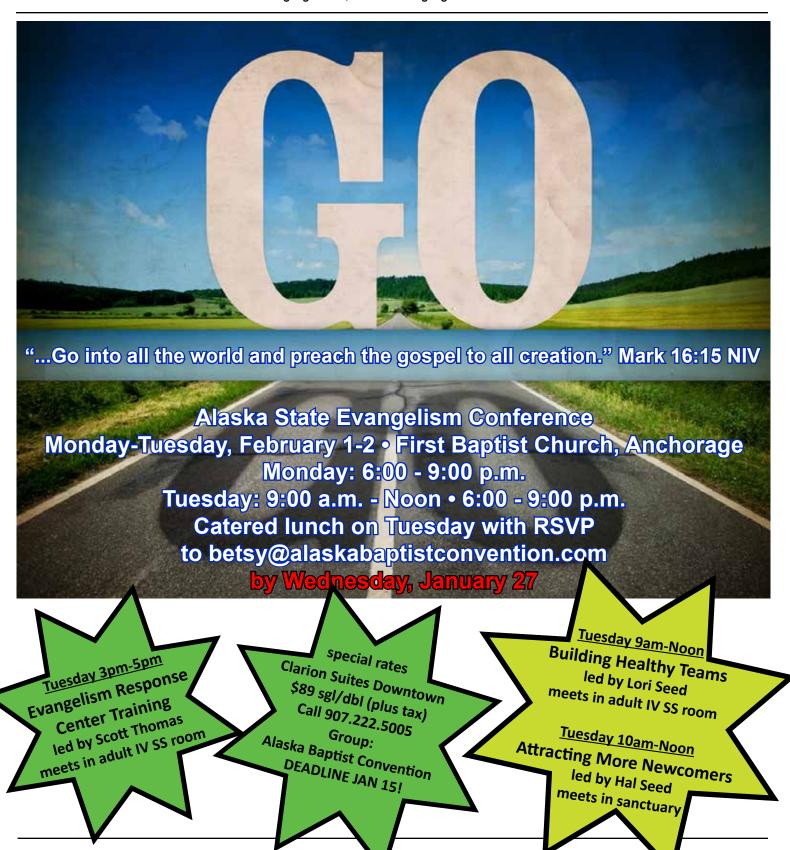




The Alaska Baptist Convention is congregations cooperating together to **SEEK** Christ, **SHARE** Christ, **STRENGTHEN** congregations, **START** congregations and **SEND** Christians.



Avalanche '16 youth evangelism conference March 18-19 Anchorage Baptist Temple Keys to Kingdom Success 1 Timothy 4:12

What is your LEVEL of giving?

- The TIP level: there are those who give a dollar or two to the Lord in the same way they tip their waitperson. It is just a little matter of appreciation.
- 2. The **ENTERTAINMENT** level: there are those who give only when they come to the church. They give just like they give to the theater or ballgame—they give when they go.
- 3. The **EMOTIONAL** level: there are those who give only when they are emotionally stirred. This may be once or twice a year, but only according to their feelings.
- The **PROMISE** level: there are those who pledge to give but have neglected the promise. They will say they have pledged, but they never pay.
- 5. The **BIBLE** level: there are those who give their tithes and offerings as the Bible teaches. These are the people who "prove the Lord" according to Malachi 3:10 and believe I Corinthians 16:2 is true and the blessing is theirs.

Now...which level is yours?

God's Plan for Sharing in Alaska

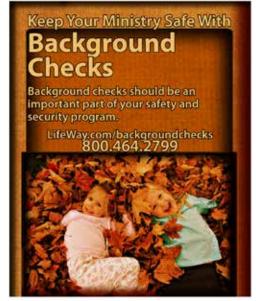
Organization	СР	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Alaska Iu-Mienh First Baptist Church	\$396.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$396.25
Anchor Baptist Church	\$2,898.53	\$0.00	\$623.00	\$590.00	\$0.00	\$4,111.53
Anderson Church Plant	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Aquillaq Baptist Mission Big Lake Baptist Church	\$0.00 \$7,037.94	\$0.00 \$1,055.00	\$0.00 \$1,442.00	\$0.00 \$100.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$9,634.94
Bodenburg Butte Baptist Church	\$7,037.94	\$1,033.00	\$490.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$6,105.07
Calvary Baptist Church	\$3,767.33	\$665.00	\$863.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,295.33
Catalyst Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Christ Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$170.00
Chugach Baptist Association	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
City on a Hill Church Clearwater Baptist Church	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$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	\$622.64	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$622.64
College Heights Baptist Church	\$47,905.80	\$3,176.00	\$0.00	\$7,834.81	\$0.00	\$58,916.61
Comm Baptist Church, Coffman Cove	\$4,280.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,280.30
Community Baptist Church, Nome Cowboy Church of Anchorage	\$804.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$804.00 \$0.00
Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$13,757.00	\$0.00	\$1,315.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$15,672.00
CrossCountry Church	\$1,650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$1,850.00
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$7,310.17	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,390.00	\$0.00	\$9,700.17
Eagle River Korean Baptist Church	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Emmanuel Baptist Church Fairview Loop Baptist Church	\$3,039.36 \$20,378.54	\$0.00 \$2,520.46	\$170.00 \$3,524.25	\$0.00 \$7,045.82	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$3,209.36 \$33,469.07
Faith Baptist Church	\$10,934.81	\$1,125.00	\$1,450.00	\$2,850.00	\$0.00	\$16,359.81
Faith Recovery Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
False Pass Christian Fellowship	\$240.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$240.25
Filipino Bible Church, Anchorage	\$2,625.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,625.00
First Baptist Church, Anchorage	\$33,202.97	\$2,685.00 \$1,710.00	\$6,625.46	\$7,250.00 \$4,713.00	\$0.00 \$405.00	\$49,763.43 \$41,322.68
First Baptist Church, Eagle River First Baptist Church, Fairbanks	\$30,044.68 \$5,562.20	\$835.31	\$4,450.00 \$1,399.00	\$4,713.00	\$0.00	\$9,851.51
First Baptist Church, North Pole	\$25,559.00	\$375.00	\$788.00	\$1,327.75	\$0.00	\$28,049.75
First Baptist Church, Delta Jct	\$54,707.00	\$0.00	\$3,799.00	\$4,264.00	\$0.00	\$62,770.00
First Baptist Church, Juneau	\$8,086.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$8,206.67
First Baptist Church, Kenai	\$6,238.85	\$566.22	\$1,165.08	\$1,976.32	\$0.00	\$9,946.47
First Baptist Church, Ketchikan First Baptist Church, Kotzebue	\$11,865.34 \$1,500.00	\$2,100.00 \$0.00	\$1,175.15 \$0.00	\$4,245.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$19,385.49 \$1,500.00
First Baptist Church, Palmer	\$16,666.60	\$1,777.48	\$1,929.00	\$136.00	\$0.00	\$20,509.08
First Baptist Church, Petersburg	\$6,271.04	\$0.00	\$1,545.00	\$2,786.00	\$0.00	\$10,602.04
First Baptist Church, Sitka	\$8,100.35	\$1,006.41	\$1,330.00	\$1,290.00	\$0.00	\$11,726.76
First Baptist Church, Soldotna	\$8,655.00	\$947.00	\$835.00	\$1,111.00	\$0.00	\$11,548.00
First Baptist Church, Valdez First Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$18,922.13 \$15,000.45	\$2,220.00 \$1,144.05	\$2,329.00 \$1,977.01	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$745.00 \$0.00	\$24,216.13 \$18,121.51
First Baptist Church, Willow	\$4,939.44	\$975.16	\$1,733.00	\$5,045.72	\$0.00	\$12,693.32
First Hmong Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Korean Baptist Church	\$1,650.00	\$300.00	\$333.00	\$539.00	\$0.00	\$2,822.00
First Native Baptist Church	\$1,718.00	\$0.00	\$1,038.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,756.84
Friendship Baptist Mission Frontier Southern Baptist Church	\$2,347.97 \$5,263.42	\$872.00 \$0.00	\$855.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$855.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$4,074.97 \$6,118.42
Gilead Ministries	\$215.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$215.00
Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$18,901.22	\$2,675.00	\$4,388.00	\$6,477.00	\$0.00	\$32,441.22
Grandview Baptist Church	\$31,263.77	\$3,627.00	\$2,051.00	\$1,240.00	\$75.00	\$38,256.77
Greater Friendship Baptist Church	\$5,226.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,226.94
Hatcher Pass Baptist Association Hillside Baptist Church	\$0.00 \$10,149.82	\$0.00 \$640.00	\$0.00 \$714.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$11,503.82
Iglesia Bautista Hispana Sunset Hills	\$782.20	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$832.20
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$1,134.96	\$1,323.15	\$1,494.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,952.11
In His Steps Community Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Journey Church	\$360.00	\$75.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$535.00
Juneau Korean Church	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$283.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00	\$583.00
Kasaan Fellowship Ketchikan Filipino Baptist Mission	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$400.00	\$250.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$650.00
Kiana Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Kobuk Baptist Mission	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Korean Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Korean New Central Baptist Church	\$1,100.00	\$0.00	\$490.00	\$560.00	\$0.00	\$2,150.00
Lighthouse Community Church Living Water Church	\$8,926.00 \$394.80	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$8,926.00 \$394.80
Malamalama Fou Church	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$900.00
Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$0.00	\$9,969.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$325.00	\$10,294.25
Montana Creek Baptist Church	\$10,751.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$775.00	\$0.00	\$11,526.78
Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$1,758.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$1,818.78
Moose Pass Community Church	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Moriah Fellowship Morning Star Baptist Church	\$0.00 \$7,624.00	\$0.00 \$715.00	\$0.00 \$300.00	\$0.00 \$1,115.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$9,754.00
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	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,200.00

January-November 2015 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Mountain View Community Church	\$525.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$525.00
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Beginnings Baptist Church	\$1,477.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,477.75
New Birth Christian Church	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$850.00
New Grace Christian Church	\$2,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,250.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$10,373.00	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$511.00	\$0.00	\$11,684.00
New Hope Fellowship	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$85.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$835.00
North Bear Street Baptist Church	\$700.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.57
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	\$1,818.28	\$0.00	\$104.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$2,122.28
Rabbit Creek Community Church	\$3,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,250.00
River In The Desert Comm Church	\$4,936.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,936.00
Riverside Chapel	\$1,459.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,459.20
Roots Family Church, Kasilof	\$270.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$270.00
Roots Family Church, Soldotna	\$580.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$780.00
Sabbath Peace Fellowship	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Salcha Baptist Church	\$12,079.59	\$0.00	\$115.00	\$5,020.00	\$0.00	\$17,214.59
Samoa Alaska Baptist Church	\$263.70	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$263.70
Sand Lake Fellowship	\$200.00	\$42.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$242.00
Sand Point Baptist Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Schrock Road Community Church	\$4,279.00	\$1,159.50	\$773.00	\$773.00	\$0.00	\$6,984.50
Settler's Bay Community Church	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,200.00	\$0.00	\$2,800.00
Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$2,392.66	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$3,642.66
Shungnak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Slavic Bridge	\$305.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$305.00
Solid Rock Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
St. John Baptist Church	\$7,471.49	\$480.00	\$343.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$8,419.49
Sunset Hills Baptist Church	\$20,441.51	\$3,784.97	\$3,215.00	\$100.50	\$0.00	\$27,541.98
Tanana Valley Baptist Association	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tenakee Community Church	\$342.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$342.75
The Church @ Commodore Park	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$225.00
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$4,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,400.00
Thorne Bay Baptist Church	\$402.09	\$10.00	\$60.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$492.09
Togiak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tongass Baptist Association	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
True North Church	\$11,259.00	\$0.00	\$4,120.00	\$9.412.00	\$0.00	\$24,791.00
True North Church Girdwood	\$2,356.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,356.87
UBC-Chinese Fellowship	\$1,198.50	\$100.00	\$170.00	\$485.00	\$0.00	\$1,953.50
University Baptist Church, Anch	\$4,841.38	\$541.00	\$1,477.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$7,009.38
University Baptist Church, Fbks	\$12,102.00	\$1,560.00	\$3,474.00	\$3,111.86	\$0.00	\$20,247.86
Upper TV Reg Church Planting Ctr	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Valley View Baptist Church	\$5,750.00	\$0.00	\$280.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,030.00
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church	\$1,100.00	\$0.00	\$280.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,100.00
Whittier Christian Community Church	\$1,100.00	\$445.00	\$0.00	\$325.00	\$100.00	\$1,971.00
Total Giving JanNov. 2015	\$623,654.71	\$54,901.96	\$70,264.79	\$95,159.78	\$1,650.00	\$845,631.24

Please Pray for our Pastorless Churches

Aquillaq Baptist Mission, Ambler
Bodenburg Butte Baptist Church, Palmer
Chinese Fellowship, Fairbanks
Community Baptist Church, Nome
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Juneau
False Pass Christian Fellowship
First Baptist Church, Anchorage
First Baptist Church, Soldotna
Friendship Baptist Mission, Fairbanks
New Hope Baptist Church, Anchorage
Riverside Chapel, King Salmon
Shungnak Baptist Mission



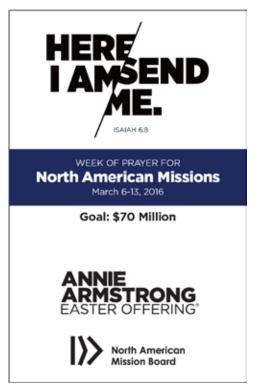
Legend: CP: SMO:

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

Alaska Baptist Convention Cooperative Program Support

	2015		2014	
November Receipts CP Goal Variance	\$51,679.56 59,484.00 (7,804.44)	-13.12%	\$54,542.18 58,569.66 (4,027.48)	-6.88%
Year-to-Date Receipts CP Goal Variance	\$623,654.71 594,840.00 28,814.71	4.84%	\$658,261.23 644,266.26 13,994.97	2.17%



Aftertion Disaster Relief Chaplains and

Critical Incident Stress Management-Trained FIFE RESPONDE

CISM Advanced Group Crisis Intervention

Wednesday-Thursday, March 9-10, 2016 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (lunch included) Alaska Baptist Convention office 1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage • 907.344.9627

(CISM: Group Crisis Intervention is a prerequisite for this course)

Cost: \$75 by February 23; \$100 after February 23

CISM Grief Following Trauma

Friday-Saturday, March 11-12, 2016 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (lunch included) Alaska Baptist Convention office 1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage • 907.344.9627

(No prerequisites required)

Cost: \$75 by February 23; \$100 after February 23

Registration and payment need to be sent directly to:

Dr. Naomi Paget, 7619 FM 1371 RD, Bellville, TX 77418.

All inquiries should be directed to Teresa Cappel, tteach@gmail.com

Glued to their phones

Millennials have long been touted as the most plugged in generation of all time. Even folks in their 30s and 40s are staying more and more connected. Twenty-five percent of smartphone users ages 18-44 say they can't remember the last time their smartphone wasn't next to them. Almost 8 in 10 (79 percent) keep their phone on or near them for all but up to two hours of their waking day. The most popular activities for smartphone users are reading or sending email, browsing the Web and checking Facebook.

Almost 8 in 10
(79 percent) keep their
phones on or near them for
all but up to two hours of
their waking day.

Can you recall the last time your phone was NOT within ear shot?



Source: FastCompany and Marketingprofs.com; Facts & Trends magazine, Spring 2014 issue

Tuesday, February 2, 6:00 p.m.
First Baptist Church, Anchorage
This meeting will be held to vote on
the ABC Executive Director-Treasurer candidate
Dr. Randy Covington

In order to vote, you must be an elected messenger of your church.

Each church received an e-mail invitation to register messengers.

Registration is only open December 15 - January 28 and must be done online*.

Call Sylvia with questions, 907.344.9627, 800.883.9627

*no registrations will be received after January 28, 2016

SPECIAL CALLED BUSINESS MEETING





MILEPOST MOMENTS

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

St. John Baptist Church, Fairbanks

The church celebrated Pastor Lawrence Ellison's 7th anniversary on December 6. The celebration was filled with music, praise dancing, tributes and words of encouragement followed by a message from Rev. Cleveland Bartley, pastor of True Victory Baptist Church in North Pole.

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

UBC will host the Women's Winter Wake-Up retreat on January 29-30.

The Church @ Commodore Park, Anchorage

The RAs and GAs of Sunset Hills Baptist Church were special musical guests at a service on November 29.



New Beginnings Baptist Church, Seward

NBBC held a pie feed at a local apartment complex on November 22. Twenty pies and coffee were served to residents. Members also had a carol sing and handed out Christmas cookies on December 20.



Emmanuel Baptist Church, Juneau

The main auditorium of EBC was destroyed in an apparent act of arson on December 2. The connecting fellowship hall and classroom area suffered smoke and water damage. Please be in prayer for this congregation as they look to rebuild their church.





<u>January 1, 1918</u>: An Alaskan law that forbid employees from working more than 8 hours a day went into effect. This law, which has been called "the most radical piece of hours regulation in the history of the United States," was struck down as unconstitutional by Judge Charles Bunnell on February 27th.

January 2, 1917: Fire wiped out much of the business district of Valdez

<u>January 3, 1959</u>: Alaska was admitted as the 49th U.S. state with a land mass almost one-fifth the size of the lower 48 states together.

<u>January 5, 1985</u>: The federal government transferred the ownership of the Alaska Railroad to the State of Alaska.

<u>January 17, 1773</u>: The ship Resolution, sailing under Captain James Cook, became the first vessel to cross the Antarctic Circle

<u>January 20, 1945</u>: Franklin Delano Roosevelt was inaugurated to an unprecedented fourth term as president of the United States. He had served since 1933.

<u>January 24, 1963</u>: The M/V Malaspina, the first of the Alaska Marine Highway system's ferries, arrived in Juneau on its maiden voyage.

<u>January 25, 1959</u>: An American Airlines Boeing 707 made the first scheduled transcontinental U.S. flight, traveling from California to New York.

alaskahistoricalsociety.org; www.historyplace.com

Women on Mission Celebration April 7-9, 2016 • First Baptist Church, Anchorage

Pressing Forward The Time IS NOW

Thursday • 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. • Friday • 9:00 a.m. - Noon & 6:00 - 9:15 p.m. (lunch on Friday is included with RSVP)

Saturday • 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Conference hotel is Clarion Suites Downtown • deadline to reserve is March 22 call 907.222.5005 • Group: ABC Women on Mission

Women's Winter Wake-Up "All For Jesus"

(Mark 8:34)

Friday, January 29 (7-9 pm)

Saturday, January 30 (10 am-noon)

followed by a potluck salad luncheon

University Baptist Church

Fairbanks

Register at

www.tananavalleybaptistassociation.com

Cost is \$20

featured speaker
Shelly Sulfridge
Bible study leader
Angela Jones

2016 Alaska Summer Internships

Seeking college interns for the 2016 summer camping season

- serve for ten weeks (May 30-August 7, 2016) at a beautiful camp facility.
- be an integral part of youth and kid's camps.
- work with mission teams and leadership teams from all over the United States.
- help with the behind-the-scenes camp work, including kitchen/dish room, grounds work and facilities cleaning.
- in-state transportation, room and board provided
- sightseeing opportunities.
- be a part of a camp family who loves God and others!
- \$1000 stipend at the completion of ten weeks.

Souls Saved....Lives Changed!

contact the camp for more information: Laverne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp P.O. Box 299069, Wasilla, AK 99629 907.376.6887

lgyrc@mtaonline.net www.lgyrc.org



Mike Procter Executive Director

"Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17)

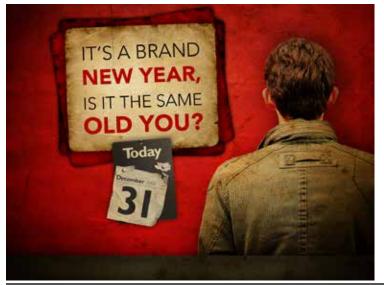
As we prepare for January 1, 2016, many look forward to a new year and a promise of "newness." We make resolutions to begin exercise programs, lose a few extra pounds or stop (or start) something because we have new beginning. We want to forget the old and concentrate on the exciting, promising new thing.

God desires us to know newness; He longs for us to have a new life, or one more abundant. Because of the fear of failure, many of us allow our pasts (or "old things") to discourage us so we no longer try anything new. We look back at the old, instead of ahead to the new.

Think of the new things God says He will provide those who know Him in a personal way through Jesus Christ — we have a new heart, new song, new heaven, new earth, new covenant, new Jerusalem, new commandment, new relationships and a new name.

As you think of the new year, what new things are you willing to try for the Lord? Is it to witness to a neighbor or co-worker? Is it to attend a Sunday school class, Bible study, home group or something similar? Is it a commitment to tithe? Is it a plan to read through the Bible in 2016? Is it to begin a daily devotional or quiet time? Is it a practice to worship weekly?

As 2016 begins, I hope you plan to focus on the new thing(s) God has in store for you and that 2016 will spiritually, be the best year in your life.





Jimmy Stewart Director of Evangelism and Church Development

The State Evangelism Conference (SEC) will be held February 1-2 at First Baptist Church, Anchorage and I hope you will be able to attend. Hal and Lori Seed (New Song Church, Oceanside, CA) and Scott Thomas (First Baptist Lake, MS) will be our featured speakers; our musical guests will be the group High Road (Nashville, TN). See the Alaska Baptist Convention website for details about the event. You will not want to miss the election of our new Executive Director and an opportunity to say thanks to Mike Procter, our outgoing Executive Director. There will be special times dedicated to both events during the SEC.

Hal Seed is the founder of a ministry that mentors pastors. He takes leaders through a process of development and planning for the church. His church baptized 2000 people in 2015 and they utilize the worship service as one of their main evangelism tools. Hal will introduce pastors and leaders to sessions on mentoring and will give leaders an opportunity to take part in additional training after the SEC. Lori Seed will lead training for enlisting, developing and investing in lay leadership. Encourage your staff and lay leaders to take part in this training. The Evangelism Response Center is a tool the North American Mission Board has been using to win people to Christ. Each year, thousands hear the gospel by speaking with telephone encouragers who have been trained to witness. Scott Thomas is an evangelism intern at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary with the responsibility of training leaders using this tool.

Personal Witnessing Training is an emphasis in SBC conventions through 2017. Each state convention has been tasked with training pastors and lay leaders in personal soul winning. When was the last time you conducted personal soul winning training for your congregation? I invite you to train during March-April 2016. David Burton, State Evangelism Director for the Florida Baptist Convention, will accompany me in events throughout Alaska. It will be a great opportunity to train leaders to share their faith using the latest evangelism tools. Let's raise the banner of evangelism in our state. Watch for additional details.

Avalanche youth evangelism conference will be March 18-19 at Anchorage Baptist Temple. Our worship leaders will be the band from California Baptist University and youth leaders will bring messages and conduct breakouts. Again this year, youth will compete in speaker, creative arts and music competitions and other activities. Youth groups will vie to win money for the youth ministry program in their church. The top prize is \$1000 and First Baptist Church-Salcha was last year's winner. Anyone can win but you have to compete! Watch your e-mail inbox and the ABC website for additional information about these, and all, ABC events.

10 Ways You Can Start Something NEW

The single greatest resource for church planting other than God himself is the existing church. The following are practical ideas that can help you and your church ignite the next generation of churches and start something new.

Strategic Intercessory Prayer

Intercessory prayer is the greatest gift you can give a new church. Communication such as email can assist prayer warriors to pray with insight. Lead a prayer walk in communities where new churches are being planted. Invite a planter, his family and his church planting team to a prayer meeting dedicated to their work.

Servant Evangelism

Help a new church share the love of Christ in practical ways. Collect soft drinks, light bulbs, or chewing gum before an outreach event. Send a team from your church to help share Christ through "random acts of kindness." Teach people a creative way to touch their own communities in the process.

Encourage a Planter

Friendship and encouragement are critical needs of a church planter. Invite him to lunch. Give him opportunities to preach at your church. Send him to a conference. Provide childcare for his children so he and his wife can go on a date. He needs people who will take interest in the work.

Financial Resources

Starting a new church requires multiple partners and funding streams. Churches and individuals can support new churches with monthly or one-time gifts. Business leaders can provide job opportunities for church planters, their families, and team members. Church planting provides an avenue of investment in evangelism, missions and Kingdom growth.

Materials and Equipment

Help a church planting team save time and money. Preowned, high quality equipment is a tremendous asset to a new church. Sound systems, computers, and office equipment are critical needs of a new church.

Facilities

You can start a new church at your current church facility. Your business could offer space for meetings or offices. A new church needs homes to conduct small group Bible studies. Multiple locations are often needed for fellowship, worship, training, and administration.

Mission Trip by Mail

Take a mission trip without leaving home. A new church sands of homes inexpensively.

Phone Survey

Would people from your congregation make brief phone calls to search for prospects or announce the grand opening of a new church? Teams can meet at locations with multiple phone lines to encourage one another as they call. In other cases, people can make calls from home even to help a new church across the country.

Door to Door Survey

Send teams to communities where new churches are being planted. Going door-to-door with door hangers or flyers can produce positive results. Brief surveys provide opportunities of witnessing and relationship building. Information gathered through a survey can also assist a planting team in understanding their community.

People

People in your congregation can become a part of a visionary core group of a new church. With proper training others can begin house churches in neighborhoods, clubs, or multi-housing communities. Short-term volunteers can provide child care, music, or special skills needed by a new church. Volunteers are an invaluable asset to a new church.



Foundation Builder

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How important is incorporation?

Haptist Foundation

Wills *

submitted by Adam Long, Foundation Coordination Director

To witness the Lord at work is a precious and beautiful thing as people come to a saving understanding of the life found in Jesus Christ. While the eternal life of the believer is always secure in the power of God's hand, the nuances of existence on earth can offer unique challenges.

A prophetic statement from 22 years ago has proven to be true; in 2010, an average of 1000 churches a month were sued. "Our society is drowning in litigation that....will directly impact religious institutions and will involve churches." (*Church Law & Tax Report*, November/December 1993, page 23)

With our emphasis on church planting, congregations are using less traditional meeting places such as individual homes, coffee shops or hotel lobbies, making the practice of forming a corporation of ever-increasing importance. Incorporation occurs when a legal entity is created under state law. Each state has its own laws about how to form and operate corporations. Incorporating serves two primary functions; tax reasons and to limit the legal liability of the people involved in the business. A church does not have to be a corporation to be tax exempt, but if it wants to limit the legal liability of its members, in many states, it needs to be a corporation. An unincorporated church in Texas had an individual who filed a class action suit against each member. The court that heard the case stated, "An unincorporated association is a voluntary group of persons, without a charter, formed by mutual consent for the purposes of promoting a common enterprise." The court also stated, "Members of an unincorporated association are individually liable for tortious acts of agents or employees of the association if the tort is committed within the scope of their authority." *Hutchins v. Grace Tabernacle United Pentecostal Church*.

The need to create "indemnification" (legal separation of liability between churches leadership and the activities of the church) is absolutely essential. In the aforementioned Texas case, the court made it clear that the members of an unincorporated church could be sued personally for the wrongful acts of agents or employees if such acts are committed within the scope of their authority.

We do not want to hinder the Lord's work in expanding His church but neither do we want to give Satan opportunity to hinder the work by failing to take necessary legal steps to ensure a new church plant, or their church sponsor, is incorporated. Churches should seek the assistance of an attorney to help them incorporate and work with the church to draft the necessary legal documents. While specific criteria can vary between states, the documentation at a minimum should include: the legal name of the church, its address, purpose and a list of its first directors. Once incorporated, it is also very important the church maintains the proper documents with the state to ensure they are in good standing so the corporate status of the church is not revoked thereby opening up its members to potential personal liability.

This material is informational only. It is not intended as an exhaustive analysis of the issue and not to be construed as a formal recommendation. The purpose is to provide insight and foster discussion. Each church situation must be examined individually. Information taken from:

 $\label{lem:https://www.startchurch.com/blog/view/name/all-members-of-one-church-get-sued-at-the-same-time$

The NFORMER Fall 1995 Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention

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, 2016. If you have questions, please contact Adam Long, adam@alaskabaptistfoundation.com, 907.770.0581, 800.883.9627.

IFSA

Flexible Spending Account

How it works:

You set aside a portion of your paycheck in an account with your employer from which you can pay directly or be reimbursed for certain eligible, out-of-pocket medical, vision and dental expenses. For most plans, any unused dollars remaining at the end of the plan year revert back to your employer and are non-reimbursable.

Why use it:

With pretax dollars set aside to pay for eligible expenses, you immediately lower your taxable income.

Maximize your FSA:

- 1. Because this is a use-it-or-lose-it account, you'll want to carefully calculate how much of your paycheck you divert to your FSA. Start by looking back at what you spent last year. Add up co-pays, deductibles and any other out-of-pocket expenses that you paid. Now look ahead to the next year to see if there will be any one-time expenses, such as an eyeglass purchase or maternity expenses.
- 2. Use all the money in your account by the end of your plan year with eligible expenses. Submit all reimbursement requests by the deadline to get your money back. Check with your employer regarding deadlines to incur expenses and submit receipts
- If your plan offers a debit card, use it to pay for qualified expenses. You'll save time by not having to fill out reimbursement paperwork. Remember, you are required to save your receipts for these expenditures; sometimes the plan administrator or the IRS needs them for verification.

HISA

Health Savings Account

How it works:

An HSA is designed specifically for individuals participating in a federally-qualified High Deductible Health Plan. Contributions are kept in an interest-bearing investment account that you own and manage. You then use the funds to reimburse yourself for eligible medical expenses.

Why use it:

Both your contributions and your employer's contributions to an HSA, and any earnings on the account, are tax-free. Withdrawals are also tax-free when used for qualified medical reimbursement. Withdrawals can be requested as the expenses are incurred or at a later date. The money in an HSA rolls over from year to year and belongs to you, meaning it is yours to take if you leave your employer.

Maximize your HSA:

- If possible, make the maximum contributions to your HSA account. For 2015, the limits are \$3,350 for individuals and \$6,650 for families. When determining how much to contribute to your accounts, remember that any contributions made by your employer will count toward your annual limit.
- 2. If you are age 55 or older, plan to make catch-up contributions of \$1,000, raising your limit to \$4,350 for individuals and \$7,650 for families. This can help you be prepared for the additional medical expenses that most people are faced with during retirement.
- If you change employers, be sure to contact your HSA account administrator

HIRA

Health Reimbursement Arrangement

How it works:

An HRA is generally offered to employees who have a higher-deductible, lower-cost health plan. However, they can be offered with any plan. With this arrangement, your employer agrees to reimburse you for qualified claims after you reach a certain out-of-pocket limit, which is determined by the employer.

Why use it:

The HRA complements higher deductibles by protecting you against the greater out-of-pocket expenses associated with this type of coverage.

Maximize your FSA:

- You'll need to know how much you have to pay out-of-pocket and toward which expenses before your employer will offer reimbursements.
- Submit claim paperwork for eligible expenses and include all the proper documents on time to receive your reimbursements.
- If you pain to change jobs, be sure to request all of your eligible reimbursements before you leave. Because the funds in your HRA belong to your employer, they are not portable to your next job.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN — JAN • FEB • MAR —

January 2016

Dec 23-3 ABC and ABF offices closed for Christmas and New Year's

TVBA Women's Winter Wake-Up

February 2016

1-2 State Evangelism Conference

8-14 Focus on wMu

March 2016

6-12 Week of Prayer and Mission Study for North American Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

9-10 Chaplain Training
11-12 Ministry to the Grieving

18-19 Avalanche '16

youth evangelism conference

27 Easter

Because of
your congregation's
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through the
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