth Conference
11	Student Evangelism Day
18-24	Worship Music Week
21-24	Alaska Native Baptist Fellowship annual meeting

September 2013

1	Single Adult Sunday
1-8	Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering Emphasis
2	ABC and ABF offices closed for Labor Day
7	Sunday School Director seminar
15	Anti-Gambling Sunday
23	Mission Rally
24	WMU annual meeting
	Pastor's conference
24-25	ABC annual meeting
26-27	TBA annual meeting

upcoming events

Winter Youth Celebration
Statewide OMC rallies
Bible Study Leadership Training
Annual Church Profiles due