



Alaska/BC Church of God
HARVESTER
November-December 2012



CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

FROM THE ALASKA/BC CHURCH OF GOD STATE OFFICE STAFF



From the Administrative Bishop Stan Holder

THE SONG OF ANGELS

Many things that happen to us often happen “suddenly”. Accidents and bad news often happen “suddenly”. Isn’t it true that at a moments notice, we can be faced with the greatest challenges of our lives? When it comes to the birth of Christ, it was certainly no accident and there was certainly no bad news to tell ... unless you are the devil! According to Scripture, all of a sudden and in a flash, while shepherds are keeping watch over their flock by night, there appeared a multitude of angels in the sky singing and praising God. In doing so, they gave us the lyrics to the first Christmas carol that had ever been sung. They sang “...*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*”

I don’t know what you do when you’re happy, but I like to sing. I can drive Teresa nuts just by singing. I sing about events, the weather, an old song or I can even make up a song or two. One thing that I like to sing about is the greatness of God. I wouldn’t hesitate to say that as far as angels go, this event was the greatest event that had ever taken place since God created them. They had waited all of eternity for this to happen. And when it happened, they burst forth with a song that only the shepherds were there to witness.

Imagine with me the rush as the message ran through the various ranks of angels until this praise finally reaches those four cherubim that perpetually watch around the throne of God. At that moment, the highest ranks of angels join in praise and adoration to God. They sang **GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST!** This salvation was God’s highest glory. If He is glorified ...

- With every dew drop that reflects the morning sun
- With every song that the little birds sing
- With every wave that rolls through the ocean tide
- With every breeze that rushes through all His creation
- With every star that twinkles in the night
- With every bolt of lightning that flashes in the sky
- With every clap of thunder that rolls in the heavens

... Then surely He must be glorified the very moment He became flesh and brought salvation to His creation. That’s why the angles sang. Salvation glorifies God, not man. Angels believe in no doctrine that uncrowns Christ and puts the crown upon the head of mortals. They believe in no system of faith that makes salvation dependent upon the creature and gives the creature the praise. My definition of true worship is worship that places all the attention upon the One being worshipped, not the one doing the worship.

Angels are only interested in praising God and doing His bidding. He alone is their focal point of worship. They sang what they had never sung before. It was a new song because they added the words “... *on earth, peace...*” They couldn’t sing that part before this moment. Man had fallen and there was no *true* peace on earth. The good news of Christ coming is that the gospel of God is peace to fallen man. Where else can peace be found but in the message of Jesus Christ?

- Go to Sinai if you must, but you will not find peace in the law
- Go to Babel, but you’ll not find it in man made temples
- Go to Carmel, but you’ll not find it in man made gods
- Go to Mars Hill, but you’ll not find it in man made philosophies
- Go to the Sanhedrin, but you’ll not find it in man made formalism

You can only find peace in Jesus!

Oh, and they added a final stanza to this song, “*good will toward men.*” He gives us His good will because He gave us His Son. No greater love can you find anywhere than here. He gave Himself to you and me, for you and me and because of you and me! This holiday season, you can be a little angel. Just lift your voice and sing about Jesus. Go tell it on the mountain, over the hill and everywhere; go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

YOUTH & DISCIPLESHIP

ALASKA/BC YOUTH & DISCIPLESHIP

Islandfest 2012

Ketchikan, AK, home to the Unashamed Youth Ministry, was once again the venue for Islandfest. This year, one time youth pastor of the Lighthouse Church of God, JD Quinn returned from his new home in Georgia to be a part of one of the most inspiring youth conferences in Alaska. Joining JD was fellow worship leader, and new brother-in-law, John Lang and Associate High School Pastor at Desperation Student Ministries at New Life Church in Colorado Springs, CO, John MacDonald, and stand up comedian, John Crist.

For more information on the lives transformed and ministered too, visit www.theunashamedonline.com or find them on FaceBook at www.facebook.com/TheUnashamedYouth.



Arcticfest 2013

Don't miss out on this years greatest event for the youth of the Church of God in Alaska. Arcticfest 2013 is honored to welcome one of the leading Youth & Discipleship Directors within the Church of God, Chad Fickett, Youth & Discipleship Director in Illinois. Chad has also served as the Youth & Discipleship

Director in Western Canada and has a heart for the youth of Alaska.

Download your applications today at www.akbcyouth.org. Arcticfest 2013, February 1-3, 2013 at the Downtown Marriott in Anchorage.



JOIN THE INITIATIVE!

www.readinitiative.com



CHAD FICKETT

This years speaker for Arcticfest 2013 is Chad Fickett, Y&D Dir. from Indiana, former Y&D Dir. from Western Canada.



ARCTICFEST 2013

Download your applications now at www.akbcyouth.org



Teresa Holder
Women's Discipleship Director

Women's Discipleship

Growing Sharing Mentoring

- Teresa Holder
Women's Discipleship Director
Alison Hurst
Girl's Club Coordinator
Linda Green
USA Missions Coordinator
- Women's Ministries Board
Esther Reem
Miriam Humphries
Carol Perez
Margaret White
Linda Jones
Tina Matthews

Web Site: www.alaskabccog.com

From The Director

What an incredible opportunity I have been given to work with Women's Discipleship in the great state of Alaska. Never has there been a more critical time for women to get back to reading the Word and living the Word than now. I am excited to be a part of the READ initiative which is an invitation for thousands of believers around the world to join in reading the scriptures every day. It is a true statistic that women today are attending church services and small groups less. They are reading their Bibles less. They are viewing faith as less important in their lives. Further, since 1991, women are less and less likely to hold traditional views of God and Satan. Don't let this be said of the women in Alaska. Get involved and make a difference!

Our State Ladies Retreat is scheduled for April 5-6, 2013 in Anchorage. Rhonda Holland, the author of the Bible Studies promoted by the Women's Discipleship International Offices, will be our guest speaker. Look for more information and registration forms in the next Harvester.

KINDLE THE POWER SIX-WEEK BIBLE STUDIES PRODUCED BY WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP



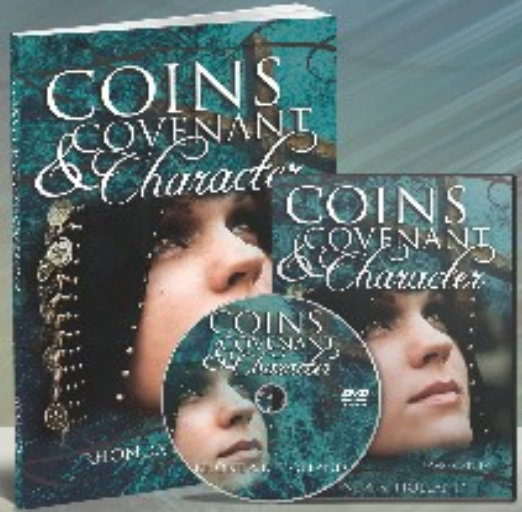
GIANTS, GRAPES & GRASSHOPPERS

Study Guide \$14.⁹⁵ ISBN: 9781596846241
DVD set \$59.⁹⁹ ISBN: 9781596846258
Study Guide/DVD combo \$69.⁹⁹ ISBN: 9781596846269



MY POWER JOURNAL

\$12.⁹⁵ ISBN: 9781596846265



COINS, COVENANT & CHARACTER

Study Guide \$14.⁹⁵ ISBN: 9781596846753
DVD set \$59.⁹⁹ ISBN: 9781596846760
Study Guide/DVD combo \$69.⁹⁹ ISBN: 9781596846777

Operation FREEDOM



WWAM PROJECT

2012-2014

Rescuing Servant Children in Haiti



Our Goal  \$500,000

Stand Up for *Freedom*
Give for *Freedom*
Pray for *Freedom*
Fast for *Freedom*
Walk/Run for *Freedom*

CHURCH OF GOD Women's Discipleship
OPERATION **FREEDOM** 2012-2014 Project # 020-8098
PO Box 2430
Cleveland TN 37320-2430
423.478.7170
www.womenofpowercog.org

The Project Needs
Transitional (Safe) House in Port Salut*
Generator for Transitional Home
Furnishings for Transitional Home
Van for transporting children
Care of children**

*The transitional home is for housing those children that are in danger and in the most critical condition.

**It takes \$150,000 per year for the care of 12 children (which provides food, clothing, housing, medical and dental care, school tuition, and staff personnel.)

www.womenofpowercog.org

Contact your state/regional Women's Discipleship Director for more information.



HARVESTER NEWS

Richard Green, USA Missions Director

Summer Progress At Kotzebue Church of God

The parsonage is a lot warmer thanks in a large part to the Men and Women of Action team that came in August to install the new triple pane windows. Seven men and women came from North Carolina to put their faith into action. As the men were installing the new windows, the ladies organized the church's inventory of donated clothing and household items and held a community giveaway complete with school supplies they brought from their local churches. The team also helped organize the church's food pantry.

The window installation process was tricky considering the windows to be replaced were on the second floor and two of the windows weighed about 400 pounds. The installation was aided by pastor's council member, Tim Kurka, who operated the telescopic forklift, neighbor John Kirby and Pastor Bucky. Kotzebue Church of God is thankful for the men and women that chose to spend their time and money to help our church with this project. The church is also grateful to Alaska/BC Church of God Native American Fund which paid for the majority of the cost of the new triple pane windows.



South Central Prayer Conference - *A Touch of His Presence*

Alaska/BC experienced a *Touch of His Presence* during the 2012 South Central Prayer Conference. Bishop Ron Brown and his wife Teresa were used by God to touch our lives in both Word and song. Their anointed ministry was on target and impacted our lives each night as we met to worship the King of Kings! Without a doubt, we left each service much better than we came.

Special thanks go out to the Pastors and leadership of Palmer, Eagle River, North Anchorage and Jesus is Lord for their kind hospitality, anointed praise and worship and Christian service as they represented their church and community with the love of God. We are honored to have such wonderful people serving the Body of Christ in Alaska/BC.



Ron Brown preaching the Word



Administrative Bishop Stan Holder leading the service



A time of worship

Men Blessed At 2012 Lifebuilders Conference

Men gathered at the Alaska Christian Retreat Center from Palmer, Eagle River, Anchorage, Kenai, Soldotna, Juneau and Ketchikan for a time of worship, fellowship and inspiration. It was the first state meeting for Administrative Bishop Stan Holder. He blessed and challenged the men on Friday night with a timely message. Powerful times of worship were led by Andrew Green from Juneau. On Saturday, three sessions were led by Richard Green, USA Missions Director. He spoke to the men about restoring the gates and being gatekeepers.

Pastor Alan Humphries of Soldotna did an outstanding job hosting and facilitating the conference. He and the men of the Soldotna Church provided excellent meals.

The men left the conference strengthened by the Word, the fellowship and the presence of the Lord.



Administrative Bishop Stan Holder Ministering to the Men



The Men Participating in a Time of Prayer

World Missions Project and Native American Initiative Continue

During the last General Assembly period there was a phenomenal outpouring of giving to the world missions project in Brazil Amazonian region. John and Kathy Hayes have dedicated themselves to reaching the indigenous tribes and other unreached people within the country. The people in the Church of God in Alaska/BC partnered with this missionary effort by supporting it during the past two years.

Also the Native American Ministry Initiative has been an incredible blessing with over \$100,000 given in the last Assembly period to assist in outreach in Alaska/BC. The support for this ministry comes mostly from outside of Alaska and is given through Church of God World Missions.

Both the Brazil project and the Alaska Native Ministries Initiative will continue for the 2012-2014 Assembly period.

Your faithful and generous support has been the means of accomplishing great things in Alaska/BC and Brazil. We encourage you to continue to prayerfully support these ministries. Regular updates will be given in the Harvester.

Directors Reappointed For 2012-2014



Ernest "Skip" Hurst has been reappointed to serve as the Youth and Discipleship Director for Alaska/BC for 2012-2014. He also serves as the pastor of the Wasilla Restoration Point Church of God.

This will be his third term in this position.

His wife, Alison, will serve as Girl's Ministries Coordinator.



Richard Green has been reappointed to serve as USA Missions Director for Alaska/BC for 2012-2014. He also serves as pastor of the Juneau Glacier Valley Church of God.

This will be his sixth term in this position.

His wife, Linda, will serve as USA Missions Coordinator.

SOUTHEAST CAMP MEETING

**LIGHTHOUSE
CHURCH OF GOD
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA
FEBRUARY 20-24, 2013**



MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND!

GUEST SPEAKERS



**BISHOP JIMMY SMITH
ADMINISTRATIVE BISHOP
WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
NIGHT SPEAKER**

**BISHOP GERALD MCGINNIS
LEAD PASTOR
PARK WEST CHURCH OF GOD
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
MORNING SPEAKER**





The Lord has compelled me to begin our journey together with a rediscovery of the Word of God. I am calling every church to a renewal of reading the Scripture. We are going to READ the Word of God.

We have established a goal for 100,000 Church of God believers to sign up to read the Scriptures through in a year.

SIGN THE PLEDGE AT WWW.CHURCHOFGOD.ORG

JOIN US

In 2013 Dr. Mark Williams, General Overseer of the Church of God, is asking you to be one of the thousands around the world that commit to reading the scriptures every day!

With the READ initiative, we are striving to work through the scriptures in a constructive way that promotes personal growth as well as growth throughout our community.

Let us strive to learn scripture, love scripture, and live scripture.

SIGN UP TODAY

Sign up is simple using email, Facebook, or by texting the word 'READ' to 41411. You may also sign up by calling 800-323-7264, or by visiting the website below.

(Texting applies to U.S.A. phones only)



Mark L. Williams
General Overseer



SIGN THE PLEDGE AT WWW.CHURCHOFGOD.ORG

ALASKA /BC STEWARDSHIP & MINISTRY



Please use the enclosed envelope to be a member of the Harvester Team. In so doing, you will be supporting the very needful ministries of Alaska/British Columbia. Thank you for your prayerful and financial support.

YOU CAN NOW GIVE YOUR HARVESTER DONATION ONLINE AT www.alaskabccog.com.

John 3:16
16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.



State Ministry Report

	July	August
SERMONS PREACHED	178	156
REVIVALS	5	1
CONVERTS	13	7
RESTORATIONS	16	30
SANCTIFIED	0	0
HOLY GHOST BAPTISMS	2	1
WATER BAPTISMS	3	0
MEMBERS ADDED	0	3

THANK YOU

FOR YOUR HARVESTER HOME MISSIONS GIVING FOR July and August 2012 \$2,053.00

CHURCH	JULY	AUG.
Bethel Hispanic	\$15.00	\$15.00
Dimond Jewel	\$150.00	
Craig	\$30.00	\$30.00
Eagle River	\$100.00	\$100.00
Fairbanks, Valley of Blessing	\$50.00	\$50.00
Juneau, Glacier Valley	\$100.00	\$100.00
Ketchikan	\$33.00	
Mat-Su Christian Center	\$125.00	\$125.00
Metlakatla	\$75.00	\$75.00
Barrow, New Beginnings	\$100.00	\$100.00
North Anchorage	\$25.00	\$210.00
North Pole	\$100.00	\$100.00
Pathway to Heaven	\$10.00	\$20.00
Palmer	\$125.00	\$125.00
Soldotna	\$15.00	\$15.00
Terrace	\$20.00	\$20.00
Other		

GROWTH IN MINISTRY REPORT

July 2012—Church and Pastor	Tithe	Sunday Worship	Discipleship On Campus	Discipleship Off Campus
Anchorage, Bethel Hispanic, Moyce Polanco	\$8,240.90	66	35	
Anchorage, Dimond Jewel, Irene Stokes		3	3	3
Anchorage, Jesus Is Lord, Will Asaivao	No Report			
Anchorage, North Anchorage, Tom Shook	\$9,647.00	88	155	84
Anchorage, Southside, Leslie Wright	\$1,259.00	22	22	18
Craig, John Steinberg Sr.	\$4,616.60	50	25	20
Delta Junction, Valley of Decision, Mark Pliska	\$3,190.00	24		6
Eagle River, Bobby Jones	\$16,631.20	106	276	30
Fairbanks, Tabernacle of Faith	Inactive			
Fairbanks, Valley of Blessing Joe Perez	\$6,811.04	51	26	
Juneau, Glacier Valley, Richard Green	\$15,916.10	137	145	30
Kenai, Wildwood Park, Doug Bowers	\$2,569.00	40	10	6
Ketchikan, Lighthouse, Bill White	\$12,088.03	110	80	130
Kotzebue, Bucky Sitsler	\$15,559.00	57	36	
Mat-Su Christian Center, Houston, Fred Ledbetter	\$3,934.00	19	27	
Restoration Point, Wasilla, Ernest "Skip" Hurst III	\$2,569.00	23		6
Metlakatla, Lakeside, Jeffrey Sullivan	\$3,308.92	25	6	
New Beginnings, Barrow, David Matthews Jr.	\$10,979.77	58	13	
North Pole, Bruce Bolden	\$1,893.00	22	7	
Northway Community, Tom Teasdale	No Report			
Palmer Highway, Steve Reem	\$12,704.70	87	200	70
Pathway to Heaven Mission, Priscilla Fulford	\$535.66			
Soldotna, Alan Humphries	\$20,833.38	203	83	
Terrace, BC, Arnold Miller	\$1,017.31	9	6	24

August 2012—Church and Pastor	Tithe	Sunday Worship	Discipleship On Campus	Discipleship Off Campus
Anchorage, Bethel Hispanic, Moyce Polanco	\$8,346.60	77	40	
Anchorage, Dimond Jewel, Irene Stokes	No report			
Anchorage, Jesus Is Lord, Will Asaivao	No Report			
Anchorage, North Anchorage, Tom Shook	\$11,489.54	101	170	85
Anchorage, Southside, Leslie Wright	\$1,071.00	14	19	14
Craig, John Steinberg Sr.	\$2,298.20	50	25	20
Delta Junction, Valley of Decision, Mark Pliska	\$1,535.00	6		
Eagle River, Bobby Jones	\$15,975.54	104	379	200
Fairbanks, Tabernacle of Faith	Inactive			
Fairbanks, Valley of Blessing, Joe Perez	\$6,453.10	52	25	3
Juneau, Glacier Valley, Richard Green	\$12,247.38	122	175	135
Kenai, Wildwood Park, Doug Bowers	\$2,692.00	33	6	
Ketchikan, Lighthouse, Bill White	\$14,593.25	110	90	130
Kotzebue, Bucky Sitsler	\$8,749.00			
Mat-Su Christian Center, Houston, Fred Ledbetter	\$3,107.90	25	37	20
Restoration Point, Wasilla, Ernest "Skip" Hurst III	\$1,217.00	21	6	
Metlakatla, Lakeside, Jeffrey Sullivan	\$4,368.72	39		11
New Beginnings, Barrow, David Matthews Jr.	\$18,022.03	90	21	
North Pole, Bruce Bolden	\$1,957.00	22	7	
Northway Community, Tom Teasdale	No Report			
Palmer Highway, Steve Reem	\$10,674.00	102	150	120
Pathway to Heaven Mission, Priscilla Fulford	Reported			
Soldotna, Alan Humphries	\$16,010.00	177	133	
Terrace, BC, Arnold Miller	\$1,095.88	7	6	



**Alaska/BC
Church of God
Executive Offices**

1348 Bennington
Anchorage, Alaska 99508
Phone: 907-272-4847
Fax: 907-272-4845
Web: www.alaskabccog.com

Stan Holder

Administrative Bishop
Harvester Editor-in-Chief

Ernest "Skip" Hurst III

Youth and Discipleship Director

Richard Green

USA Missions Director
Harvester Editor and Publisher

Teresa Holder

Women's Discipleship Director

Alison Hurst

Girls Ministries Coordinator

Linda Green

USA Missions Coordinator

State Council

Joe Perez

David Matthews, Jr.

Steve Reem

Bobby Jones

Tommie Shook

Bill White

Coming Events 2013

READ INITIATIVE

LAUNCHES JANUARY 1, 2013
SEE INFORMATION ON PAGE 9

ARCTICFEST

FEBRUARY 1-3, 2013
ANCHORAGE

SOUTHEAST CAMPMEETING

FEBRUARY 20-24, 2013
KETCHIKAN

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

APRIL 5-6, 2013
ANCHORAGE

2013 REFRESHING CAMP MEETING

MAY 7-10, 2013
NORTH ANCHORAGE CHURCH OF GOD

