



Just a Scrap of Paper

I can do all things through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13



During the Christmas season it is a common occurrence to receive and give gifts. Of course the most important gift given during the Holidays was the birth of our Lord. Here at Kodiak Baptist Mission we celebrate this time in a special way. Currier and Ives is a night set aside for families and friends to come together and live

out the Christmas gift of giving and receiving. So within this framework of coming together to celebrate the Christmas season, my story begins of how a simple gift can affirm so much.

I remember the week before Currier and Ives I had been praying that the Lord would provide the support for me to return to KBM to continue my services throughout the winter. I knew the Lord wanted me to return, so trusting in that and continuing to go back to the verse Philippians 4:13 became my anchor in life and prayer.

I remember standing in the crowded Pavilion the night of the festivities, waiting to go on stage for "It's a Wonderful Life" drama that our staff was doing an excerpt from. I quickly realized I had forgotten my only prop and began looking around for somebody I could borrow a piece of paper from. As I

scanned the crowded pavilion I found a good friend of mine. I hurriedly asked for a scrap piece of paper and he handed me what looked like, just that. So with my prop in hand I bounced up to the stage and said my lines. With the skit all done and audience happy all the staff returned



It's a Wonderful Life" cast

to the night's entertainment. I found my friend to return the paper to, but with a big smile on his face he said I could keep it, but to not loose it. So without another thought I started to head outside into the cold air to see the live nativity over at the barn. I felt the paper in my pocket and with a curious thought removed it to have a look. I could hardly believe what I found. The little piece of scrap paper was a check, written out to me! Oh, the joy of the Lord fell upon me outside in the cold night. I watched as the angels sang and baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph huddled close together, the greatest gift of all and I was blessed beyond knowledge.

This very tangible gift of money was more than a prayer answered. It has been an affirmation of the Lord's call on my life to serve at the Baptist Mission. I know working here is not setting me up to be rich and famous I also know riches here on earth do not compare to riches gained in the kingdom. I do know full well that the peace I feel and the joy the Lord gives me every day is worth more than a steady paycheck. I can now read Philippians 4:13 with full confidence and proclaim with boldness that the Lord will provide for all the needs of His saints, who are called to His work in the harvest.

So yes I can say with boldness and confidence that the Lord is truly providing me with all I need.

- Andrew North

The People at Kodiak Baptist Mission

Kodiak Baptist Mission is bursting with potential. The Lord has blessed us with dynamic young adults dedicated to the ministry God is doing here. While many of them are working to pay off college loans or to just buy food for the next month they continue to use their time and talents for a grander purpose. I believe that the Kingdom of God is being radically impacted as these people share the good news of Jesus Christ through their words and deeds. As I watch these young people each day I am excited about the future and I know the Lord is raising up the leaders of tomorrow.

When Tiffani Redfield began working with our preschool and afterschool children she was terrified to lead chapel time. She felt that she was inadequate to share this important, life changing message. Throughout the past year and a half Tiffani has become a brilliant lead teacher. Just last week Anne Jones sat in on her chapel time with the preschoolers and was inspired by her ability to share Jesus in an understandable, yet powerful way.

Hailey Jackson is another young adult who came as a summer counselor, returned to finish a semester of school and has now returned to grow in her love and knowledge of Jesus Christ. You can read more of her story "I am His Daughter" later in this Evangel addition.



Sarah Morrison, Ashley Overstreet and Samantha Mendez. These three ladies along with many more have committed to year round service at KBM

We ask that you join us in praying for these young people and also that you partner with us to help provide the funds they need to continue serving Jesus here. Kodiak Baptist Mission is unable to provide pay for much of the daily work that needs to be completed. This fund helps give these volunteers much needed compensation to buy things like food or make college loan payments. If you would like to know more about this fund please contact us at

Always a step ahead

As the final days of summer camp came to a close, fall fell onto my desk with a pile of paperwork. It was once again time to complete the looming biennial license. I have completed these in the past, but I was sure somehow that it had only been a year, but the saying “time flies” is true, two years had passed. I took a deep breath, as I sunk into my chair and slowly opened the large manila envelope. I



2010 Summer Staff

recognized most of the requirements, but as I have come to know there is always something new.



*One of our summer campers
playing Goliath*

When we felt that the Lord was leading us to recruit twice as many summer staff, our licensing agent thought we were crazy. Why would we go through all the work of hiring someone to have them only be at our facility for 8 to 12 weeks? On our side, we wanted to take every opportunity to provide young adults the opportunity to travel to Kodiak, take part in the mission work here, and experience life in community with others passionate about serving Jesus Christ. We would have been crazy not to answer this call placed on us by God. Today, over 30 young people spend their summers with us, and the message of Jesus Christ is not only being taught to many young children, but growing in the lives of these young adults.

It was only a week later I found myself on the phone with the State, setting up a site visit. I remember trying to find a quiet location to talk; Stockton, California's mission team was in the process of repainting the exterior of the administration building. They were having a wonderful time, sharing stories as they chipped away at the old paint. I asked the agent to hold for a moment and I set to work wiggling my fingers through the covering over my window, sticking my head out and asking for just a couple moments of silence. As I returned to my phone conversation I was surprised to find that our site visit would be moved up an entire month. I hung up the phone and once again sunk into my chair. I was quickly pulled from my trance as the patient workers, as quietly as they could, yelled up to my window asking if they could reconvene in their work. Finding the opening through the white covering I thanked them, and explained that we were crazy for trying to run a mission and be licensed at the same time. They simply smiled and continued.



In February the interior framing was completed for the Heritage Center

The Lord has called us into a unique ministry at Kodiak Baptist Mission. Daily I have to work along a set of state mandates; however I am first called to honor Jesus Christ and live my life, which includes my work, for His ultimate glory. But there are days I wonder, "Lord are you there, is this really what you wanted to happen?" I set to work more diligent than ever, going through my paperwork, completing one task after the other, until I came to the facilities section. This area has always been difficult. We have a 32 acre beautiful campus that we use most of each day with the children. However, many of the facilities on the KBM campus were built in the late 1930s and while they are well maintained it has become increasingly difficult to meet the new standards for licensed children space. When these new standards first began to cause issues we converted the upstairs recreation area in the administration building to an office area. We shared other spaces, strategically planning schedules and thankfully having strong arms to tear down and set up for activities multiple times a day. As I began to work through the space issue this year, I knew it would once again be difficult, but I had no idea what was to come.

I met our licensing agent at the door and let him begin sifting through all the paperwork. I stacked up the over 60 volunteers and staff that had worked alongside us in the past two years, I laid out the names and addresses of the hundreds of parents, whose children had come to our campus, I showed him the curriculum, our scheduling plans and much more. I went back to my office and thanked God for all He has given to us. Each file represented an incredible individual I had the opportunity to know well. The parents represented children we had invested our lives in



Summer Counselors and kids playing at the park

and everyone, including parents had heard about Jesus. Later in the day I showed the agent around campus, explaining just what we do, and how we do it. He was impressed, and excited about the many opportunities the children in Kodiak received. As we shook hands and he left, I felt overjoyed and extremely proud of what God has entrusted to us at KBM.

All that was left was the fire department inspection and we would be ready to go for another two years. However, as the inspection notes returned our occupancy numbers had dropped significantly and while our licensing inspection exceeded their expectations and standards they were forced to follow the number recommendation by the fire chief. So I began to make calls, write letters, and talk to people, but no progress was made.

While all this was going on the Heritage Center construction continued. We at one time had thought this building would be a great addition to our programming facilities, but we had no idea it would be vital to the continuation of our ministry. But as I sat looking at the new license for the upcoming year wondering what was going to happen, Trevor stopped mid office to tell of the building progress. The Lord was once again taking care of the ministry of Kodiak Baptist Mission . The building would potentially be done by summer, a new inspection could be made and occupancy numbers raised significantly.

Throughout this entire process we have been amazed to see the Lord always

two steps ahead of us. He has provided for our needs, and today it is no different. As I write, work is happening at a rapid pace down at the building site. We are full of hope, and expecting the completion to come just in time for the influx of summer children and staff. It is incredibly difficult to be a Mission and be licensed, but I know that there would be no way we could remain licensed if we didn't have Jesus Christ on our staff always working and planning two steps ahead of us.

- Kelli Foreman

Coming to Kodiak Baptist Mission

Ever since I was a kid I have wanted to go to Alaska. I guess I had read those books like "Call of The Wild" and stories about Alaska. Serving in the army, going to college, teaching school and raising a family took all of my time. I retired in 1986 and served 5 more years in the army reserve before I retired from that. Going to Alaska was still in the back of my mind. Barb was still working after I retired and wanted to work until she was 60 years old. The chemicals where she worked were causing her hands to break and bleed. In 1994 I bought an old motor home and told her I wanted her to retire and we were going to Alaska in the summer of 1995, and take David and John our two sons with us. They were still in college.



Norm Baggett

We left the first of June and spent two months in Alaska that time. When we came home I told Barb I would like to go back to Alaska and spend a year. In May of 1997 we headed back to Alaska with the same old motor home. We had no idea where we were going to spend the winter but we knew we could not live in the motor home. We spent the summer on the main land running around all over Alaska. We had a Jeep Wrangler that we pulled behind the motor home and we went places most Alaskans have not had time to visit.

Steve Purcella a ham radio friend who lives in Anchorage told me he had a place for us to park the motor home when we got to Anchorage. It was behind The Orca Inn bed and breakfast, which his folks owned and operated. In the fall we drove down to Seward, left the jeep and took the ferry over to Kodiak. We were there for the week end and stayed at a bed and breakfast

on Mill Bay Road. On Sunday morning we walked down to McDonalds, had breakfast and decided to go to church. We went over to the Community Baptist Church. Sunday school had already started so we hung our coats in the hall and went for a walk down at the harbor. After church we went down stairs for coffee fellowship and met Evan and Ann Jones. When Evan found out we were going to stay in Alaska all winter he tried his best to talk us into staying at the Mission to help with the after school programs. I was still kind of burned out with kids and told him I could not do that, but that we would come back in the spring and do maintenance. He took us down to the Mission and showed us around and being



While in Kodiak Norm spends most of his days working in the shop

an old high school shop teacher I could see all kinds of things I could do there. Evan told us we could use one of the Mission's cars to sight see, but I would have to do a project for it. I thought it was a good enough deal, so we used the car on Sunday afternoon. The next day I went to work putting a door on the artic entrance of the trailer house. I found an old door and put a plywood face on it and was done by the time the ferry was ready to leave.



Barb Bagget leading an outdoor cooking camp

We went back to Anchorage and that evening Mr. Purcell came out and wanted to know what we were going to do for the winter. We knew we could not stay in the motor home, and were thinking about renting a place in Fairbanks. We wanted to see what a real Alaskan winter was like. He told us that was a bad idea, because of the cold weather and that he had a better idea. He and Kathryn wanted to go to New Mexico and visit friends and

relatives and wanted us to run the bed and breakfast. Barb thought it was a good deal; we got free room and board for just being there and taking care of the business. We moved into the house on Thursday and they left on Friday for New Mexico and did not return until Thanksgiving. The Purcellas treated us great, we spent Thanksgiving with them and their family. For Christmas we flew home and stayed a month. When we left home to go back to Anchorage it was 15 below zero, once in Anchorage it never got below zero again, but they had more snow than we had at our home in New Boston, Illinois. We bought a big blue tarp to cover the motor home in September and didn't uncover it until we came back from Kodiak following September.

We left the motor home in Anchorage and loaded all of our stuff into the jeep and went to Kodiak around the first of May. We lived in the trailer house the first summer and while it is old it is a very comfortable place. After being there only a couple of weeks took the Tustumena (the ferry) out to Dutch Harbor for a few days. That was quite an experience as we got into 35 foot waves, so the Captain said, and the Tustumena really gave us a rough ride. I had been on seas like that when I went to Korea in 1951, on a troop ship, but that was the first time for Barb. While we were out at Dutch Harbor we wanted to rent a car

to get around with we were talking with a Captain in the coffee shop, who was going back to the airport and offered us a ride. When we got to the airport he got out of the car and turned around to me and said "there is no use you renting a car as this one is paid for until Sunday night and we are getting ready to leave now". This



Norm and Barb on on another dirve up the Alcan

was kind of strange as we had only met him about half an hour before and he let us take his rental car. I guess he was pretty safe as there really was no place to go with the car. We fueled it and turned it in when we got ready to leave. We flew back to Anchorage, and then on out to Kodiak for the summer.

Barb taught a class called "Foods and Manners for little kids." I worked on the Mission vehicles, every one needed something, brakes, tie rod ends, ball joints, shocks, and about every thing else that wears out on vehicles. I worked hard

and tried to get every thing repaired. We left Kodiak Baptist Mission right after Labor Day and went back to Anchorage. We took the blue tarp off the motor home and got ready to head back to New Boston, Illinois.

We have been back to Kodiak Baptist Mission 8 or 9 times since 1999. We had



The view from the ferry at midnight in the summer

no idea how going to church that Sunday morning and meeting Evan Jones would affect our lives. We have driven to Alaska 6 times and enjoyed the trip every time. Evan and I had a lot in common as he was a retired Army Colonel and I was a retired Army First Sergeant. He was a great guy to work with.

We decided to drive to Kodiak the summer of 2010 because at our age our days of driving long

trips are numbered. I turned 79 in Kodiak this past summer, and Barb is 6 years younger, I will not tell her age. The trip to Alaska is the last great road trip in North America. Our Son John rode his motorcycle to Anchorage and his wife and twin girls flew in and they came out to Kodiak and spent a week with us and it was nice to share with them a place we care greatly for. They wanted to stay longer, but Becky had to get back to work. Our oldest son David spent three months at the Mission in 2003. I had driven up by myself and we stayed until the middle of November, getting home just in time for Thanksgiving.

- Norm Baggett

Many have been called to work at Kodiak Baptist Mission and every story is unique and God planned. Many of you reading this have your own story of how Kodiak Baptist Mission has found a place in your heart. We would love to hear from you and share your story with others as well. Feel free to e-mail Kelli at publiced@kodiakbaptistmission.org today!

I Am His Daughter

Jesus is changing my life each day. I know my purpose and I know what his love feels like. I sit back and laugh at the times, when I try to think about how things might work out, and later Jesus hands me something so much more intricate and tailored to what I didn't even know I needed. In the past year my life has changed. If you could see an emotional x-ray of my heart and compare one from now to before you would understand. It was dead... void of any emotion. I lived like I was meant for this world rather than heaven.

I stepped out of a long plane ride willing to let go of everything... finally saying okay Jesus I'll let go of those things I never handed over to you. I can picture in my mind the smile on his face as I spoke and lived those words. Living on an island where distractions were literally not available to get in the way has been one of the biggest blessings of my life. It has allowed me to be still and listen.



Hailey, along with other summer counselors go tidepooling

I was not born into a Christian home. I didn't know Jesus or what he promised. A failed relationship that left me broken soon brought the biggest gift of my life. My salvation. In those months I didn't know how to pray so I wrote. I prayed through pencil and paper asking to feel something or anything... That Jesus would show me what his love felt like. If he was real then I would be waiting for him to show me. I waited for him... crying out and he came. Ever so gently he picked up my heart showing me layers of his love in different ways.



Ms. Hailey having fun with one of the after school kiddos

It is now 3 years later and Jesus is still blessing me each day. A year ago he broke my heart for women and children sold in sex trafficking. He allowed my heart to feel what his did. Without knowing them my heart missed them..and I felt a righteous anger for the ones who control them. I knew he was calling me, asking me to continue to live for him no matter where he



placed me. I struggled with being able to understand how I would support trips like the ones I felt called to, when I don't have a church family or the support of my own immediate family. I fully believe that one

of Satan's biggest tools he uses to stop the work of God is family. But I know that God would never call me to something and not provide for my needs. So I applied with only faith guiding me... I write to you today as an accepted member of a missionary team traveling to Cambodia, Thailand, India and across the United States this fall.

How beautiful and wonderful is that? Knowing now how he loves and cares for me is something so beautiful and amazing that it feels like a wave of calm, reminding me that this is where I belong... In his arms.

I am proudly a first generation Christian in my family. He has stopped the iniquity. I am alive. In Deuteronomy 30:6 he says "The Lord will change your heart and the hearts of all your descendants, so that you will love him with all your heart and soul and so you may live!" praise the Lord. My children will know his name. They may struggle at times but they will grow up knowing how wonderful he is and that when he calls, our family will follow.

I write to you not knowing where the support for this trip will come from, but believing in faith that it will come without difficulty because this is what I was created for. I hope that my words can find and show you some sort of encouragement or confirmation to what you're seeking. "If we find

ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world.”

Our home is not in this world... it is in heaven. It's easy to forget or overlook how creative and perfect God has created us. How when we let him he will hand us our hearts desires. He will challenge us and change us. The physical place I stand has no hold on my heart or my love. Although my father may place me in different areas of the world at different times... intertwining me with the beautiful people he crafted, those places are not my home.

My home is in heaven.

- Hailey Jackson

Training Up Children

As we at Kodiak Baptist Mission are in the beginning stages of a new year it does us all well to stop and evaluate what is happening with each new day. Our program



Mr. Erik reading with some preschoolers

opened early this morning, welcoming children of all ages and many will spend the day with us, building a strong educational base that will serve them the rest of their lives. But I would be remised to say that all we are doing is educating children academically. Dale Moody once said, if a man is stealing nuts and bolts from a railway track and you

want to change him, so you send him to college, he will, at the end of his education, steal the whole railway track.

My son give me your heart, and let your eyes delight in my way, Proverbs 23:26. It's about what's in the heart. For many of us we've grown up with the strong foundation of Jesus Christ. We not only went to church but to Sunday school and read the bible before bed each night. But many

children today do not have these same opportunities. I was excited when Samantha Mendez, one of our after school teachers asked about teaching the Kindergarten and 1st graders the books of the bible. These little guys are just learning how to read, but having the opportunity to learn the books of the bible. In doing so they are provided the tools to find the truth of God, so when they do know how to read, they'll be set.

At some point in our lives all we knew how to do was take. I am the mother



Mr. Tom leading chapel time with the preschoolers

of a 12 month old and while I think my child is the cutest in the world, he is very good at taking. He has no manners, (join us at supper sometime and you'll see this first hand), the line between right and wrong is just barely beginning to show up. From what I am told, life will only get more difficult as I train up my child in the way he should go. Our children depend on us to teach them to, wipe their feet at the door, say

please and thank you, help someone in need, wait patiently, listen intently and care greatly.

We have a world in great need and it will take all of us to help it. We feel extremely blessed to know every one of you have seen the need for Kodiak Baptist Mission and invested financially and prayerfully with us. We are teaching the children at KBM to do the same. They took part in packing shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse Christmas and collected food for the food bank to help serve the food insecure of Kodiak. They continue to learn what it means to be in need and that they can help across the world and in their back yards. Each day they are learning to give thanks for what they have and share all the Lord has given them. We thank you for modeling so faithfully this behavior; you are a true inspiration to us and the next generation.

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:45 Thank you all for your dedication to the life giving ministry at Kodiak Baptist Mission. At the close of our day and as we say good-bye to each child and individual on our campus we know it is really all about learning who is love, so we can love more wholly.

- Kelli Foreman

Summer Maintenance Position

Kodiak Baptist Mission is in need of a "jack of all trades" to oversee the maintenance needs of our facility this summer. If you or someone you know would be a great fit for this position please contact Trevor Jones at (907)486-4126 or execdir@kodiakbaptistmission.org.

Kodiak Baptist Mission

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