

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

Entry Level

Disaster Relief Chaplain Training

featured leader Dr. Naomi Paget, DMin, BCC, BCETS, FBI Chaplain

Tuesday-Wednesday

March 18-19, 2014

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Alaska Baptist Convention office

register your intent by e-mailing betsy@alaskabaptistconvention.com

before
March 1 **\$35**

after
March 1 **\$50**

cost includes instruction, class materials and lunch

Suicide:

Prevention, Intervention & Postvention

featured leader, Dr. Naomi Paget, DMin, BCC, BCETS, FBI Chaplain

Thursday-Friday

March 20-21, 2014

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Alaska Baptist Convention office

register your intent by e-mailing

betsy@alaskabaptistconvention.com and receive additional instructions for registration.

\$50 BEFORE March 1

\$75 AFTER March 1

Cost includes instruction, class materials, training manual, certificate of completion, opportunity for discounted ICISF membership and lunch.





Your Cooperative Program giving helps support the **Alaska Baptist Family Services (ABFS)**. This is a fun example of how a local church decided to get involved with ABFS!

On Sunday, December 15, the “Penny War” at First Baptist Church, Anchorage officially ended. With final votes of 28,695 for the RAs and 24,430 for the GAs, RAs were declared the winners! Congratulations to both teams for a job well done and to the RAs for winning the Penny War.

A total of 53,125 votes were cast and \$531.25 collected to be used to purchase Christmas presents for children at ABFS.



God's Plan for Sharing in Alaska

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Alaska Lu-Mienh First Bapt Church	\$461.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$461.80
Anchor Baptist Church	\$2,990.49	\$0.00	\$110.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.49
Anch Hope Comm Bapt 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	\$13,390.36	\$1,446.10	\$2,359.02	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$18,695.48
Bodenburg Butte Baptist Church	\$6,346.70	\$0.00	\$427.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,773.70
Calvary Baptist Church	\$4,938.80	\$863.00	\$1,030.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,831.80
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	\$462.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$462.00
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	\$804.34	\$150.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,004.34
College Heights Baptist Church	\$43,151.14	\$3,174.80	\$6,692.58	\$0.00	\$66.98	\$53,085.50
Comm Bapt Church, Coffman Cove	\$6,270.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,270.20
Community Baptist Church, Nome	\$1,180.00	\$0.00	\$366.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,546.00
Community Christian Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$110.00	\$0.00	\$110.00
Cowboy Church of Anchorage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$17,413.00	\$10.00	\$3,500.80	\$480.00	\$0.00	\$21,403.80
CrossCountry Church	\$1,800.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$9,067.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,067.22
Eagle River Korean Bapt Church	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$3,906.41	\$200.00	\$360.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,466.41
Fairview Loop Baptist Church	\$23,706.50	\$0.00	\$3,025.43	\$4,655.35	\$0.00	\$31,387.28
Faith Baptist Church	\$5,386.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,386.72
False Pass Christian Fellowship	\$222.45	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$222.45
Filipino Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$270.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$520.00
Filipino Bible Church	\$3,500.00	\$427.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,927.00
First Baptist Church, Anchorage	\$51,734.39	\$4,207.50	\$5,674.75	\$6,159.00	\$0.00	\$67,775.64
First Baptist Church, Eagle River	\$31,256.35	\$2,776.50	\$4,253.95	\$4,889.00	\$1,564.50	\$44,740.30
First Baptist Church, Fairbanks	\$8,075.92	\$1,096.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,775.00	\$0.00	\$12,246.92
First Baptist Church, North Pole	\$26,965.28	\$650.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28,215.28
First Baptist Church, Delta Jet	\$48,490.00	\$4,070.00	\$4,180.00	\$625.00	\$0.00	\$57,365.00
First Baptist Church, Juneau	\$12,291.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$100.00	\$12,421.47
First Baptist Church, Kenai	\$5,127.28	\$701.00	\$660.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,488.28
First Baptist Church, Ketchikan	\$9,659.00	\$2,880.00	\$3,029.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,568.00
First Baptist Church, Kotzebue	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
First Baptist Church, Palmer	\$18,333.26	\$1,127.00	\$2,849.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,309.26
First Baptist Church, Petersburg	\$5,116.84	\$1,298.00	\$909.12	\$435.00	\$0.00	\$7,758.96
First Baptist Church, Sitka	\$7,250.57	\$620.00	\$1,263.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,133.57
First Baptist Church, Soldotna	\$11,730.00	\$1,204.00	\$1,363.09	\$231.00	\$0.00	\$14,528.09
First Baptist Church, Valdez	\$20,848.13	\$1,473.00	\$4,035.40	\$3,113.54	\$0.00	\$29,470.07
First Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$12,378.07	\$1,133.84	\$2,327.05	\$6,245.66	\$0.00	\$22,084.62
First Baptist Church, Willow	\$5,004.25	\$630.00	\$756.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,390.25
First Hmong Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Korean Baptist Church	\$1,200.00	\$310.00	\$487.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,997.00
First Native Baptist Church	\$4,228.00	\$205.00	\$1,065.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,498.00
Friendship Baptist Mission	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Frontier Southern Baptist Church	\$3,495.65	\$160.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,655.65
Gilead Ministries	\$1,631.25	\$0.00	\$105.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,736.25
Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$27,369.65	\$3,171.85	\$3,630.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$34,171.50
Grandview Baptist Church	\$42,193.27	\$3,150.00	\$1,862.00	\$3,206.00	\$186.36	\$50,597.63
Greater Friendship Bapt Church	\$9,287.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,287.50
Hillside Baptist Church	\$11,193.14	\$150.00	\$746.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,089.47
Hoonah Baptist Mission	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$120.00
Hydaburg Baptist Mission	\$72.00	\$45.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$117.00
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$1,083.25	\$1,395.00	\$1,440.00	\$26.00	\$0.00	\$3,944.25
Journey Church	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$120.00
Juneau Korean Church	\$360.00	\$0.00	\$310.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$670.00
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	\$739.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$739.63
Korean Baptist Mission	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$770.00
Korean New Central Bapt Church	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$1,105.00	\$0.00	\$2,705.00
Lighthouse Community Church	\$9,220.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,220.00
Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$500.00	\$636.25	\$250.00	\$100.00	\$240.00	\$1,726.25
Montana Creek Baptist Church	\$8,541.52	\$435.00	\$240.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,216.52
Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$8,484.38	\$1,102.84	\$398.40	\$1,130.73	\$0.00	\$11,116.35
Moose Pass Community Church	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Moriah Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Morning Star Baptist Church	\$3,578.18	\$0.00	\$2,160.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,738.18
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Mount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,200.00
Mtn View Community Church	\$275.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$275.00

January-December 2013 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$10,900.10	\$0.00	\$646.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,546.10
New Beginnings Baptist Church	\$1,417.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,417.57
New Birth Christian Church	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
New Grace Christian Church	\$3,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,250.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$9,954.24	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,954.24
New Hope Community Church	\$1,305.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,305.00
New Hope Fellowship	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$820.00
North Bear Street Baptist Church	\$49.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$49.18
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	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Rabbit Creek Community Church	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
River In The Desert Comm Church	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$110.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$310.00
Riverside Chapel	\$942.00	\$0.00	\$850.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$1,892.00
Salcha Baptist Church	\$8,210.59	\$0.00	\$1,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,610.59
Samoa Alaska Baptist Church	\$887.92	\$0.00	\$136.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,024.28
Sand Lake Fellowship	\$146.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$146.60
Sand Point Baptist Chapel	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Schrock Road Comm Church	\$5,912.24	\$1,194.50	\$1,147.80	\$868.00	\$0.00	\$9,122.54
Settler's Bay Community Church	\$6,363.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,363.63
Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$1,049.23	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,399.23
Shungnak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Slavic Bridge	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Solid Rock Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
St. John Baptist Church	\$10,738.63	\$282.00	\$519.00	\$229.00	\$0.00	\$11,768.63
Sunset Hills Baptist Church	\$27,593.39	\$3,590.00	\$9,588.50	\$2,641.50	\$0.00	\$43,413.39
Tenakee Community Church	\$452.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$452.26
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$4,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,200.00
Thorne Bay Baptist Church	\$563.66	\$0.00	\$87.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$650.66
Togiak Baptist Mission	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
True North Church	\$6,750.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,750.00
True North Downtown	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$125.00
UBC-Chinese Fellowship	\$930.14	\$100.00	\$370.00	\$190.00	\$0.00	\$1,590.14
University Baptist Church, Anch	\$10,957.78	\$1,775.00	\$1,943.00	\$1,715.00	\$0.00	\$16,390.78
University Baptist Church, Fbks	\$15,442.00	\$1,268.00	\$3,788.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$20,573.00
Valley View Baptist Church	\$4,250.00	\$0.00	\$558.00	\$1,344.00	\$0.00	\$6,152.00
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church	\$850.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,350.00
Whittier Christian Comm Church	\$950.00	\$0.00	\$115.00	\$100.00	\$125.00	\$1,290.00
Grand Totals:	\$698,492.52	\$52,478.18	\$89,313.58	\$43,978.78	\$2,282.84	\$886,545.90
Goals:	\$683,679.00	\$90,000.00	\$95,000.00	\$150,000.00		
Over/Under Goal:	\$14,813.52	\$(37,521.82)	\$(5,686.42)	\$(106,021.22)		

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

Alaska Baptist Convention Cooperative Program Support

	2013		2012	
December				
Receipts	\$73,208.64		\$68,955.55	
CP Goal	56,973.25		60,026.83	
Variance	16,235.39	28%	8,928.72	15%
Year-to-Date				
Receipts	\$698,492.52		\$705,566.94	
CP Goal	626,705.75		660,295.13	
Variance	71,786.77	11.45%	45,271.81	7%

Welcome!

Brad (Sharon) Burns
Cowboy Church of Anchorage

Please Pray for our Pastorless Churches

Big Lake Baptist Church, Wasilla
Chinese Fellowship, Fairbanks
Chugach Resort Ministries, Girdwood
First Baptist Church, Valdez
Greater Friendship Baptist Church, Anchorage
Lighthouse Community Church, Nikiski
Moose Pass Community Church
New Beginnings Baptist Church, Seward
New Hope Baptist Church, Anchorage
North Tongass Baptist Church
Shungnak Baptist Mission

Scholarships are available!

Information and application for the Fuhr and Parker scholarships are available online at the Alaska Baptist Foundation website, www.alaskabaptistfoundation.com (Services/ Foundation Scholarship Programs). The deadline for application is April 30, 2014. If you have questions, please contact Adam Long, adam@alaskabaptistfoundation.com.

Save the Dates!

Disaster Relief
Chaplain Training
March 18-19

Suicide Prevention Training
March 20-21

4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16

Good Counsel:

4 rules that reduce pastoral counseling risk

Many pastors consider counseling ministries an extension of their calling, providing much-needed support for members. But those ministries can introduce something else: **risk**.

“As much as pastors want to trust those they counsel, it’s Biblical that they are at risk as they answer their calling,” says Gaelen Cole, Property and Casualty program manager for GuideStone Agency Services. “1 Peter 5:8 speaks of this explicitly. Being alert and of sober mind are the best ways to prepare for the possibility that things may go awry in the counseling relationship.”

4 RULES TO REDUCE YOUR RISK

Rule #1: Make it official

“From risk management and liability perspectives, it’s very important that ministries consult with a qualified attorney and put their counseling procedures in writing,” says Cole. Any staff, including the pastor, who provides counseling should be trained on these procedures. It’s also important to obtain signed consent forms before sessions begin.

Rule #2: Understand your liability

“When it comes to counseling, probably the most important concept churches need to understand is **negligence**,” says Cole.

“When a pastor enters into a counseling relationship, he assumes a duty owed to the counselee. Failure to meet this implied duty can lead to accusations of negligence and claims of emotional injury. Counselees may be awarded damages for which the church can be liable. This concept applies in all states and presents a huge risk for counseling ministries. That’s why understanding your liability is so important.” Churches’ general liability policies exclude professional liability of this sort – so churches should make sure they have **dedicated liability coverage specifically designed**

for counseling ministries. Be sure to talk to your agent to make sure your specific situation is covered appropriately.

Rule #3: Know your state law

Each state has specific laws and statutes that apply to counseling activities, requirements, licensing and liability. “Each church must understand their state’s specific laws, or they could unknowingly be courting danger,” says Cole.

Child or elder abuse reporting requirements

Allegations of child or elder abuse can surface during counseling sessions. In most states, licensed and lay counselors are required to report this information to authorities or be vulnerable to lawsuits. From a liability perspective, pastor-member privilege may exempt the pastor from reporting information disclosed during “privileged” conversations. However, this privilege has specific limits that vary state to state. This is why it’s important to get the advice of a qualified attorney.

Confidentiality

Your church bears the burden of keeping good records – and keeping private information secure. Have documented policies in place dealing with all forms of data: electronic, hard copy, recording, video or even verbal. Remember: Should confidential information be disclosed – whether purposefully or inadvertently – the client may be able to sue both the pastor and/or the church. Applicable statutes vary by state.

Licensing and therapeutic practices

In most states, only licensed individuals may refer to themselves as “counselors.” Pastors who counsel are exempt from this restriction, but lay counselors are not. Non-licensed pastoral counselors should make it

“As much as
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to trust those
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their calling.”

Gaelen Cole

clear they are providing spiritual-based counseling, not engaging in other treatment practices such as psychotherapy or psychology, which fall under state licensing requirements.

Rule #4: Set boundaries

Counseling presents particular dangers for pastors: it's necessarily intimate, emotional and personal. Balancing an open, supportive approach with safeguards to protect both parties can be a challenge. Sensible boundaries are paramount.

- **KEEP AN "OPEN DOOR" POLICY.** Conduct counseling sessions during normal hours, visible to other staff in the building.
- **ENFORCE THE THIRD-PARTY RULE.** Avoid one-on-one "mixed gender" (male/female) counseling whenever possible. If you can't avoid it, make sure there's a third person in the room or that sessions only take place on church property within clear view of staff.

- **AVOID "TRANSFERENCE."** This is one of counseling's biggest dangers. Simply put, "transference" happens when the client "transfers" intense emotion felt for another figure (parent, spouse, etc.) to the counselor, creating a powerful sense of dependence and intimacy that can drive inappropriate conduct. Be sure you're educated about the dangers of transference and implement strategies to avoid it.
- **TAKE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS.** Those who seek counseling may be in difficult marriage situations, facing domestic violence, struggling with dark feelings or dealing with other issues that may bring danger to the church's doors. Make sure your church is protected should clients pose a danger to themselves or others.

"Your property and liability insurance agent should be knowledgeable on these topics," says Cole. Review your policy and risk management strategies with your insurance agent to be fully informed.

Reprinted from GuideStone Magazine, Issue 11, 2013

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR
NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS
AND THE ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING*

FIRMLY PLANTED

Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23

ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL

GOAL: \$70 MILLION

ANNIE ARMSTRONG
EASTER OFFERING
anniearmstrong.com

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD

Alaska goal: \$95,000

MILEPOST MOMENTS

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

Condolences

Our condolences to the family of June Chron, who passed away December 24, 2013. Virgil and June Chron came to Alaska in 1960 and began Muldoon Road Baptist Church in Anchorage. After their retirement in 1983, they continued as active members of MRBC. A memorial service was held on January 11. In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions to the youth ministry at MRBC. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at jshedlock@gci.net.

Condolences

Our condolences to Keith Bennett (Minister of Music, FBC Anchorage) in the loss of his mother on December 31, 2013. In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions to the music ministry at FBC Anchorage. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at kbennett@alaska.com.

Condolences

Our condolences to Betty Christmas in the loss of her husband Royce, on January 4. Royce was the former pastor of First Baptist Church-Ke-

nai, Emmanuel Baptist Church and Glacier Valley Baptist Church (both in Juneau). Expressions of sympathy may be sent to Betty at 213 Ashley Road, 441, Hamburg, Arkansas 71646.

Malamalama Fou Church,

Whittier

MFC (New Light Church) was recently featured in the local Samoa News. Su'e Su'e is pastor.

University Baptist Church,

Fairbanks

Women at UBC attended the "Women's Winter Wake-Up" featuring



REFRESH
We would see JESUS

Ministers & Spouses Retreat
April 24-26, 2014
Soldotna

guest speaker Dawn Jordan Smith, who will also perform in Sunday Worship on February 2. That day is also Souper Bowl Sunday, so members have been asked to bring a non-perishable protein donation for the Fairbanks Food Bank. The College/Career group will have their "Recharge Retreat" February 21-23 at Mt. Aurora Creek Lodge. They will lead worship on Sunday evening, February 23, after which the church family will enjoy a potluck.

fighting temptation

Americans have a number of ways for dealing with and fleeing temptations in their various forms. Only a small 3% say they turned to the Bible to carry them through temptations.

Source: Barna Group, 2012; OnMission magazine, Summer 2013

A Report from our Church Planters

Here is some news from our church planters December reports to encourage you to pray for them:

149 evangelistic encounters • 2 salvations • 1 baptism

Your Alaska church planters are:

Willie Austin, Billy Barnhill, Gary Bearce, Joe Blackburn, Bryant Blakley, Oleg Bondar, Joe Boney, Monte Chitty, Will Cole, Jay Dagenhart, Alan Dial, David Gamble, Clifton Gay, David George, Matt Hoke, Pete Kuhn, Priestley Lee, Dawson Lindblom, Bill Little, Larry Macknicki, Leon May, Kwang Oh, Mike Saffle, Su'e Su'e, Daryl Turley, Andy Vaughn, Brent Williams, Paul Worsham.

Our church planters are fulfilling the mission of Jesus Christ in Alaska!

Butch Strickland

Director of Church Planting and Missions



The Ways We Serve God

**Avalanche '14
Youth Evangelism Conference
March 21-22
Anchorage Baptist Temple**





Mike Procter
Executive Director

Snapple's Real Facts #813 identifies the “#” symbol as an “octothorpe.” I have always referred to it as the number sign; more recently, it is referred to as a “hash tag.” I have been told all three definitions are correct depending on how the symbol is being used. In the world of tweets, it is a hash tag; in the world of numbers, it is a number sign; and according to the dictionary, it is an octothorpe. One symbol, three different uses, three different definitions.

Isaiah 9:6 says, “For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. And the government will rest on his shoulders. These will be his royal titles: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace.” (New Living Translation) – one person and four different titles. This passage refers to Jesus Christ, and each title speaks to a different aspect of His identity. These are not the only titles for Jesus found in the Bible; He is also called the Word of God; the Lamb of God; the Bread of Life; the Good Shepherd; the Great Physician; the Door; the Alpha and Omega; the King of kings and Lord of lords, and many others. Each title and name indicates that Jesus Christ is able to meet every need we have, may have or ever will have.

Recently, an acquaintance was listening to a self-improvement tape produced by one of the many self-improvement counselors. The lecturer said things like, “you are what you think”, “think positive and positive will happen” and “you determine your own destiny.” After the tape was over, I asked where the lecturer received such insights and was told it was from years and years of meditation, study and self awareness. I mentioned everything the person talked about was in the Bible, and my acquaintance got very defensive and denied that anything like it could be in the Bible because the Bible is outdated and not relevant today. They asked me to show them, so I did: “**you are what you think**” is a rephrasing of Proverbs 23:7, “For as he thinks in his heart, so is he”; “**think positive and positive will happen**” comes from Philippians 4:8-9, “Fix your thoughts on what is true and honorable and right. Think about things that are pure, lovely and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Keep putting into practice all learned...and the God of peace will be with you”; “**you determine your own destiny**” is found in Proverbs 14:12 and Proverbs 16:25, which say “there is a way which seems right to a man...” As I addressed the other principles the self-help guru taught, I mentioned the one main teaching he did not present was a person's need for Jesus Christ and that Jesus Christ is truly “the Way, the Truth and the Life and that no one can come to the Father (get into heaven) but through Him” John 14:6. I wish I could tell you my friend became a believer in Jesus Christ but he did not. We parted company with the promise he would think about it, but he was still convinced that while some of the Bible might be true, not all of it is.

I may be considered old-fashioned but I believe all of the Bible is true and relevant today and as we study it, and apply the teachings to our lives, God will meet our every need for He is our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace.



Jimmy Stewart
Director of Evangelism and Church Development

Proverbs 16:3 says: “Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed.” (*NIV, 1984*) This is not a “name it and claim it” promise. Two words in this passage stand out to me – ‘commit’ and ‘plans.’ The intent is to submit to the Lord our ideas of activities to honor God. The second word is plans. In planning, the idea of intentionality is the emphasis. What are we doing to honor God? What plans do you have for your church this year in terms of ministry, evangelism and discipleship? Our current emphasis of *God's Plan for Sharing* (GPS) is “Season of Service.” Many of our churches are currently serving their communities. In Anchorage, the Luis Palau Family Festival (June 7-8) will have a major emphasis on a “Season of Service.” A committee has been formed to seek ways to serve the community in the area of need. There is an opportunity for your church to be involved. Call me for more information.

Why not try something new in your church this year? Bob Mayfield is the state Sunday School Director for Oklahoma and following is an excerpt from a letter I received:

“As you know, Oklahoma has been asking churches to officially commit to start new groups this past year (2013). We asked them to complete a commitment card that includes the number of groups they plan to start in 2013. We have been collecting commitment cards since last February and I have **discovered a ratio of new groups/church that has been consistent all year.**

In Oklahoma, we are **averaging three (3) new group starts per church.** For 2013, we are going to finish with 245 churches that officially partnered with us, and they committed to 711 new groups. That is an average of 2.9 new groups/church. I believe that this ratio is similar to our “Principle of 10” of increasing attendance by 10 for every new group the church starts.

We have commitments from our largest churches, and from our smallest churches. We have ethnic churches, urban churches, suburban churches, and cowboy churches that have made commitments. We have churches of all sizes and styles make commitments, and the average has consistently been three new groups per church all year.”

What plans will you commit to the Lord this year? I hope this prompts you to be proactive in reaching and ministering to the lost in your community. Call me if you have questions or want guidance. Bless you as you seek to advance God's kingdom in 2014.



Butch Strickland
*Director of Church Planting
 and Missions*

Preach, teach, reach, work, minister, love, share, work, evangelize, disciple, innovate, work, think, initiate, bless, fast, work, submit, pray, give, witness, help, and, lest I forget, work. Whew! We get tired just reading it, don't we? And this is not even the end of the list. How many more commands could *you* add? Is this what we think of when we talk about being a Christian?

I hope you do not expect me to say, "not really. Being a follower of Jesus does not require all of that. You don't have to do all those things. It will be okay if you skip most of them." No, it won't be okay. I know we are saved by grace. None of our good works will result in our salvation. But the Bible is very clear about what should follow. Doesn't Ephesians 2:10 follow Ephesians 2:8-9? It says, "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God afore prepared that we should walk in them."

Jesus also told a parable about a master who expected a lot from his servant. In Luke 17:7-9 we read, "But who is there of you, having a servant plowing or keeping sheep, that will say unto him, when he is come in from the field, Come straightway and sit down to meat; and will not rather say unto him, Make ready wherewith I may sup, and gird thyself, and serve me, till I have eaten and drunken; and afterward thou shalt eat and drink? Doth he thank the servant because he did the things that were commanded?" And then he adds something that we really struggle with, "So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do." Luke 17:10

As a follower of Jesus, there is no "above and beyond the call of duty." But let me encourage you: Jesus will never ask us to do more than He would do. And although He may be a hard taskmaster, there is not one thing He requires that He does not assist us in doing. Besides, the Bible tells us we have an eternity to rest. Hebrews 4:9, "There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God."

"Well done, good and faithful servant!"

Daily Prayer Guide

February

1	First Baptist Church	Anchorage
2	First Baptist Church	Delta Junction
3	First Baptist Church	Eagle River
4	First Baptist Church	Fairbanks
5	First Baptist Church	Juneau
6	First Baptist Church	Kenai
7	First Baptist Church	Ketchikan
8	First Baptist Church	Kotzebue
9	First Baptist Church	North Pole
10	First Baptist Church	Palmer
11	First Baptist Church	Petersburg
12	First Baptist Church	Soldotna
13	First Baptist Church	Sitka
14	First Baptist Church	Valdez
15	First Baptist Church	Wasilla
16	First Baptist Church	Willow
17	First Hmong Baptist Church	Anchorage
18	First Korean Baptist Church	Anchorage
19	First Native Baptist Church	Anchorage
20	Friendship Baptist Mission	Fairbanks
21	Frontier Baptist Church	Kodiak
22	Gilead Ministries	Anchorage
23	Glacier Valley Baptist Church	Juneau
24	Grandview Baptist Church	Anchorage
25	Greater Friendship Baptist Church	Anchorage
26	Hatcher Pass Baptist Association	Palmer
27	Hillside Baptist Church	Anchorage
28	Hoonah Baptist Mission	Hoonah



**Please remember
 Alaska Baptist Family Services!**

BUILDING A LIFE OF SERVICE

2000 Club

187
contributors
gave
\$7,771.56
in 4Q 2013

2014 1st Quarter Recipient
Montana Creek Baptist Church, Talkeetna

Project:
provide a highly visible church sign on the Parks Highway

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN — FEB • MAR —

February

- 1-28 "True Love Waits" Emphasis Month
- 2 Souper Bowl Sunday for Hunger Relief
- 7 Alaska Native Baptist Fellowship Bd Mtg
- 9 Racial Reconciliation Sunday
- 10-16 Focus on wMu
- 15 Children's Ministry Day

March

- 2-8 Youth Week
- 2-9 Week of Prayer and Mission Study and
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- 9 Daylight Savings Time Starts
- 16 Substance Abuse Prevention Sunday
Church Planting Emphasis Sunday
- 18-19 Disaster Relief Chaplain Training
- 20-21 Suicide: Prevention Training
- 21-22 Avalanche '14

Gathering
Growing
Giving



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with future generations*

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