# Pacific CONVECTOR

HAWAII PACIFIC BAPTIST CONVENTION

LET THEM GIVE GLORY TO THE LORD AND PROCLAIM HIS PRAISE IN THE ISLANDS.

ISAIAH 42:12

## Beach on the Island of Saipan

Since 1978, the island has been a municipality of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

FOR MORE ISSUES, SCAN THIS OR CODE OR GO Online to HPBAPTIST.Net/Pacificconnector



2018 | VOLUME 48, ISSUE 2 | MARCH APRIL

Chris Martin
Executive Director & Editor chris@hpbaptist.net
808-356-8329

# from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# Building the Kingdom SMALL STEPS AT A TIME

this edition of the Pacific Connector, we will catch a glimpse of God's work throughout the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention and the greater Southern Baptist Convention with an emphasis on the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (AAEO). This annual offering from Southern Baptist Churches strengthens the ministries of the North American Mission Board (NAMB), providing approximately 46% of their annual operating budget.

"In addition to Cooperative Program giving, an annual offering is received to benefit missions in North America. Named in honor of Annie Armstrong, a passionate advocate of missions who lived 1850-1938, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering® is the primary funding channel for Southern Baptist mission work in the United States, Canada, and their territories. A special offering which churches historically collect during the spring (though it can be collected at any time during the year), all funds (100%) go to the support of North American missionaries and their work, primarily as salaries and ministry resources." - NAMB.net

In the context of the HPBC, we see the fruits of the AAEO in our active church plants across Hawaii and the South Pacific, as well as in the established churches, previously funded as church plants. In cooperation with our church planting staff team, NAMB is starting new works, providing strategy and resources with the intention of self-sustained churches as the end goal. Currently, we have over ten church plants supported through your giving to the AAEO with several interns and apprentices preparing for future works in the coming years.

We also see the fruits of the AAEO in the training and mobilization of trained disaster relief volunteers in times of crisis across the United States. Our volunteers responded in this past year for relief efforts in the aftermath of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria with plans to continue in the rebuilding efforts, also. Our HPBC Disaster Relief team and volunteers have many years of experience in devastating situations, sharing the Gospel and the love of Christ as they serve disaster victims.

There is no greater need for our world than to know Jesus Christ. Evangelism has always been the heartbeat of Southern Baptist churches – only the Gospel of Jesus Christ can transform lives, primarily shared through active personal evangelism. Through the AAEO, many of our churches receive financial and material resources to train and empower their members to engage their communities and the world for Christ.

In these ways, and more, your gifts through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is making a difference in impacting lostness across North America and the territories of the United States. Continue to pray and give, asking that God would use us and our offerings to accomplish His incredible Kingdom plans.

As always, your HPBC staff team is ready to assist you in pursuing the vision and plans that God has given you for ministry. If we can serve you, please call us at 808 356-8329 or email me at chris@hpbaptist.net.

Mahalo, Chris Martin

# **MARAPR**

2018



www.hpbaptist.net



# **SEE WHAT GOD IS DOING**

NORTH AMERICA	A Call to Prayer and Generous Giving	
	for Missions	4
INDIANAPOLIS, IN	Be a Light in the NICU	7
SELLERSBURG, IN	Partnership Begins with FBC Sellersburg	7
MILILANI, HI	Impact Your Community with VBS	11
HAWAII	Hawaii Missile Alert	12

# **FEATURE**

New Church Plant in Waiehu, Maui Waiehu Community Church 8-9



# **DEPARTMENTS**

Did You Know	6
Around the Islands	10
Around the SBC	10
HPBC Calendar	13

# MINISTRY RESOURCES / EVENTS

Gospel Conversations (GC) Challenge	5
Taxation and Church Finance Seminars on 4 Islands	11
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering & Week of Prayer	14

# A Call to Prayer and Generous Giving for Missions

We are entering a season of focus on evangelism, church planting, church revitalization, as well as college and military ministry. As enter this important season, we as your servants at the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention are committed to the Week of Prayer for North American Missions (March 4-11, 2018) and to giving generously to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. We are asking all of you to do the same.

Through your gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and the Cooperative Program, The North American Mission Board (NAMB) supports more than 5,000 missionaries and more than 3,800 chaplains who serve in difficult places where the gospel is often not welcome.

By partnering with churches to train and deploy church planting missionaries, NAMB's goal is to help Southern Baptists plant 1,200 new churches annually in cities, small towns, college campuses and military communities.

The North American Mission Board is also calling on churches and individuals to engage in Gospel Conversations (see information on page X).

Visit anniearmstrong.com for more information.

PRAY for our North American Mission Board church planters serving in the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention.

#### Johnny and Robbin Griffith

Pillar Church of Kaneohe in Kaneohe, Hawaii

#### **Ikaika and Stacey Higa**

Hamama Community Church in Kaneohe, Hawaii

#### Billy & Joy Jones

Church 360 in Saipan, Guam, US Territory

#### **Shane and Donna Miura**

Legacy Community Church in Hilo, Hawaii

#### Jay and April Parks

New Life Church in Kailua Kona, Hawaii

#### **Jonathan Ransom**

Pillar Church in Okinawa, Japan

#### Vince and Lisa Tabudlo

Red C Church in Honolulu, Hawaii

#### **Ezekiel and Deborah Layne Tomaselli**

Ohana Church in Hilo, Hawaii

#### **Stephen & Diana Ventura**

Kauai House Church in Hanapepe, Kauai





Terry Gentry | Pastor Olive Point Baptist Church Preston, Missouri

# GC Challenge

# Issued by NAMB, LifeWay, Evangelism Renewal, and **State Conventions**

The GC (Gospel Conversations) Challenge is an opportunity to join together as churches, associations and state conventions to pledge our commitment to having gospel conversations.

**PRAY**— At the center of every evangelistic movement is a heart for prayer. Join us in praying for a million gospel conversations to take place all across North America this year. A free prayer guide is available at gcchallenge.com.

PLEDGE — It's our goal to see 1 million gospel conversations pledged by June 2018 from churches all across North America. Please consider making a pledge at gcchallenge.com.

**UPLOAD A VIDEO** — Share a video about your most recent gospel conversation. Take your cell phone and record yourself sharing your latest gospel conversation and do it in just 60 seconds. Upload it at gcchallenge.com.

Below are just a few who have accepted the challenge.



Josh Carter | Pastor Cliffside Baptist Church Cincinatti, OH

**Brian Hinton Denominational Leader** Regional Campus Missionary **KY Baptist Convention** 



Joel Southerland | Denominational Leader

Evangelism, NAMB Alpharetta, GA



**Brian Bowman Pastor** Valley Life Church Tramonto, AZ



Brian Ray | Church Member



Joseph Clark | Pastor Cornerstone Community Church Palo Alto, CA

Laura Wells | Denominational Leader WMU Executive Director

# did you know...

# **Jay Parks** is Leading **New Life Church** to Get Into the Community

While New Life Church (newlifekona.com) meets on Sundays for worship at Holualoa Elementary School, they are also learning ways to reach their community for Christ. Mele, a master basket-weaver, leads a free basket-weaving get-together each month for women. 20 ladies from church and community attended their November meeting. Pastor Jay Parks recently started providing a free lunch for men to gather and hear a story from the Bible. They meet at a church member's alternator shop. On February 10<sup>th</sup> New Life Church hosted a community "Art of Marriage" event held at the school. James and Julie Shiroma, of The Gathering, led this conference. The purpose was to strengthen marriages and share the gospel.

# **26 Persons** Pray to Receive Christ at **Judgement House** in Wahiawa

Several years ago Pastor Steve Gray noticed a large number of students that gathered at the edge of the Wahiawa Baptist parking lot to catch the bus. He decided to put up a tent and provide shade and cold water for students. 21-year-old Intern, Malachi McSherry, added snacks and games and named it "Water Wednesdays." As Pastor Gray and the team looked for ways to reach those same students for the gospel, Malachi proposed a "Judgement House." As he described the evangelistic Halloween alternative, Pastor Gray said, "I love it, our community may not understand what it is, but let's try it."

Judgement House is a walk-through drama that presents the truth of people's choices versus the consequences of those decisions both in this life and the next.

Malachi volunteered for the Judgement House in his hometown as a middle schooler and has participated in theater in middle school, high school, and college. So, he relied on the experience God had given him and began creating a script, enlisting stage prop help, and gathering a team or actors.

After participants made their way through the different rooms where actors portrayed the story, Pastor Steve presented the gospel message. Over 40 people indicated a desire to follow Christ on response cards and 26 of these followed through with a salvation prayer.

Please share the creative ways you are starting Gospel Conversations or share how you are reaching your community for Christ. E-mail us at info@hpbaptist.net

# **Resources** for Your Next **Evangelism Training** or Project

Did you know that the North American Mission Board (NAMB) has allocated funds that your church may request through HPBC to hold a training event or to advance evangelism in your community? Visit http://www.hpbaptist.net/churchoutreach for request forms.



# Pacific CONNECTOR

2042 Vancouver Drive Honolulu HI, 96822 Phone: 808-946-9581 Fax: 808-941-2309

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PUBLISHER
Chris Martin
chris@hpbaptist.net
808-356-8329

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
EDITOR
Craig Webb
craig@hpbaptist.net
808-946-9581

ASSOCIATE EDITOR Faith McFatridge faithmcf@gmail.com 808-224-4967

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR
Brandon Pickett

MANAGING EDITOR & DESIGN Patti Spencer

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Chris Martin, David Roach, Autmn Wall, Craig Webb

The Pacific Connector highlights people and churches that work to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ by reaching the Pacific region.

For more information about Pacific Connector or the HPBC, email:
info@hpbaptist.net, or call (808) 946-9581, fax
(808) 941-2309, or write to:
Pacific Connector
Hawaii Pacific BaptistConvention
2042 Vancouver Drive
Honolulu HI, 96822

This publication is provided online, free of charge and is available at: hpbaptist.net/pacificconnector

The Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention magazine was created exclusively for the HPBC by Innovative Faith Resources.

innovative faith.org





# BEALIGHT in the NICU

Unexpected tragedy strikes—that's just life sometimes.

By Autumn Hall

I write these words, I find myself writing with one hand while holding my 1week old baby girl in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) with the other arm. And I must say, this is a pretty odd place to be sitting. The emotional roller coaster of thankfulness for a new baby, but also fear and uncertainty as she is hooked up to multiple wires and tubes has a way of making even the most confident adult feel rattled.

In your community right now, numerous families are sitting in a similar room. The smallest things can make the most significant difference to a family in this position. Here are a few fresh ideas of things you can do to support families with babies in the NICU.



Crochet a ton of baby hats, tiny blankets, socks, etc. and deliver one to each room



Collect a stack of puzzle books (Crosswords, Sudoku, Word Finder) for the waiting room



Gather small toys and coloring books with crayons to leave in the waiting room for older kids who are waiting for their parents



Do a book drive and deliver children's books to each room with a note written inside the front cover of the book saying "We're praying for you."



Buy a small teddy bear or soft toy for each baby and deliver to their rooms



Create prayer request cards that you can leave at the nurse's desk. Arrange with the hospital for someone from your team to retrieve completed cards so your church's prayer team can continue to pray.



Leave a stack of church pens and notepads to be placed in each room for families to use.



Is it near a holiday? Make (or take) a holiday-themed gift! Mini Christmas stockings, valentine's teddy bears, etc.



Write encouragement notes with Scripture verses for the parents and siblings of the babies in the NICU.

Get creative with simple things you can take or do to be an encouragement to families who are spending their days and nights with their newborn in the NICU. You most likely will not be able to be in contact with the families themselves there in the NICU, but instead will leave the items with the nurses. No matter what you do or take, be sure to include a handwritten note with a promise of your prayers and an invitation to worship at your church on Sunday and something that shares the good news of Jesus.



Autumn Wall (autumnwall.com) is an author, speaker, worship leader, pastor's wife, and mom of 3 in Indianapolis, IN. She is the co-author of "Across the Street and Around the World" (New Hope Publishers).

.....

# PARTNERSHIP BEGINS WITH FBC SELLERSBURG

by Faith McFatridge

the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention, Chris Martin introduced Steve and Debbie Davidson from First Baptist Church Sellersburg, Indiana. Pastor Davidson and his church members



have formed a partnership with the churches of the Hawaii Pacific **Baptist Convention.** 

Pastor Davidson met Chris Martin, HPBC **Executive Director** on a trip to Israel

Pastor Steve Davidson of FBC Sellersburg, Indiana, and his wife, Debbie

in 2013 and they reconnected in 2016 at the SBC Annual Meeting in St. Louis. Chris told him about the work in Hawaii and the Pacific. After a season of prayer, the members of FBC Sellersburg voted to covenant with HPBC and minister to the churches in Hawaii and the Pacific. On specific Sundays, the church members gather to pray for the churches.

The church members sent letters to all the pastors signed by members. Pastor Sterling Lee of FBC Pearl City said he still has his letter on his desk. Some of the Hawaii pastors sent back gifts of coffee and Hawaiian treats. Jay Wright of Lahaina Baptist Church sent a video of the church's activities.

Teresa McCain, Hawaii WMU Director, was able to Skype with the church's women's group and talked about the missions and ministries in Hawaii. One of the ministries they learned about was the Seafarer's Ministry on Oahu. Church members collected socks and towels and sent them to Hawaii.

Because the FBC Sellersburg church members were learning about the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention churches, they found out that Guam was part of the Convention. When they heard about the threat of nuclear weapons aimed at Guam, they specifically prayed for the people of Guam.

Pastor Steve says, "Pray for us. We want to learn about Hawaii, and we want to find ways to serve the people and churches in Hawaii. We want to serve the churches in practical ways." The church members would like to pray for specific prayer requests and events among the HPBC churches. FBC Sellersburg is located at 7912 Hwy 311, P.O. Box 133, Sellersburg, IN 47172, 812-246-2563 (Church Office).

# **New Church Plant**

# in Waiehu, Maui



2 families, 4 churches, NAMB, HPBC, and Immanuel Network working together to reach locals for Christ in Waiehu

ay Haynes and Rocky Komatsu first crossed paths in the summer of 2009. Jay was serving alongside his wife, Melissa with the Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM) at Maui Community College. Rocky was home visiting family and met Jay at a youth camp in Keanae. Little did they know that a year later both Jay and Rocky would end up in

Louisville, Kentucky not only attending the same school but the same church. It did not take long for Jay and Melissa and Rocky and Emily to hit it off and become great friends! Melissa and Emily worked together, Rocky and Jay would workout together and meet regularly for prayer.

Church planter Rocky Komatsu, his wife Emily, and their family



Pretty soon, many people who had come from Hawaii to Louisville began to meet together to pray for Hawaii and its churches. Through consistent prayer, the growth experienced at their church, and an increasingly burning desire to do ministry in Hawaii, Rocky and Jay began discussing church planting. After talking with many of the local pastors in Maui and praying, they believed Waiehu to be a strategic location. It is vital because it is in the center of several communities, all of which are in need of more churches. With the support of other local churches, they hope to see a church planted in Waiehu!

# What is the leadership of Waiehu Community Church (WCC) praying for?

Our burden is to see God glorified through a gospel community that proclaims Christ as King. We desire that this church positively impact all of Waiehu, Maui, Hawaii, and the nations for the gospel of Jesus Christ. Ultimately we're praying for revival on Maui!

# Who is partnering with Waiehu Community Church?

One of the primary WCC partners is Kahului

Baptist Church on Maui. Kahului Baptist is supporting Waiehu Community Church by receiving Rocky and Jay and their families for a transitional time as they move back to Maui. Kahului will serve as a launch pad for Waiehu Community Church as we hope to plant in early 2019.

Waiehu Community Church will be a part of the Immanuel Network. The Immanuel Network is a group of like-minded churches, pastors, and missionaries who are committed to the health and multiplication of local churches around the world. Kailua Baptist Church in Kailua, HI and Immanuel Baptist Church in Louisville, KY are both a part of the Immanuel Network and are also considered our sending churches. These two churches have served in equipping Rocky and Jay and their families, providing them with resources, and are committed to staying connected to them both before and after WCC is launched.

Jay and Rocky currently have built and plan to continue building solid partnerships with other local churches in Hawaii, including those within the Maui County Baptist Association, the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention, and churches on the mainland.

# Church planter Jay Haynes, his wife Melissa, and their family

# What are the next steps for Waiehu Community Church?

For the year of 2018, the Haynes' and Komatsu's will become members at Kahului and will continue planning, organizing, and team-building. The goal is to launch Waiehu Community Church in the first half of 2019.

# For WAIEHU COMMUNITY CHURCH? ...and consider joining them as they plant a church in Waiehu, Maui?

You can learn how to partner with and give online to WCC at waiehuchurch.org





#### If you have news you would like to share,

please email us at email us at info@hpbaptist.net or you may like us and post it at: facebook.com/hawaiibaptist

#### **SYMPATHY TO:**

The family of Leon Baker who passed away on September 18. Rev. Baker served in churches on Oahu and the Big Island. He also served as the Director of Missions for the Big Island Baptist Association. He served on several HPBC Committees and the Executive Board. Members of the BIBA praised his work by saying, "this island has been greatly impacted by the life he lived here and sacrifices he made on behalf of the Gospel being made known here." Please continue to pray for his wife, Alethia, and the family.

The family of Sarahn Chhim DeLoach. Her father, Khorn Chhim passed away in January. Services were held February 4 at Barlett Hills Baptist Church, Tennessee. Continue to pray for Sarahn and Blaine DeLoach who served at Palisades Baptist Church on Oahu.



of Disaster Relief Ministries,

has some great reminders for us in light of the False Missile Warning on January 15, 2018, and the recent Tsunami Warning on January 23, 2018.

First, it's a great time to become a part of the Disaster Relief team. Our next Disaster Relief Training is Saturday, MARCH 3, 2018, at University Avenue Baptist Church in Manoa from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Second, though these disasters did not materialize, it's a great reminder of our proper response. Our State Emergency Management Agency has instructed us that when warned, seek shelter in your house or a close building. Stay there until officials issue an "all clear." For a tsunami alert, move to higher ground out of flood zones. If you are in a high-rise building, move to the fourth floor or higher.

If you are in a car pull over safely and park the car and stay low in the car unless you can get to a building quickly.

Most importantly, place your trust in God. Be prepared emotionally, spiritually and physically. The Apostle Paul reminds us, "Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:7.

For more infomation, contact Darrell at darrell@hpbaptist.net or visit dod.hawaii.gov/hiema.

# AROUND the SBC Southern Baptist Convention

TAKE THE 2018 SBC COMPENSATION SURVEY -Help create an accurate, reliable database that will be used by thousands of churches to help determine fair compensation for their church staff. You could win an iPad!

For more information or to take the survey, go to: http://www.guidestone.org/compensationsurvey 2018 SBC Church Compensation Survey

**Take Survey** 





OLYMPICS — At the winter Olympics, U.S. women's hockey player Gigi Marvin, in her third Olympics, unites love for hockey and for God. She reflects her passion by running a weeklong hockey camp each summer that draws about 170 kids. They learn about hockey and they also encounter Gigi's unbridled love for the Lord.

Read More: http://www.bpnews.net/50370/at-olympics-marvin-unites-love-for-hockey-and-for-god

RICHMOND, VA — International Mission Board President David Platt has asked the mission agency's trustees to begin searching for his successor. Platt announced his decision to IMB field personnel and staff on February 12. He said his decision was founded in concentrated prayer and fasting alongside counsel from various leaders across the Southern Baptist Convention over recent months.

Read More: https://www.imb.org/2018/02/12/platt\_announcement/





LifeWay's VBS theme for 2018 is Game On! Each day, students will learn about a way Jesus equips His followers. This year's VBS will help kids gear up for life's big game by teaching them that Jesus has provided all they need for life's journey.

These lessons will each contain the Gospel message and will revolve around the key verse, 2 Peter 1:3: "His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by His own glory and goodness."

**VBS IS THE SINGLE LARGEST EVANGELISTIC** MINISTRY CONDUCTED COLLECTIVELY BY SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCHES

VBS Training is March 31, 2018, from 12:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. at Mililani Baptist Church. Come and join us as we Gear up! Get ready! Game On! Sessions offered for Preschool, Children's Bible Study, Children's Craft, Children's Mission, Children's Music, Adult, VBS Directors, and Backyard Kids Club!

Don't forget to purchase your materials at vbs.lifeway.com. If you need more info, call Dawn Akutagawa at the HPBC office (808-356-8332). Pray for churches around the HPBC as we share the gospel through VBS.

# Taxation and Church Finance Seminars on 4 Islands

## Mike Martin

Mike Martin, the Director of Church Finance for **HPBC**, has completed Taxation and Church Finance Seminars on Kauai, Maui, Oahu, and the Big Island. Mike reported a great response as leaders of our churches seek good information on compliance with tax codes related to church finances and information about changes to taxes coming in 2018.

Mike provided two practical guides at these meetings. Both of these documents are available electronically at no charge. E-mail Mike Martin at mike@hpbaptist.net to request yours.



# Hawaii Missile Alert Spurred Witness, Goodbyes to Family

by David Roach, chief national correspondent for Baptist Press, the Southern Baptist Convention's news service.

Date: January 16, 2018 - Tuesday

Reprinted from Baptist Press (baptistpress.com), news service of the Southern Baptist Convention.

HONOLULU (BP) -- Praying, sharing the Gospel and contacting loved ones were among Hawaii Baptists' reactions when a mistaken alert message Jan. 13 said a ballistic missile could strike them within minutes.

Shortly after 8 a.m. local time, the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency sent an alert to cell phones on the islands stating, "Ballistic missile threat inbound to Hawaii. Seek immediate shelter. This is not a drill." A television banner added, "A missile may impact on land or sea within minutes."

State government officials revoked the alert after 38 minutes, according to media reports, and later said the message went out because of human error. But amid heightened tension with North Korea, some Hawaiians and tourists thought their lives could end within the hour.



At the University of Hawaii in Honolulu, students living in dormitories went to the nearby house of Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM) director Arjay Gruspe when they received the alert. He led them to take shelter in the BCM offices, which are partially underground, until the all-clear was given.

BCM associate director John Allison told Baptist Press his first thought was to call his parents in Oklahoma. Then he thought of a Japanese friend who had agreed the previous day to start studying the Bible but had not received Christ as Lord and Savior.

⚠ EMERGENCY ALERTS 1h ago
Emergency Alert
BALLISTIC MISSILE THREAT INBOUND
TO HAWAII. SEEK IMMEDIATE
SHELTER. THIS IS NOT A DRILL.

Cell phones in Hawaii received a false alert Jan. 13 of an "inbound" "ballistic missile threat." The alert was canceled 38 minutes later.

"I was praying, 'Lord, don't let him die so he can still hear about Jesus,'" Allison said. "I had shared the Gospel with him before, but the missile threat made it so immediately real."

Craig Webb, assistant executive director of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention, had just finished washing his car when a neighbor relayed the alert. Webb called the family of an HPBC colleague, who was out of the state, to check on them and pray with them. He said he felt "a peace" and didn't realize until later "how upset everybody else was."

Hiking with international students later that day, Webb used his experience to give a Gospel witness.

"I shared with them my experience about the peace I had," Webb said, "knowing that should we really be vaporized or killed somehow, because of the blood Jesus shed and by receiving the free gift of His salvation, we would spend eternity with Him."

Andrew Large, pastor of Waikiki Baptist Church in Honolulu, told BP he had an intuition shortly after receiving the alert that it could be a false alarm. When church members contacted him for counsel, he told them to stay where they were rather than rushing to what they perceived as safer locations.

One Waikiki Baptist member was on the phone with her sister on the mainland after the alert sounded. When the call dropped, her sister feared she had been killed, Large said. However, they reconnected minutes later.

Large plans to use the false alarm as an evangelistic opportunity in the days ahead.

"It has given us a cool way of being able to talk about, 'What would have happened to you if you were in the impact zone and you



died?' Everybody is talking about it. So in the course of the discussion, it gives us a way of bringing Christ up," Large said.

Kentucky pastor and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary professor Hershael York was vacationing with his wife and 85-year-old mother on the Big Island when the alert came.

"Each of us responded to it differently,"
York, pastor of Buck Run Baptist Church
in Frankfort, Ky., told BP via email. "My
mother just kept putting on her makeup, less
concerned than if she had received notice
that it might rain." York reasoned through
what might happen in the coming minutes
with "complete confidence in the Lord that He
would be with us no matter what."

York's wife Tanya also "had an incredible calm and serenity, but it occurred to her that in a matter of moments we might see Jesus," York said. So she sent a text message to their sons and their sons' families stating, "We just got an inbound ballistic missile threat to Hawaii ... should it be real ... love you guys intensely and be faithful and I'll see you in Heaven!"

Allison, of the University of Hawaii BCM, said he wanted to contact many loved ones during the moments he thought could be his last but didn't have time.

"It made me realize that I want to be telling people I care about them and love them every day," Allison said.

The Baptist Press periodically carries stories from other sources by permission. Individuals interested in reprinting non-BP stories should contact the entity where the story originated to seek reprint permission.



# 2018 CALENDAR



### January



#### Call to Prayer Month

- 1 New Year's Day
- 7-14 January Bible Study
  - 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
  - 21 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

### **February**



#### "True Love Waits" Emphasis

- 3 WMU Annual Meeting @ Olivet BC
- 10 HPBC Executive Board
- 11 Racial Reconciliation Sunday
- 12-18 Focus on WMU
  - 17 Children's Ministry Day
  - 19 President's Day
  - 19 Women's Tea
- 23-25 The Gathering

#### March



- 3 Disaster Relief Training, Oahu
- 4–11 Week of Prayer for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- 4-10 Youth Week
  - 18 Church Planting Emphasis Sunday
  - 18 Substance Abuse Sunday
- 22-24 Missions Adventure Camp
  - 26 Prince Kuhio Day (observed)
  - 30 Good Friday
  - 31 VBS Training

# April



- 1 Easter
- 5-7 Wives in Ministry Retreat
  - 8 Cooperative Program Sunday
- 14 Pinewood Derby & Mission Fair
- 15 Baptist Doctrine Study
- 22 SBC Seminaries Sunday
- 27-28 HBEEA Conference

# May



- 6 Senior Adult Sunday
- 12 HPBC Executive Board
- 13–19 Christian Home Week
- 20-27 Baptist Association Emphasis
- 21-23 Pastor's Retreat @ Pu'u Kahea
  - 27 Life Commitment Sunday
  - 28 Memorial Day

# June



- 4-8 Keiki Camp
- 11 King Kamehameha Day
- 12-13 Southern Baptist Convention
  - 17 Baptist Men's Emphasis
  - 24 Mission: Dignity Sunday

# July



- 1 Citizenship & Religious Liberty Sunday
- 4 Independence Day
- 22 Loveloud Sunday

# August



- 5 Social Issues Sunday
- 12 Student Evangelism Day
- 17 Statehood Day
- 19-25 Worship Music Week
  - 25 HPBC Executive Board

# September



- 2 Discipleship Rally
- 2 Single Adult Sunday
- 3 Labor Day
- 2-8 Week of Prayer Hawaii Pacific Missions / Sue Nishikawa Offering
- 16 Anti-Gambling Sunday
- 14-15 HBEEA Conference

# October



#### **Cooperative Program Emphasis Month**

- 7 Personal Evangelism Commitment Day
- 14 Global Hunger Sunday
- 19-20 Women's Retreat

# November



- 4 Disaster Relief Appreciation Day
- 6 General Election Day
- 5 New Workers Orientation
- 6-7 Missions College
- 8-9 **HPBC Annual Meeting**
- 12 Veterans' Day
- 22-23 Thanksgiving

# December



- 2-9 Week of Prayer & Mission Study for International Missions & the Lottie Moon Christmas offering
- 24-25 Christmas



# Pacific CONNECTOR

2042 Vancouver Drive Honolulu HI, 96822 Phone: 808-946-9581 Fax: 808-941-2309 www.hpbaptist.net

