



ALYESKAN

NEWS & VIEWS

FOR ALASKA'S SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

STEWARDSHIP SPECIAL EDITION

Winning On Purpose Over The Long Term

Jim Jensen, VP Treasury

Years ago I was watching an episode of "The Waltons" that has stuck with me. John, the father, was attending his high school reunion and as people were renewing friendships and talking about where life had taken each of them, one of his classmates said, "You know John, most of us have been running all over the world trying to find what you have created here at home the whole time".

In a nutshell, having a plan and principles is what stewardship is all about. Stewardship is more than just the use of money; it also is the use of time, talent, relationships and our health. If any of those are missing, the stewardship plan cannot be complete.

In the book *Good to Great*, Jim Collins looks at companies who performed well, not just for a quarter or a year, but consistently over 15 or more years. What he found was that those companies were nearly always not run by a high profile flashy leader, but by those who built a consensus and stuck to it.

THE RIGHT ORDER

When I put on a dress shirt in the morning, if I put the fifth button in the second button hole, it really doesn't matter how well I do everything after that first button. The shirt is going to look like

a mess. Most of the time when I have seen people or organizations get into trouble, it is because they did good things, but in the wrong order.

One of the ways of doing things in the wrong order is to spend all your time trying to improve areas in which God has not given you talent. Spending time improving and leveraging the talent God has given you is a lot more fun! This is true for a school, church or individual.

Having principles makes life easier. When making a decision, you can ask a few questions such as: do I have this talent? Is the money on hand to do this? Is the timing right or will it force out something more important?

DON'T GET DISCOURAGED

One of the best pieces of advice that my dad gave me growing up was "we are where we are now." We can only change what happens in the future. God is like that only the devil wants us to dwell on our mistakes. I urge you to follow the best example in the universe. God established His principles before this earth ever existed and, through all the horrible things that have happened here, He has not changed and has prepared a place just for you in Heaven.

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ALYESKAN

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Simplified Planned Giving Today

Jim Jensen, VP Treasury

At death, an Alaskan has a 401(k) retirement account, a life insurance policy and a joint checking account. Which of these assets will be controlled by their Will?

The answer is probably none of the above. If assets are titled with a joint owner or have a beneficiary, then upon death, the account will automatically be owned by the surviving owner or the named beneficiary. Both the life insurance and retirement account will have a named beneficiary. If you are married, in most states your spouse has certain rights to retirement accounts.

Technically, Alaska does not have joint tenant checking accounts. The account would be held by both spouses as tenants by the entirety; or by both spouses as Alaska Community Property with a right of survivorship.

Dangers of Joint Ownership

If one is considering making a child or someone a joint owner of an account or property, be aware that the asset could be jeopardized if the joint owner gets divorced, files bankruptcy, gets sued or dies first.

If one wants a person and/or organization to own their account when they die, name them as a pay-on-death

or transfer-on-death beneficiary, which will give the account to them immediately after one's death, without risking loss while the owner is alive.

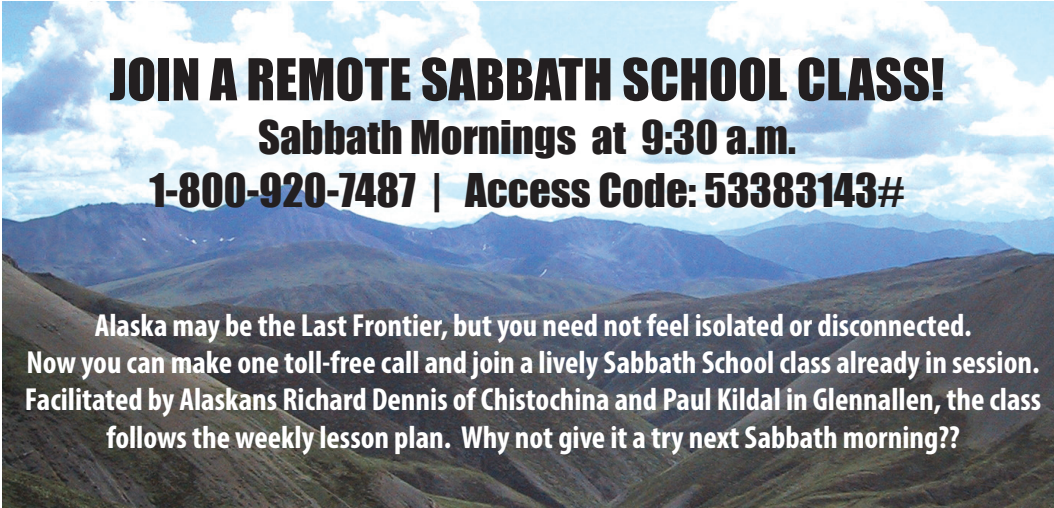
Wisest Assets for Charity

To eliminate taxes, the best assets to leave to charity/God's work are an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), 401(k), 403(b) or Keoghs. These are assets on which income tax is due, but has not yet been paid. They are also far easier to split by percentage among two or more beneficiaries.

So what about a home or other real estate? On July 21, 2014, Alaska became one of about 25 states who have a TOD or Transfer on Death Deed available. So real estate can also be transferred without a Will.

If you are choosing one of the methods above to transfer your assets, you will need to notify the individual or organization that is to receive the asset.

Although most people's estate can be handled with simple documents, there are still reasons to have a Will or a Trust, such as the guardianship of your minor children or if your estate exceeds the exemption amount (currently \$5,430,000). It is still best to seek legal and accounting advice for your individual situation.

JOIN A REMOTE SABBATH SCHOOL CLASS!
Sabbath Mornings at 9:30 a.m.
1-800-920-7487 | Access Code: 53383143#

Alaska may be the Last Frontier, but you need not feel isolated or disconnected. Now you can make one toll-free call and join a lively Sabbath School class already in session. Facilitated by Alaskans Richard Dennis of Chistochina and Paul Kildal in Glennallen, the class follows the weekly lesson plan. Why not give it a try next Sabbath morning??

Your Tithe—Where Does It Go?

Jim Jensen, VP Treasury



When I drop my tithe envelope into the plate, where does it go? Any local conference or church offerings you donate stay local, whereas tithe begins a carefully thought out, but complex journey. First, your local church treasurer sends all tithe funds to the local conference which then starts a chain reaction (see the picture below). Keep in mind our figures here are approximate.

- 1) The local conference retains 63.9 percent for its own region, including pastoral salaries;
- 2) It sends nine percent to the North Pacific Union Conference for ministry throughout the Northwest, plus another 27.1 percent to be passed on by the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) to the North American Division (NAD);
- 3) The NPUC passes on the 27.1 percent, with eight percent going to the NAD, eight percent going to the General Conference for the World Church budget, 8.1 percent going to continue funding the defined benefit retirement plan for elderly retirees and three percent for health-plan coverage for retirees;
- 4) A final slice of nearly one percent is sent to the NAD for a special assistance fund to help local conferences that have a low-tithe per-capita ratio or low membership. In the case of Alaska, we received back about \$400,000 in 2014. That is about nine percent of the total tithe donated by members in Alaska.

So all the local conference gets is 73 percent of the tithe? Actually, we receive

much more than that. For instance, while the NPUC also forwards funds to the NAD and General Conference for retirement and medical coverage, it uses 60 percent of all tithe funds from local conferences to support Northwest ministry. That portion includes nearly \$1 million to Walla Walla University and direct appropriations to local conferences for ministerial interns and summer camp staff. Those same appropriations also include more than \$300,000 to help ensure financial accountability in the form of auditing services for conferences and academies.

Wouldn't it be better if each member could dictate how their tithe is used?

Our church has a plan that many have envied—sharing resources where there are few, sending funds to areas and needs that may not win a popularity contest, but are nonetheless essential. It's an equitable plan that seeks to share available resources from areas that have much to those that have little. God has provided worldwide growth because of the willingness of Adventist members in North America to give according to what we used to call “disinterested benevolence” – giving without regard for what we personally get back.

Where can I get more information?

Did we raise more questions than we answered? The Alaska Conference treasury department will be happy to help you sort out additional answers with far more detail.

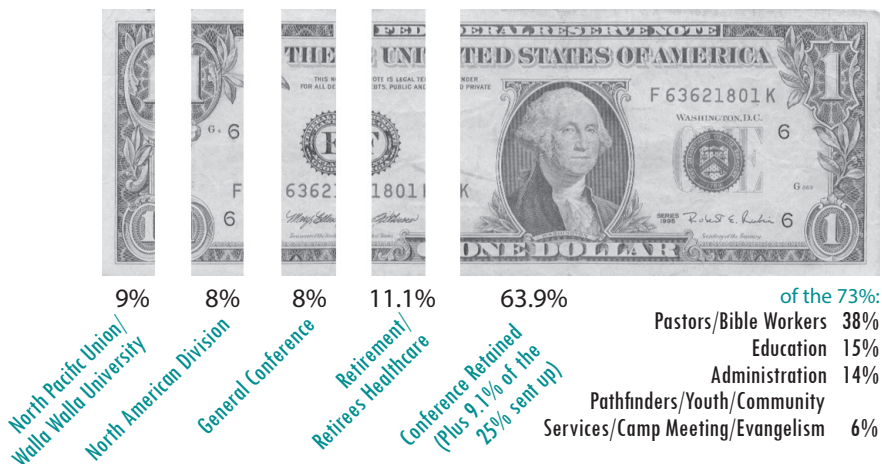
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TITHE DOLLAR



The Pitfalls Of Giving To Special Projects

Quentin Purvis, VP Secretariat

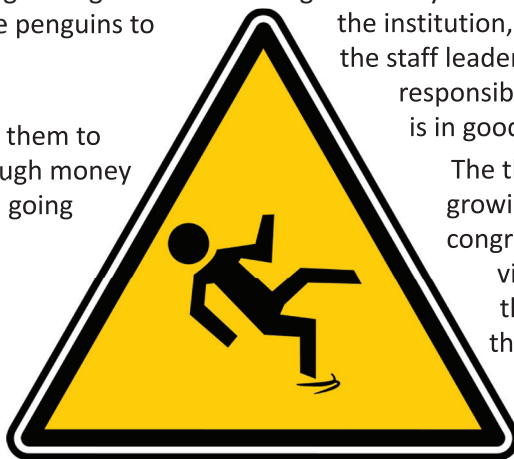
A truck driver was hauling a load of 500 penguins to the zoo. Unfortunately, his truck broke down. He eventually waved down another truck and offered the driver \$500 to take the penguins to the zoo.

The next day the first truck driver got his truck fixed and drove into town and couldn't believe his eyes! Just ahead of him he saw the second truck driver crossing the road with the 500 penguins waddling single file behind him. He jumped out of his rig, ran up to the guy and said, "What's going on? I gave you \$500 to take these penguins to the zoo!"

To which the man responded, "I did take them to the zoo. But I had enough money left over so now we're going to the movies."

As funny as it may be, there is truth to this story. Misunderstanding and camouflage pits can derail a project and dampen the spirits of members if not done properly.

Raising funds for special projects such as new construction, gymnasiums, renovation or debt retirement can be a positive and exciting time in the life of the church. As a pastor in Michigan, I too have been involved in raising money for a new church or renovation to the school. I have seen pitfalls that can take place in the life of the church as they begin a capital campaign.



most important undertakings, leaders are tempted to say, "we can do that ourselves". The cost of using an outside source or somebody trained in the area of construction will yield returns far greater than the cost.

The second pitfall in a growing church is depending upon one family to be the financial backbone of the project. It's important to get everybody on board to support the project at hand. Christopher says it well in his book, *Not Your Parents Offering Plate*. People will give if "they believe in the mission of the institution, have a high regard for the staff leadership, and the fiscal responsibility that the institution is in good shape."

The third pitfall in a growing church is that the congregation will lose their vision. It is important for the church to remember that God is leading in the church campaign. Man's vision focuses on timing and technique but

we must never lose sight of where this experience will take the people spiritually. God must be acknowledged in every aspect of the building program. How does the program encourage giving? What is the role of prayer in the campaign? Do the techniques used in the campaign leave room for God to work through the hearts of the people? These are important questions to ask.

The fourth pitfall in a growing church is shortcuts. How can we do this for less or using the cheapest products on the market? If you're going to do a project, do it right! You will always regret the outcome if you don't. You can get good deals on quality products if you look for them. Remember, it's God's money and we need to be good stewards in everything that we do.

One of the first pitfalls in a growing church is that there is always more to do than time allows. Yet, when it comes to one of the

People will give if "they believe in the mission of the institution, have a high regard for the staff leadership, and the fiscal responsibility that the institution is in good shape."

A Life That Counts

Ken Crawford, President

I sat in the pew and watched the plate work its way toward my row and pondered which bill to drop in the plate. I only had three one-dollar bills and a \$20. I always found this part of the service so uncomfortable. I mean, how was this money used anyway? How did I know for sure it was going to the right cause in the organization? Besides, I had to think of what I needed that \$20 for. Let me see, there was that trip to Costco and then.....

As the plate passed, I finally placed in the three bills and pocketed the \$20. I am pretty faithful in my tithe, I thought. Besides, offering is optional; I had come to worship, and in a way, resented this part of the service.

It was several nights later that I had a strange dream. I wanted to chalk it up to those nachos late at night, but it was a haunting dream.

I dreamt that Christ had come for His own and oh, what a reunion with loved ones and friends. Accompanied by unnumbered angels, this vast company was winging their way through galaxies that were beautiful beyond description. There were people of all races and ages spanning the history of the earth.

I began to visit with those around me on the sea of glass. Turning to a youth on my right I asked, "Can you tell me how was your life lived on earth? I see your beautiful robe has a border of red?"

"Oh!" replied the young man, "I was a part of a large family and we all gave our lives to Jesus. We lived during the time of the cruel Catholic Inquisition and we had to flee from our home and hide in the deep Waldensean Mountains. There in the caves as children, we memorized the Bible, then two by two we went forth to spread the good news of Jesus Christ to the people that didn't know Him. It was a difficult life because we were ridiculed and rejected by most and finally I was turned over to the authorities and because I would not tell the location of my family, I was put on a rack and tortured to death."

"Oh how awful!" I gasped. "Oh no!" he replied. "I gladly gave my life for Jesus, and now all my family is here with me. It was more than worth the sacrifice."

I turned to a beautiful lady traveling beside me, "How about you? When did you live and what was your experience on earth?" She smiled and replied, "I was raised in a wealthy family in England in the 17th Century. When my husband and I married, we made a covenant with God. We dedicated ourselves to the ministry, sold all we owned and traveled to the interior of Africa to bring the news of salvation to people who didn't know Christ. It was a hard life. All of our children, but one, died of disease and finally my husband was killed and eaten by cannibals. I lived there for many years with the native people alone. My family and friends in England sacrificed their all to send me the things I needed to spread the gospel. I finally died at the hands of the people I had come to serve."

Again I gasped, "What a sacrifice! How could you give everything up?"

She turned and her hand swept wide pointing to a vast group of people traveling with her. Quietly she replied, "Sacrifice?"

It was nothing; it was a pittance. Look at these."

And sweeping her arm, she pointed to her husband and children, then to a group of several hundred, from their work in Africa. She paused and kindly looked at me. "Nothing!" she exclaimed. "It was nothing compared to the rewards of eternity."

"And you?" she asked. "Please! Tell us of your experience on earth."

I thought of my struggle with the offering that day, of my preoccupation with accumulating material things, of my miserly selfish methods of sacrifice to



Continued on Page 8

The Money

Laurie Hosey, Education Director

**Do
You
Know**
the Alaska
Conference has a
Facebook page?

Search for Alaska
Conference of SDA

Like our page

Share our posts

Invite your friends!



My sister lost the money on the way to school. Actually, she lost **THE** money on the way to school. It wasn't just that she lost the money on the way to school, it was **THE MONEY** that she lost on the way to school. **THE MONEY** she lost wasn't the quarter (25 cents) that she took to Loma Linda Elementary so we could each buy a carton of milk every day for a week, nor did she lose the money (\$2.00 or \$4.00 on a good year) that the medical students paid us for our blood, but my older sister, Janette, lost **THE MONEY!**

I didn't realize that she had lost **THE MONEY** until we got home that night and my mom asked her if she had given **THE MONEY** to the school. I was just humming through my supper when my mom asked her that question. The silence that followed made me want to skip my green beans and head right for dessert.

You need to understand that **THE MONEY** was the most sacrificed for money in all of Christendom. We walked everywhere so we could save **THE MONEY**, we gave up trips and white bread so we could have **THE MONEY**. My mom, who was a single mom going to college, ironed other people's clothes so we could add to **THE MONEY**. She sewed us our school clothes so we could save for **THE MONEY**. My mother humiliated herself to the Loma Linda University church to get help subsidizing **THE MONEY**.

Anxious thoughts ran through my head. If we didn't have **THE MONEY** we might have to go back to the public school. I loved the public school, I loved the Adventist school, I just loved school, but when I went to the public school, NO ONE would trade sandwiches with me.

They didn't like my homemade brown bread and my mom wouldn't let me trade for ham and cheese; however, the white bread and tuna

sandwiches looked and smelled soooooo yummy, but NO ONE would trade!

My honest 4th grade sister, broke the silence. "I lost **THE MONEY**," she confessed. I was doomed. But as doomed as I was, Janette was more doomed.

"How did you lose **THE MONEY**?" my mom queried. It has always amazed me how my mom could make such demanding sentences in her quiet church voice. "It was in an envelope." I wasn't sure how the envelope helped, but to this day I put money in envelopes. "Did you look for it everywhere? Did it fall when you were walking across the ditch? Did someone take it?" The non-Pentecostal, quiet, church toned questions made me want to skip even the molasses- on-toast dessert.

The next morning my mom walked to school with us. I thought she came to help us get our stuff. As we trudged along with heavy hearts, we looked behind every bush, we checked all the gutters, we prayed, we found nothing. When we arrived at the school she went to the office to explain that **THE MONEY**, our part of the worthy student tuition (\$40.00), was lost and that she didn't have any money to replace it. I'm not sure what happened, but we got to stay at the Loma Linda, CA Elementary school until my mom graduated, got married and we moved to Riverside, CA.

Are you at a loss for **THE MONEY**? Adventist Education costs somebody something and we can't all just pay out of pocket. I thank God for caring church members at the Loma Linda University church, who went above and beyond the call of duty, and subsidized my Adventist education. I'm thankful for understanding administrators that saved me from a life of "white bread and tuna sandwiches." I'm thankful for a non-Pentecostal, quiet voiced mom who had the courage to scrimp, save and humiliate herself so we could learn about Jesus.

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Online Giving For Dummies

Brenda Campbell Johnson, Communications Secretary



Please do not be offended by the title of the article. The purpose is to emphasize that online giving is an easy and secure process. One of the conveniences of living in the 21st Century is banking online. The Adventist church has recognized this trend and has made available online giving through your local church. Through Adventist Giving, you can return your tithe and offerings while doing your online banking. A few things to note about the process:

- Adventist Giving is a convenient and secure way to return tithes and offerings through the internet. This is particularly useful if traveling or unable to attend church.
- Several payment types are accepted including electronic check, credit cards, and debit cards with the Visa® and MasterCard® logos.
- Access to Adventist Giving is only available through your local church. The church must a) enroll with Adventist Giving, b) have a website and c) feature a link to Adventist Giving (look for key words such as online giving, donations, Adventist Giving on the website).
- Once your church establishes the service for its members, as an individual donor you will create a unique login and password to ensure your privacy is protected. The church treasurer only has access to donation information; they do not have access to personal passwords or logins.

For more information, speak with your church treasurer, view the Adventist Giving video at media.adventistgiving.org or visit the Adventist Giving website at www.adventistgiving.org.


Source: www.AdventistGiving.org




The Money cont.

Continued from Page 6

When the money is just not there, where do YOU look for **THE MONEY**? I have been working with families and students for over 20 years. There is always a need for financial help. The following is a list resources you can access to get help or advice for financing Adventist Education:



ELEMENTARY
School
Local Church
Conference
Union



ACADEMY
Academy
Local Church
Conference
Union



UNIVERSITY
Scholarships
Union
College Funds

BOARDING ACADEMIES

- Gem State Adventist Academy (Caldwell, ID) www.gemstate.org
- Mount Ellis Academy (Bozeman, MT) www.mtellis.org
- Columbia Adventist Academy (Battle Ground, WA) caaschool.org
- Milo Adventist Academy (Days Creek, OR) milowacademy.net
- Upper Columbia Academy (Spangle, WA) www.ucaa.org

COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

- Loma Linda University (Loma Linda, CA) home.llu.edu
- Pacific Union College (Angwin, CA) www.puc.edu
- Walla Walla University (College Place, WA) wallawalla.edu
- LaSierra University (Riverside, CA) lasierra.edu

Please note that the above academies and universities are located in the North Pacific. For nationwide institutions, visit http://nadeducation.org/school_search/directory.

*"Ask of Me
and I will show you
great and mighty
things which thou
knowlest not."*

- GOD

SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITES

- zinch.com
- www.fastweb.com
- scholarshippoints.com
- cappex.com
- scholarships.com
- collegeboard.org
- nextstudent.com
- studentscholarships.org
- scholarshipexperts.com
- supercollege.com

source: www.hercampus.com

The Importance Of Budgeting

JoAnn Stevens, Alaska Conference Church Treasurer

I remember many years ago sitting through a budgeting class and their suggestions were pretty simplistic. In a nutshell, the plan was to get all cash back from your paycheck, and then mark envelopes with “tithe, rent, utilities, etc.” and place the appropriate amount for each one inside. Then as the expense came due, pay it from the envelope that was marked. They suggested a “fun/entertainment” envelope as well as “emergency repairs”. In today’s world of



automatic payments from our checking accounts, online giving programs and over-the-phone payments, that just doesn’t work anymore. (And I’m not sure how well it worked even years ago as it was so cumbersome to do all that!)

As most of us have household budgets we put together, so also must the church create a budget each year to earmark where funds need to go that are donated by each of us. There is no beginning paycheck amount to work with in budgeting for expenses as we do at home, so we need to be the “paychecks” for operating our church.

Churches rely solely on the giving habits of its congregation to meet their budget each month, so consistent giving to church budget is an essential part of a well-functioning church. Often, there are many other items that are added to this budget, like Sabbath School supplies, church office supplies, maintenance, snow plowing, lawn mowing, evangelism, school subsidies and so much more. There is often confusion with the difference between tithe and the church budget offering. No tithe funds are used for church expenses. Even though you may be faithful in returning tithe, additional giving to the church budget is essential in keeping the church on track and able to meet their monthly expenses.

A Life That Counts

Continued from Page 5

God and how I had hoarded what God had given me. Sacrifice? What was that anyway? I didn’t really know.

I hung my head in shame and could not reply. At that moment I awoke from the dream and realized what my life really counted for. Heaven would be a happy place only to those who give their all for Christ here on earth.

Why Have A Family Budget?

Continued from Page 10

Developing and maintaining a family budget is good learning tool, especially when all members of the family are involved in the process. It allows both adults and children to learn and practice the art of budgeting, and provides the opportunity to teach children to be responsible and independent thinkers.

By involving the whole family in creating and maintaining a budget, every occasion to spend money becomes an empowering event, for you and your children, the freedom to choose to spend your money in a way that you already planned.

Stewardship Resources

Brenda Campbell Johnson, Communications Secretary

For most of us, getting and keeping a handle on finances can be a challenge. Circumstances occur which cause us to veer off course while others may have challenges in getting a successful financial pathway established. There are several Biblical based resources available to help with being a good steward of the financial blessings God has given:

Faith and Finance is a North American Division approved, 12-lesson study, on Biblical principles of money management. The course offers a unique combination of management principals as well as practical information on family finances. Appropriate for personal or small group study, Faith and Finance is available in English and Spanish through AdventSource or Amazon.

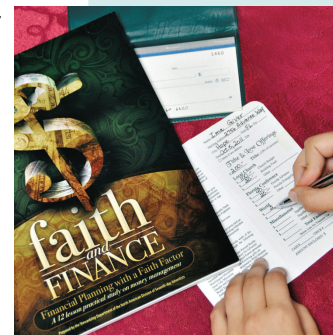
Financial Peace University, a nine-week course by financial expert Dave Ramsey, covers topics such as budgeting, debt, retirement, college, mortgages and more. The course uses a Biblically based curriculum to teach you how to handle money God's Way. For more information, go to www.daveramsey.com.

Good \$ense Movement, a ministry of the Willow Creek Community Church, concentrates on three areas: 1) creating

training materials that honor God with financial resources, 2) promoting awareness of how quickly money can impair your relationship with God, and 3) helping church leaders to establish stewardship ministries. Offering several resources for both personal and collective learning, the Good \$ense Movement offers information for every level. Visit www.goodsensemovement.org for more information.

Crown Financial Ministries (www.crown.org) is a nondenominational Christian ministry focused on "equipping servant leaders to live by God's design for their finances, work and life...to advance transformation." Crown offers a variety of resources for individuals, churches and businesses. Although a large component of the programs featured are monetary based, the company also offers career assistance, workshops, seminars and consulting services.

If your church is thinking of starting a finance ministry, any of the above tools are great ways to get started!



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Why Have A Family Budget?

Clint Hess, Head Elder-Anchorage Northside Church

Sea otters are one of only a few species that utilize tools. Some sea otters are taught at a young age to use rocks to crack open the shells of mussels, snails, clams, etc. This allows the sea otter to eat foods that otherwise may not be accessible, especially to a young sea otter. Scientists have recently observed that tool use and even diet can vary by location based on the knowledge and skills that have been passed from adult to their young. Observers have also noted that in sea otter populations (also called a raft) where a new food source or use of a tool is discovered, that knowledge and skill is quickly passed on to the rest of the raft. These observations demonstrate that instinct can only take an individual or group to a certain point. It is the group, and specifically adult sea otters, teaching the young sea otters what new foods to eat and how to use tools, that empower the raft to be more prosperous for generations.

If a young sea otter is not taught what new foods can be consumed or what tool and technique to utilize in eating those foods, the young sea otter is doomed to live a more restrictive life that can be more of a struggle than is necessary.

We can think about money the same way. Money is not good or bad; money is just a tool that can allow people to carry

out trade. How to earn, budget, and use money are all financial tools and skills that may be instinctive to some; but like sea otters, people maximize their knowledge when they are taught and teach others.

A budget is a tool that allows people the ability to plan ahead as to how they will spend their money, rather than merely reacting to life by spending money without purpose. Utilizing a budget means that you have given yourself the freedom to determine how you want to spend your money. A budget shifts your thinking from “I cannot afford something”, and empowers you to say, “No, it is not in the budget; I choose to spend my money on something more important.”

As sea otters learn from their adults, our children also learn from us. A child that grows up constantly being told that “we cannot afford that purchase” may grow up thinking that they are poor. Children that grow up thinking that they are poor may develop unhealthy attitudes towards earning, saving, and spending money later in their life. Children that grow up learning the freedom of living within a budget, are taught the power to plan and make intentional choices; which builds up their self-confidence and nurtures their ability to think for themselves.

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North American Division Stewardship Director

JOHN MATHEWS

for the Stewardship Seminar

KEEPER OF MY HEART

March 11-13, 2016 (Delta Junction)

March 18-20, 2016 (Palmer)



2016 Conference Calendar

Check the calendar at www.alaskaconference.org as dates are subject to change



JANUARY

- 1 Office Closed (New Years)
- 1-5 GYC, Louisville KY (*begins Dec 31*)
- 11-14 Pastors Meetings
- 15-16 Elders Meeting
- 18 Office Closed (MLK Jr)
- 21 K-10 Board of Education
- 24 Alaska Executive Committee

FEBRUARY

- 4-5 Alaska Teachers Meetings
- 5-6 Anchorage Town Hall Meetings
- 15 Office Closed (Presidents Day)
- 19-20 Fairbanks Town Hall Meeting
- 26-28 Arctic Native Camp Meeting (Nome)

MARCH

- 11-13 Bristol Bay Camp Meeting (Dillingham)
- 11-13 Keeper of My Heart (Delta Junction)
- 18-20 Keeper of My Heart (Anchorage)
- 25-27 Bethel Camp Meeting

APRIL

- 4-5 Fairbanks School Visit
- 18-22 Southeast School Visits
- tbd Alaska Women's Retreat

MAY

- tbd Dillingham School Visit
- tbd Palmer School Visit
- 5-15 Southeast Town Hall Meetings
- 19 K-10 Board of Education
- 27-29 Alaska Pathfinder Camporee
- 30 Office Closed (Memorial Day)

JUNE

- 17-19 Interior Camp Meeting
- 19-26 Alaska Camps—Tuk: Juniors
- 26-7/3 Alaska Camps—Tuk Teens

JULY

- 4 Office Closed (Independence Day)
- 10-17 Alaska Camps—Polaris
- 15-17 Men's Retreat with Elder Ted Wilson
- 19-23 Southcentral Camp Meeting with Elder Ted Wilson
- 24 Alaska Conference Constitutency**
- 25 Office Closed
- 29-31 Southeast Camp Meeting
- 31-8/7 Alaska Camps—Lorraine

AUGUST

- 3-6 ASI Convention, Phoenix AZ
- 11-12 Teachers Meetings
- 12-13 Chistochina Womens Retreat
- 25-9/5 Alaska State Fair Health Expo

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Office Closed (Labor Day)
- 11 NPUC Constitutency
- 22 K-10 Board of Education
- 30-10/2 Alaska Executive Committee Retreat

OCTOBER

- 21-23 Alaska Youth Prayer Conference

NOVEMBER

- 24-25 Office Closed (Thanksgiving)

DECEMBER

- 26-1/2 Office Closed (Christmas Break)

2016 NPUC OFFERING SCHEDULE

Offering Readings are available for download at www.igivesda.org

January

- 02 Church Budget
- 09 YES!
- 16 Church Budget
- 23 Religious Liberty
- 30 Walla Walla University

February

- 06 Church Budget
- 13 Adventist Television
- 20 Church Budget
- 27 YES!

March

- 05 Church Budget
- 12 Adventist World Radio
- 19 Church Budget
- 26 YES!

April

- 02 Church Budget
- 09 Christian Record Svcs
- 16 Church Budget
- 23 YES!
- 30 NAD Evangelism

May

- 07 Church Budget
- 14 Disaster & Famine Relief
- 21 Church Budget
- 28 YES!

June

- 04 Church Budget
- 11 Chaplaincy Ministries
- 18 Church Budget
- 25 YES!

July

- 02 Church Budget
- 09 Women's Ministries
- 16 Church Budget
- 23 YES!
- 30 Alaska Conference

August

- 06 Church Budget
- 13 Oakwood/Andrews/LLU
- 20 Church Budget
- 27 YES!

September

- 03 Church Budget
- 10 Fall Mission Appeal
- 17 Church Budget
- 24 YES!

October

- 01 Church Budget
- 08 Voice of Prophecy
- 15 Church Budget
- 22 YES!
- 29 NAD Evangelism

November

- 05 Church Budget
- 12 Annual Sacrifice
- 19 Church Budget
- 26 YES!

December

- 03 Church Budget
- 10 ACS (Community Services)
- 17 Church Budget
- 24 YES!
- 31 Church Budget

ALYESKAN

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Alaska: Bumpy Economy Ahead

Jim Jensen, VP Treasury

The news is full of reports that will also impact your church and members. Shell Oil has pulled 600 jobs out of Alaska both in the Northwest and Anchorage. The other oil companies appear to be scaling back development plans due to the low price of oil. Although there are still discussions about the reduction in troops at JBER (Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson) near Anchorage, if the decision is not reversed, 2600 positions will be lost. At the same time, the state has already announced at least a billion dollar cut in capital spending for roads and buildings. This would probably reduce approximately 3,000 jobs. There is still growth in other parts of our economy but probably not enough to offset all of the losses.

The conference administrative team has budgeted at 95% of the prior year tithes for both 2014 & 2015. For the short term, over the next two or three years, I think we are unlikely to see much of a tithe gain. God is still faithful and his people have also been faithful.

