



Annual Meeting of the Alaska Baptist Convention

Monday, September 25

7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Impact Alaska!
“Possess the Kingdom” (Luke 12:32b)
9:00 p.m. Finger food fellowship

Tuesday, September 26

9:00 a.m. – Noon WMU Annual Meeting
and Pastor’s Conference
Noon Lunch (provided)

Tuesday, September 26

Annual meeting of the Alaska Baptist Convention
“Longing to See, Longing to Hear” (Luke 10:23-24)
2:00 – 4:30 p.m. Business session
5:00 p.m. Supper (provided)
6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Voting and worship

Wednesday, September 27

8:00 a.m. Continental breakfast
9:00 – 10:40 a.m. Annual sermon and worship

Messengers: Each church received an email in early June stating the number of messengers to which each church is entitled, and the method of registering those messengers. Contact Sylvia if you have questions, sylvia@alaskabaptistconvention.com

Stay current with conferences, activities and events sponsored by the Alaska Baptist Convention. Visit www.alaskabaptistconvention.com or call the office for additional information, 907.344.9627, 800.883.9627



January - May 2017 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Agape Fellowship	\$1,851.43	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,851.43
Alaska Iu-Mienh First Baptist Church	\$94.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$94.00
Anchor Baptist Church	\$1,069.34	\$0.00	\$613.48	\$431.67	\$0.00	\$2,114.49
Anderson Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Aquilla Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Big Lake Baptist Church	\$3,185.79	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,124.00	\$0.00	\$7,309.79
Bodenburg Butte Baptist Church	\$1,533.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,533.42
Calvary Baptist Church	\$2,390.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$934.00	\$0.00	\$3,324.50
Catalyst Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Christ Community Church	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$210.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$710.00
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	\$58.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$58.95
College Heights Baptist Church	\$23,245.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,827.00	\$0.00	\$33,072.33
Community Bapt Church, Coffman Cove	\$2,864.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,864.25
Community Baptist Church, Nome	\$341.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$341.50
Cross Roads Baptist Church	\$5,341.00	\$0.00	\$1,687.81	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$7,278.81
CrossCountry Church	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Dillingham Bible Fellowship	\$3,349.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$4,149.78
Eagle River Korean Baptist Church	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Emmanuel Baptist Church	\$1,033.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,033.44
Fairview Loop Baptist Church	\$11,304.27	\$113.93	\$50.00	\$5,052.19	\$0.00	\$16,520.39
Faith Baptist Church	\$1,234.61	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$1,274.61
Faith Recovery Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
False Pass Christian Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Filipino Bible Church, Anchorage	\$875.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$875.00
First Baptist Church, Anchorage	\$8,816.57	\$0.00	\$2,540.00	\$574.00	\$0.00	\$11,930.57
First Baptist Church, Eagle River	\$11,322.53	\$400.00	\$2,662.00	\$2,578.00	\$140.00	\$17,102.53
First Baptist Church, Fairbanks	\$3,619.71	\$0.00	\$1,515.50	\$2,090.00	\$0.00	\$7,225.21
First Baptist Church, North Pole	\$12,325.00	\$0.00	\$1,410.00	\$3,611.00	\$0.00	\$17,346.00
First Baptist Church, Delta Junction	\$23,917.56	\$25.00	\$11,161.07	\$15,352.82	\$0.00	\$50,456.45
First Baptist Church, Juneau	\$4,151.68	\$95.00	\$1,641.00	\$190.00	\$0.00	\$6,077.68
First Baptist Church, Kenai	\$3,371.10	\$50.00	\$781.85	\$1,205.85	\$0.00	\$5,408.80
First Baptist Church, Ketchikan	\$5,889.97	\$0.00	\$2,766.00	\$2,636.00	\$0.00	\$11,291.97
First Baptist Church, Kotzebue	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
First Baptist Church, Palmer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,534.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,534.96
First Baptist Church, Petersburg	\$2,479.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,479.08
First Baptist Church, Sitka	\$4,490.54	\$0.00	\$900.00	\$1,216.00	\$0.00	\$6,606.54
First Baptist Church, Soldotna	\$3,145.00	\$770.00	\$732.50	\$930.00	\$0.00	\$5,577.50
First Baptist Church, Valdez	\$7,583.20	\$0.00	\$2,740.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,323.20
First Baptist Church, Wasilla	\$4,845.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,037.50	\$0.00	\$9,882.75
First Baptist Church, Willow	\$1,873.61	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,294.00	\$0.00	\$6,167.61
First Hmong Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Korean Baptist Church	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$468.00	\$0.00	\$1,218.00
First Native Baptist Church	\$893.00	\$39.60	\$0.00	\$1,005.01	\$0.00	\$1,937.61
Friendship Baptist Mission	\$1,057.49	\$0.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,110.00	\$0.00	\$3,217.49
Frontier Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Frontier Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Frontier Southern Baptist Church	\$743.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$743.00
Gilead Ministries	\$874.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$874.00
Glacier Valley Baptist Church	\$8,063.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,606.00	\$0.00	\$11,669.78
Grandview Baptist Church	\$14,791.56	\$0.00	\$1,941.00	\$3,105.00	\$0.00	\$19,837.56
Greater Friendship Baptist Church	\$5,046.83	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,046.83
Hillside Baptist Church	\$5,451.23	\$0.00	\$520.00	\$850.00	\$0.00	\$6,821.23
Iglesia Bautista Hispana Sunset Hills	\$289.41	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$289.41
Immanuel Baptist Church	\$550.81	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,421.09	\$0.00	\$3,471.90
In His Steps Community Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Journey Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Juneau Korean Church	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$505.00	\$405.00	\$0.00	\$1,060.00
Kasaan Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ketchikan Filipino Baptist Mission	\$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	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Korean Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Korean New Central Baptist Church	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$320.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$820.00
Lighthouse Community Church	\$3,330.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,330.00
Living Water Church	\$277.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$277.46
Malamalama Fou Church	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Misc. Contributors-Cash	\$0.00	\$8,487.37	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,637.37
Montana Creek Baptist Church	\$7,339.24	\$0.00	\$426.00	\$327.00	\$0.00	\$8,092.24
Moose Creek Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Moose Pass Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Morning Star Baptist Church	\$2,014.23	\$0.00	\$872.00	\$1,307.00	\$0.00	\$4,193.23
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mount Redoubt Baptist Church	\$1,200.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,200.00
Mountain View Community Church	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00

January - May 2017 Gifts from ABC Churches

Organization	CP	SMO	AA	LM	WH	Total
Muldoon Road Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Beginnings Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Birth Christian Church	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
New Grace Christian Church	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
New Hope Baptist Church	\$5,202.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$6,202.00
New Hope Fellowship	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$70.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$295.00
North Bear Street 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
Northern Lights Missions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
OnMission Church	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Pioneer Baptist Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rabbit Creek Church	\$779.50	\$267.95	\$0.00	\$535.92	\$0.00	\$1,583.37
River In The Desert Community Church	\$936.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$936.00
Riverside Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Roots Family Church, Kasilof	\$475.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$475.00
Roots Family Church, Soldotna	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Sabbath Peace Fellowship	\$720.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$720.00
Salcha Baptist Church	\$3,264.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,620.00	\$0.00	\$7,884.67
Sand Lake Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sand Point Baptist Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Schrock Road Community Church	\$514.00	\$222.00	\$148.00	\$148.00	\$0.00	\$1,032.00
Settler's Bay Community Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Shannon Park Baptist Church	\$1,070.60	\$0.00	\$937.60	\$870.00	\$0.00	\$2,878.20
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	\$2,771.43	\$0.00	\$420.00	\$70.00	\$0.00	\$3,261.43
Sunset Hills Baptist Church	\$8,288.15	\$0.00	\$3,273.25	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$11,611.40
Tenakee Community Church	\$319.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$319.25
The Church @ Commodore Park	\$5.00	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15.00
The Crossing @ Birchwood	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
The Way	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Thorne Bay Baptist Church	\$156.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$156.33
Togiak Baptist Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
True North Church	\$4,657.36	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$11,500.00	\$0.00	\$18,157.36
True North Church Girdwood	\$1,158.17	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$3,158.17
UBC-Chinese Fellowship	\$486.50	\$0.00	\$230.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$716.50
University Baptist Church, Anchorage	\$1,669.88	\$0.00	\$1,611.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,280.88
University Baptist Church, Fairbanks	\$5,062.00	\$0.00	\$4,175.00	\$3,928.80	\$0.00	\$13,165.80
Valley View Baptist Church	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$570.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,970.00
Wasilla Korean Baptist Church	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Whittier Christian Community Church	\$356.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$456.92
	\$258,693.21	\$11,470.85	\$56,895.02	\$100,090.85	\$180.00	\$427,329.93
	<u>4Q 2016</u>	<u>1Q 2017</u>	<u>2Q 2017</u>	<u>3Q 2017</u>	<u>4Q 2017</u>	
2000 Club receipts as of May 31, 2017	\$55.00	\$7,732.50	\$7,401.50	\$3,055.00	\$3,055.00	\$21,299.00
						\$448,628.93

Legend:

CP:	Cooperative Program
SMO:	Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering
AA:	Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
LM:	Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
WH:	World Hunger

Alaska Baptist Convention Cooperative Program Support

	2017		2016	
May				
Receipts	\$58,156.50		\$44,241.21	
CP Goal	57,628.80		57,531.16	
Variance	527.70	0.92%	(13,289.95)	-23.10%
Year-to-Date				
Receipts	\$258,693.21		\$268,316.06	
CP Goal	288,294.00		287,655.80	
Variance	(29,600.79)	-10.27%	(19,339.74)	-6.72%

Welcome

Marcus Keeler


Emmanuel Baptist Church, Juneau

**Please Pray for
our Pastorless Churches**

Aquilaq Baptist Mission, Ambler
Bodenburg Butte Baptist Church, Palmer
Chinese Fellowship, Fairbanks
Community Baptist Church, Coffman Cove
First Baptist Church, Soldotna
New Hope Baptist Church, Anchorage
Riverside Chapel, King Salmon
Shungnak Baptist Mission

Worship Leader Opportunity

Rabbit Creek Church (Anchorage) is looking for a part-time Worship Leader. The primary focus will be to provide leadership for the creative, technical and worship teams. A full job description can be found on the ABC website; for additional information, contact Henry Couser, henry@rabbitcreekchurch.org



**100%
of your gift**

*Helps Someone
in Need*

Years ago, an endowment was established that funds the operating expenses of Mission:Dignity. This covers staff salaries, printing, postage and other expenses.

Every dollar of current Mission:Dignity annual gifts is used for monthly distributions to retired pastors and their widows in need.

Mission: Dignity.
Assisting Retired Ministers and Spouses

MILEPOST MOMENTS

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

Condolences

Our sympathy to Todd Buck, mission pastor at Tenakee Community Church in Tenakee Springs, in the death of his mother Katherine, who passed away on June 2. Katherine was also the grandmother to church planter Nathan Buck. A memorial service was held on June 4 at Glacier Valley Baptist Church in Juneau. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at toddbuck@acsalaska.net

Shannon Park Baptist Church, Fairbanks

SPBC held a special outdoor service, celebrating God's blessings upon their congregation. Rodney May is pastor; David Underwood (pictured right) led in worship.

The Church @ Commodore Park, Anchorage

The Anchorage Chinese Gospel Church presented a concert in Mandarin and Cantonese for The Church @ Commodore Park.



University Baptist Church, Fairbanks

The College and Career group remains active during the summer months, with fellowship dinners, Sunday lunches twice a month, hikes and campouts. The men's Bible study group meets weekly and has a barbeque planned for July 21. Gary Cox is pastor.

Togiak Baptist Mission

A team from Big Lake Baptist Church (Paul Folk, pastor) traveled to Togiak to assist with Vacation Bible School. As a result of the combined efforts of both churches, 25 third-, fourth- and fifth-graders accepted the Lord as their personal savior! Paul Frost is pastor of Togiak Baptist Mission.

Tanana Valley Baptist Association

On May 15, TVBA had a "stuffing party" at Faith Baptist Church, Fairbanks. They stuffed bears for the children of deployed soldiers at Fort Wainwright Army Base and prayed for the soldiers and their families while doing it! The 129 bears were distributed on June 3.



Pastor Position

Bodenberg Butte Baptist Church is an established rural church seeking a bi-vocational pastor to help expand its ministry to young families and youth. Located at Mile 12.5 Old Glenn Highway, six miles SSE of Palmer, Alaska, this little church with a big name has a heart for missions and an eye to the future. We invite you to be a part of it. Resume and letter of testimony should be sent to BBBC, PO Box 814, Palmer, AK 99645 or by email to Barbara Wancura at aboundingjoy@gci.net

JAM CAMP

Jesus • Arts • Music

July 16-20, 2017

APPRENTICE

Becoming Like Christ

"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me."
Matthew 11:29

Registration Information

hpbaak.org
jamcampalaska.com
sshepherd@fbcparis.org
[facebook.com/jamcampalaska](https://www.facebook.com/jamcampalaska)
Shirley Bearce 907.746.7467

Breakout Sessions

Art, Choir, Creative Movement, Drama, Guitar, Needle Arts, Orchestra, Photography, Ukulele, Song Writing, Woodworking, Worship Leadership, Worship Technology

\$200 before July 3 (\$250 after July 3)

LaVerne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp, Wasilla, AK

submitted by Shirley Bearce

72nd Annual Meeting of the Alaska Baptist Convention

September 25-27, 2017

Host Church: First Baptist Church, Ketchikan
Meeting Venue: Ted Ferry Convention Center
Hotel: Cape Fox Lodge
907.225.8001 • 866.225.8001

Reservations must be made by phone to receive the discounted rate. Be sure to tell the reservations agent you are with the Alaska Baptist Convention for the discounted rate of \$119 per night plus 13.5 percent tax. Reservations must be made **no later than July 31** to get the discounted rate.

Messengers:

In June, Each church received an email stating the number of messengers to which each church is entitled, and the method of registering those messengers.

Christian Nation No More?



Most Americans do not believe America is a Christian nation today, even if many say it was in the past. About one-third (35 percent) of the American public believes the U.S. was a Christian nation in the past and is still a Christian nation today; close to half (45 percent) say the U.S. was once a Christian nation but no longer remains so; and 14 percent say the U.S. has never been a Christian nation.

The number of Americans who believe the U.S. is a Christian nation has declined steadily over the past five years. In 2010, 42 percent of Americans said the U.S. has always been and is currently a Christian nation. Only 35 percent say the same today.

Like Americans overall, most Christians don't believe America is a Christian nation today. Only about 4 in 10 white evangelical Protestants (42 percent), non-white Protestants (39 percent), and Catholics (39 percent) believe the U.S. is a Christian nation today. And only one-third of white mainline Protestants say the same.

A majority (56 percent) of white evangelical Protestants and nearly half (48 percent) of white mainline Protestants say the U.S. was a Christian nation at one time but is no longer. About 4 in 10 non-white Protestants, Catholics, and religiously unaffiliated Americans say America was a Christian nation in the past but is not today.

Most Americans who believe the U.S. is no longer a Christian nation view this change negatively. Among Americans who believe the U.S. was once a Christian nation but is not anymore, roughly 6 in 10 (61 percent) say this is a bad thing, while about 3 in 10 (29 percent) say it's a good thing.

Source: PPRI.org, Spring 2017 issue, Facts & Trends magazine; used with permission.



Jimmy Stewart
Director of Evangelism

In 2017, for the first time in U.S. history, there will be more people over the age of 50 than under. From 2010-2030, the number of people age 65 and over in the U.S. will double, from 40 million to 80 million. In Alaska, according to 2013 statistics, roughly 30 percent of the population is 50 years of age and older. Although the median age of Alaskans is 34, the U.S. population has a median age of 37. Simply stated, our population is growing older. Baby Boomers (born 1943-1964*), the largest population group until Millennials (born 1981-1997*), will be turning 65 years of age at a staggering pace. But this is not a generation to write off. Unfortunately, many Baby Boomers in Alaska seem to have written God off, but that should not be considered a closed door. These nearing retirement age are not ready for the rocking chair and wheelchair. In fact, get your sneakers, for they are the most athletic and active group we have seen to date. They would have given Caleb, who wanted to take the high country for the Lord, a run for his money. So, start changing your vocabulary and perception now. Don't offend this group by calling them "cheeky" names like "Never Too Olds" or "50 and Overs" or "Seniors on the Go." Don't refer to them as "senior" or "old." They want to be called "adults" and, with sneakers in hand or some tool for work, they are going to be active. They want to be useful, and live with purpose. Either the church will actively engage this group, or the world will step in to whisk them away on fun vacations and humanitarian causes. A lot of energy, enthusiasm, experience and expertise will slip away if we don't think of ways to engage their talent. Who is your next staff member going to be? You may want to rethink hiring that children's worker. You may want to hire a middle-aged leader who will ride this Baby Boomer wave for the next 20 years. He will encourage Baby Boomers to bring their grandchildren. But, make sure he has the energy to keep up with the "adults."

*according to CNN

8 REASONS YOU'LL LOVE TITHING

"TEST ME NOW IN THIS."
MAL 3:10

1. IT'S WORSHIP

Whether you're in a church with electric guitars or pipe organs, everybody should have an opportunity to give because from Genesis to Revelation giving is true worship. You are saying, "Lord, above everything, I believe in You. It all belongs to You! This is a symbol of my complete belief, trust, and dependence on You to be my everything."

2. IT'S A PROMISE

Here's the deal, the Lord says, "If you'll be faithful in this area of obedience, I promise you that I'll take care of everything you're going to need. Trust me in this. You cannot out-give me."

3. IT'S A TEACHER

If you want to teach your kids the best way to handle money and to be financially responsible, teach them about the tithe. Tithing teaches us how to avoid the virus of materialism and learn the bliss of generosity.

4. IT'S A BLESSING

Once you begin the journey of tithing and generosity, it will enrich your life far beyond any money you hold on to.

5. IT'S A PROVISION

When you tithe, you're taking care of the facilities of your church, the minister(s) and their families. If your church gives through the Cooperative Program you are a blessing to ministries and missions all over the world.

6. IT'S A TEST

Throughout scripture, God is continually testing those who follow him. From Genesis to Revelation we see men and women struggling with a God who dares them to trust Him a little more every day. But there is one area of our lives where God invites us to test Him. It is in this thing called the tithe. He says, "Test me! I dare you! I will come through."

7. IT'S AN INVESTMENT

So much of the resources we spend are slippery. They're spent on things that will be broken, consumed, experienced, expired, and cast aside. The investment of the tithe is sure.

8. IT'S ETERNAL

We are investing in a kingdom that is built to last. And last FOREVER!

ReFRESH alaska



ReFRESH team from Sherwood Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia. Pictured (back row, l to r): Michael Catt (kneeling), Seth Brasher, Heather Spencer, Kati Willard, Terri Catt, Mark Willard, Joel McDowell, Brian Hicks (True North Girdwood), Ken Jenkins, Vickie Jenkins, Jeff Toole, Emily Danforth, Debbie Toole, Libby Hall, Brian Kelley. Kneeling in front, l to r: Ken Edmier, Ken Bevel. Not pictured: Tom Eliff, Tim Hall, Tony Fowler, Carl Albrecht.

“Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.” (Matt 11:28). Before Jesus ever commanded His disciples to “GO”, he said, “COME”. That command is as relevant as the Great Commission. We can often become weary in the work of ministry but the power to fulfill His calling begins with the refreshment we find in His presence.

Jesus modeled this behavior as He often retreated to the mountains to be alone with the Father. Alyeska was the perfect setting for those who participated this year. That is the premise for the ReFRESH Conference that was offered by Michael Catt and the team from Sherwood Baptist Church.

We look forward to having the team back to Alaska in the future to serve those who labor tirelessly for the sake of the Kingdom in our great state. We would invite all to “come and drink” the refreshing water He offers.

Randy Covington, Executive Director, Alaska Baptist Convention

***The ReFRESH Conference
“set the stage for a relaxing
and refreshing time of
worship, fellowship and
encouragement.”***



Tom Eliff, founder, Living in the Word Publications

"It truly seemed as though their sole purpose for being in Alaska was to pour into, uplift and encourage those of us on the mission field."

"...pain is an invitation to intimacy with God, and let God show me where I fit into His big picture."

"Truly a mountaintop experience."

"The music and messages were incredible and definitely impacted us."



We "left the conference refreshed and inspired to do and be more obedient to what God has called us to do in Alaska."

"The ReFRESH Conference could not have come at a better time."

"A great opportunity to reconnect and be revived in spirit!"



Pictured (l to r): Sean and Kristin Fry (Seward), Brian and Robin Moore (Kasilof), Stephanie and Jim Boyd (Soldotna), Debra and Brian Hicks (Girdwood)



Foundation Builder

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The role of the Baptist Foundation

As an agency of the Alaska Baptist Convention (ABC), the Foundation encourages and assists with gifts that benefit Alaska Baptist churches, and Baptist institutions that are affiliated with the ABC or the Southern Baptist Convention. The church or organization is selected by the donor. There are many ways to give and the Foundation stands ready to help a donor determine the best manner and the most appropriate asset to gift.

OUTRIGHT GIFTS

The most basic gift is a transfer of an asset directly to the ministry selected. These outright gifts can be made in a number of ways: cash, securities, real estate, or personal property.

The most common way to make an immediate gift is by writing a check. This type of cash gift provides immediate liquidity for charity and generates a charitable income tax deduction for the donor in the year of the gift.

However, giving cash is not always the best option for giving.

Gifts of stocks, bonds or mutual funds can provide greater tax ben-



efits. If you have owned securities for more than one year and the fair market value has increased since you purchased them, you can avoid capital gains tax and receive a charitable income tax deduction equal to the fair market value.

A gift of real estate that has been held for more than a year also has the advantage of providing you with a charitable deduction, as well as bypassing capital gains tax on the appreciation.

Selected artwork, books and antiques are examples of gifts of personal property that can, in certain situations, be an appropriate gift. Rules for deducting these types of gifts can be complicated. To ensure that any tangible personal property qualifies for a favorable charitable tax deduction, it's important to make a note of those items and discuss them with a qualified advisor.

PLANNED GIFTS

The term "planned gifts" refers to specific strategies that benefit a ministry or charity at some point in the future, and may offer immediate benefits to the donor.

Bequests through a well-planned Last Will and Testament are a primary way to care for family members while providing a gift that will benefit God's kingdom. A specific bequest such as a dollar amount, a particular piece of property or a certain percentage of the estate can be stated in a Will to benefit ministry. Another strategy is to meet the needs of family members and leave the remainder, or the "leftovers," to benefit a ministry organization.

There are several other planned giving options that can provide income and potential tax benefits to donors. Charitable Gift Annuities and Charitable Remainder Trusts, though different in form, can each provide lifetime income to the donor or donor's family while providing funds to further the gospel in the future. Each of these can provide tax advantages in addition to a charitable income tax deduction.

A Donor Advised Fund is another specialized planned gift that allows the donor to make a charitable contribution currently, receive an income tax deduction in the year the gift is made and then "advise" the fund how the money is to be used in the future. This allows several benefits to the donor: tax planning, a ready source of funds for charitable gifts, satisfying gifts to multiple ministries with one contribution to the donor advised fund. The donor may also choose to remain anonymous when using a donor advised fund to support ministry. (*Louisiana Baptist Message, November 3, 2016, by Jerry Love, Planned Giving Director, Louisiana Baptist Foundation. Used with permission*).

This information is intended for general purposes and is not to be construed as specific investment advice. Please consult professional counsel and advice tailored to your specific situation. The Alaska Baptist Foundation [website](#) has information and brochures on various ways to give. If you have additional questions, please contact the [Alaska Baptist Foundation](#).

Estate Planning is **STEWARDSHIP!**

Don't miss the opportunity to make a gift to the ministry that is special to you. Wise planning now can provide resources to support your family and to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to future generations.

For more information contact the
Alaska Baptist Foundation
(800)883-9627 • (907)770-0581
www.alaskabaptistfoundation.com



The Cost of Parenting



On average, it will cost \$233,610 for a middle-income family to raise a child born in 2015 through age 17. According to a new government report, at 29%, housing is the biggest cost for parents. Another major expense is childcare, which costs an average of \$37,378 per child.

Source: *The Week*, January 2017

Wealth in perspective

More than 3 billion people – about half of the world's population – live on less than \$2.50 a day. More than 1.3 billion live on less than \$1.25 a day. One billion of those in poverty are children, and UNICEF has reported that 22,000 children die each day due to poverty. On average, Americans spend over \$14 a week on coffee, meaning their coffee budget represents many people's entire weekly spending.

Sources: *Relevant Magazine.com*, May 17, 2016; *DoSomething.org*; *CoffeeReview.com*

Independent living?



Around 40% of recent college grads are receiving help from their parents to pay for rent. On average, 22- to 24-year-olds receive about \$3,000 a year from their parents to make ends meet.

Source: *The New York Times*, February 9, 2017

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LABOR OF Love

CrossCountry Church, Wasilla needs financial assistance to complete work in their new meeting space. The work includes restroom expansion, carpeting, and additional classroom space.

2000 Club • Third Quarter 2017

\$7401.50
has been
received for
2Q 2017*
*as of 5/31/17

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN — JUL • AUG • SEP —

July

3-7	Grades 5-6 camp, Camp Baldwin
3-4	ABC and AFB offices closed for Independence Day
10-14	Grades 7-8 camp, Camp Baldwin
16-20	JAM Camp
17-21	Grades 9-12 camp, Camp Baldwin

August

2-4	FUSION Youth Conference
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September

3-10	Valeria Sherard State Mission Offering emphasis
4	ABC and ABF office closed for Labor Day
24-25	TBA annual meeting
25	Impact Alaska!
26-27	WMU annual meeting, pastor's conference, annual meeting of the ABC

Because of
your congregation's
Cooperative Program giving
through the
Alaska Baptist Convention,
in May 2017

\$38,360.03

remained in Alaska
for
missions and ministries.