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West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen: Strong in the Storm

Summer 2012 provided great adventures on this wonderful pursuit of God. We all remember the storms that hit West Virginia in June. The adventure began at the end of vespers with 271 junior high students making a mad dash to the Alice Randall Dining Hall. That is where we gathered as the wind and rain made its presence known. Counselors and campers alike gathered around candles in the dining hall as staff assessed the damage. Although we had a few trees down and a broken power line, camp was fine! It was a fun night of problem solving and worship at campfire! Junior High II ended with 10 students accepting Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. What a blessing from God!

One big problem with the storm was we had to cancel Mid-High Camp. My history only goes back a few years, but at least since 1996, we have never had to cancel a week of camp. This turned into a great blessing. The Greenbrier-Raleigh/Rockcastle Association Camp invited any student from Mid-High who could attend to join them for a week of camp. Several volunteers from Mid-High joined with the association camp to create a great atmosphere for campers. There were five first-time decisions for Christ, 40 rededications and three calls to ministry during this crazy, amazing week.

Some reflections from Lee Boso, director of Mid-High Camp, "This summer, I realized God's presence in the midst of a storm, literally. The morning after the major storm hit West Virginia, I woke up early to no power and began trying to make contact with people to

figure out what we were going to do about Mid-High Camp. In the face of no power, limited communication and realizing this was a much bigger deal than a quick power outage, we cancelled camp for the next week. This was a big deal for me. In my 15 or more years of being involved with Camp Cowen, I never experienced a camp being cancelled. The next few days were an emotional roller coaster as power came on and went off; however, I learned God is faithful and present with His people in every circumstance. I heard stories and experienced first-hand neighbors helping neighbors, preparing meals, sharing air-conditioned homes, cutting trees and offering encouragement. We also were



Camp Cowen Senior High campers join together in song at campfire.

able to experience the community of the West Virginia Baptist Convention family as the Mid-High leadership worked with other camps to ensure kids had the opportunity to go to camp. As power was restored at Camp Cowen, we were

able to plan a combined Mid-High and Greenbrier-Raleigh/Rockcastle Association camp. I am grateful for this association camp, which has a long legacy at Camp Cowen, and their willingness to welcome new faces, new ideas and ultimately combine to create an incredible week of camp. I believe God was present through the storm and in the calm. God opened doors to get kids to camp to hear the good news of Jesus. I am grateful for the reminder God is in control no matter what and He is present with us. I look forward to an opportunity for camps to operate on a "normal" schedule next year, God willing!"

Continued on page 2...

COMMENTARY

Roots And Fruits...



Dr. David L. Carrico

Father Walter Adams was an Anglican parish minister and a spiritual mentor to C.S. Lewis. They met almost every week for more than a decade. Lewis grew to love the scriptures and to know the Lord Jesus Christ. Adams would often remind Lewis, "Look after the roots and fruits will look after themselves." There are times our passion for ministry feeds the fruits and forgets the roots. It is not an either or situation, but a calling to support

both roots and fruits.

We live in a culture of choices. Every occasion of life seems to give us a menu of choices with some of the choices not being carried out wisely because we did not possess all the necessary information to do so. Further, we need to understand as much as possible the intended and unintended consequences of our choices.

How do we support the roots and the fruits? Luke 14:28 tells us to "count the cost." Do the resources we have wisely support our purpose? Can we support the roots and the fruits, remembering without the roots there will be no fruits? Sometimes, we pick the low hanging fruits and forget to look beyond it. Paul reminds us to "not grow weary in your well-doing." (Galatians 6:9) But sometimes our "well-doing" becomes selfish in that we do things that make us feel good

rather than doing something that fulfills a mission.

Roots and fruits are in a relationship that requires attention and celebration. There are times we act as if we don't need the family and the family only needs us. In Baptist circles, that is called the associational principle. As Baptist family members, we support one another for the sake of the kingdom. This fall, as we develop our ministry plans in dollars (church budgets), let us be intentional in our work, remembering our purpose and the total work of the Baptist family.

Ministry is not a fixed system of tasks and objectives, but rather an affirmation of what the Spirit has empowered God's people to be about. Look after the roots and fruits - they require intentional spiritual care. Paul tells Timothy, "Do not neglect the spiritual gift which is in you." (1 Timothy 4:14) John Biersdorf, in a book entitled Creating an Intentional Ministry, noted intentionality refers to the style of faith and proactive behavior at the heart of our ministry. We must develop the quality of our relationships with intentionality.

As we celebrate the fruits of the kingdom, may we also be intentional about caring for the roots. We look at a menu in a restaurant, and while we can't eat everything it presents to us, we can make the best choices possible. ***Our West Virginia Baptist roots are Missions, Evangelism, Discipleship and Stewardship - look after the roots and fruits will look after themselves.***

Blessings,
Dr. David L. Carrico
Executive Minister

...Continued from page 1

Senior High Camp 2012 also provided excitement on the *Great Pursuit*. The West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen hosted 275 campers for grades 10-12. We even had a wonderful lightning storm that knocked out power for 12 hours, but the campers and staff were great. A few generators and glow sticks helped us through the evening. The campers were exceptional! This included 38 graduated seniors getting ready for college and getting to meet our Baptist Campus Ministries' leaders. With 12 students accepting Christ, there was much joy as these Senior High campers worshiped God in a mighty way.

Not only will summer 2012 be remembered for the storms, but also for the impact it had on the kingdom of God. ***Camp Cowen hosted 1,903 campers, had 77 first-time decisions for Christ and 60 people announced their call into full-time Christian service!*** Now that is an awesome journey and an even greater beginning for the *Great Pursuits* in life!

One addition to the Camp Cowen facility in the past year has been a new cabin and bath house at the Eber Bowles Pavilion. It will be completed by camping season 2013.

Rob Ely
Director of Discipleship, Camping and Youth

WEST VIRGINIA BAPTIST CAMP at COWEN DATES for 2013



"Where people meet Jesus and grow as His disciples in a community of faith."

Younger Midler

June 7-9,
(grades 2-4)*

Junior High I

June 9-15,
(grades 7-9*)

Junior I

June 16-22,
(grades 5-6*)

Junior High II

June 23-29,
(grades 7-9*)

Mid-High

June 30-July 6,
(grades 9-11*)

Senior High

July 14-20,
(grades 10-12)*

Junior II

July 21-27,
(grades 5-6*)

Family Camp

July 28-August 3

Older Midler

August 3-6,
(grades 3-4*)

AB Men's Camp

August 9-11

Be sure to mark your calendars and join us for one or more of the camps next summer!



Work Weekends

Men's Work
Weekend
May 3-4



Youth Work
Weekend
May 17-18

* Age group is based on grade in fall of 2013.

The **World Mission Offering** is a vital source of support to International Ministries' current missionaries, new missionary recruitment efforts, mission service projects and for Global Christian partners, including hospitals and clinics, seminars, churches, schools and orphanages. Your church may choose to direct any or all of your **World Mission Offering** to missionary units or approved projects. Whoever you choose, please be assured your contribution will be used to glorify God in all the earth by crossing cultural boundaries to help people come to faith in Jesus, grow in their relationship with God and change their world through the power of the Spirit.

HEAR the CALL



**STATE GOAL:
\$360,000**



American Baptist Foreign Mission Society Missionaries Keith and Debbie Myers Move Closer to Commissioning

Keith and Debbie Myers, two of American Baptist Foreign Mission Society's (ABFMS) newest endorsed missionary candidates, reached an important milestone on August 1, 2012 by becoming appointed for missionary service in central Mexico.

The Myers were first endorsed by ABFMS to form a Missionary Partnership Team. Assisted by their Missionary Partnership Team (MPT) and ABFMS' staff, the couple then began building a Missionary Partnership Network (MPN) to secure commitments of prayer and financial support from individuals and churches. Having built an MPN sufficient for an initial level of support, Debbie and Keith moved from endorsement to missionary appointment.

Upon appointment, missionaries become ABFMS' employees. This allows missionaries like the Myers to complete cross-cultural orientation as well as language acquisition, security and other pre-field training to prepare them for international, cross-cultural ministry.

Appointment also frees them to expand their MPN to secure the remaining personalized support needed to be commissioned by the ABFMS' board for missionary service.

Debbie and Keith are from Worthington, West Virginia and have been appointed to serve in Mexico with CICEM, Consejo Indígena Campesino Evangélico de México, A.R. (Council of Rural Indigenous Evangelicals of Mexico, A.R.). The Myers will assist ABFMS' partner, CICEM, in its mission to provide encouragement and support to rural indigenous evangelical churches in their biblical-theological training. This consists

of training pastors, church leaders, youth leaders and teachers for the children. Debbie and Keith's two children, Boyden (age 14) and Baillie (age 13), are enthusiastic about joining their parents in ministry in Mexico.

"We feel called to minister to the indigenous people of southern central Mexico because of the need we saw when we visited with some of the pastors of CICEM last November," the Myers recalled. They wanted to better understand God's word

and learn how to effectively reach out to their communities and create a sense of safety and be a place of refuge for the church to gather and worship and discover God's call in their lives.

Dr. David Carrico, executive minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention, has said of Debbie and Keith, "The Myers have prepared their lives well to be used by the Lord. The West Virginia Baptist Convention is so blessed to have another missionary family to support with our prayers and resources. Keith and Debbie are gifted and ready to serve the kingdom."

Individuals and churches may learn more about the Myers' family and their ministry among rural indigenous churches in Mexico on the ABFMS website. The family's profile, their journals and opportunities to participate in their ministry as part of their Missionary Partnership Network are found at

<http://www.internationalministries.org/teams/389-myers-debbie-and-keith>.



The Myers' Family: (l to r) Boyden, Debbie, Baillie and Keith

Baptist Campus Ministries: Gray Celebrates Anniversaries of Ministry and Marriage



BCM
Changing Lives that Change the World

On August 1, 2012, Crystal and I celebrated nine years of ministry with Baptist Campus Ministries, and 10 years of marriage in May. Oh, how times flies by so fast! We are soon having a reunion

with some of the Baptist Campus Ministries' alumni that came through West Virginia University Baptist Campus Ministries in our beginning years. It has been a blessing to see so many of them in strong marriages and adding little ones to their families. I know for each and every one of them, they would say that Baptist Campus Ministries played an important role during their college years, and even has an impact on their relationships today. Many of them found their spouse through Baptist Campus Ministries. But more importantly, they grew closer to Jesus. These are lifetime friendships, even though many of them are spread out through West Virginia or other states. They have a common bond and that is their love for Jesus Christ.

I know Adam Goodwin, the associates, and I are so thankful for the churches and the individuals that give to this ministry and earnestly pray for it as well. It is truly a ministry that is "*Changing Lives that Change the World.*" I say this all the time when I travel to churches to speak about Baptist Campus Ministries. It is so true that if it were not for the churches in the West Virginia Baptist Convention, there would

be no Baptist Campus Ministries' associates or even Baptist Campus Ministries. Ministry is very important on these college campuses. It is vital for us to be present in the lives of these students and take the time to disciple them so they can disciple others. We need to make sure they have a foundation that is strong in the truth of the word, so they can defend what they believe and build strong families and churches. We definitely live in uncertain and changing times, but our aim is to teach these students that God's word will always remain constant and absolute, and that God is always faithful.

Lord willing, I pray God will grant my wife and me more years with Baptist Campus Ministries. It has truly been a blessing to partner with the churches and individuals of this convention. I am humbled each and every day that He still gives me the opportunity to do something I love so much. I am grateful for such a fruitful ministry. May we continue to support this for generations to come and see the importance of lives being changed for God's kingdom - lives that are being changed for something eternal. As we have started a new semester and a new year with the students, please be in prayer for our campuses: that God would do amazing and exciting things within our group meetings, on our campuses and in the hearts and souls of our students. Please check us out on the web: www.wvbcm.com.

Tim Gray
Baptist Campus Ministries' Director,
West Virginia University Campus

Weirton Christian Center: Summer Season Comes to a Close

by Kim Weaver, director, Weirton Christian Center

The Weirton Christian Center ended a summer of fun and learning with great results in Lexia Learning and Kindergarten Readiness. Fitness goals each child set were met with the help of our AmeriCorps*VISTA member, Tabetta Henderson and summer VISTA member, Kerissa Herr. There were two great weeks of Vacation Bible school and Christian clown training with several graduates and lots of special guests. The library literacy program included a large group of our children who participated in reading books all summer on their own. Sixty-five children attended camp at Elkhorn Valley and 45 of us from the center were able to be together for a four-day retreat.

The summer also brought a new area to use for programming: our revamped "Christian Fellowship Park." Work was completed when rubber mulch was laid under the swing set by Jamie Wilson and his group from Sand Fork Baptist Church (Little Kanawha). Our kids even shed some tears when the group left because they enjoyed them so much. Working with them during Vacation Bible school and playing games when they weren't working was just phenomenal. They worked on landscaping the playground and organized and cleaned areas all over the center for us. What a blessing! Thank you to Frank Miller and Parchment Valley Conference Center who provided the mulch.

Our new shelter allowed us to hold a Bible study with the kids and serve snacks. The new "whirl" and fence around the revamped basketball court kept the park busy all summer. Scriptures were hung on the fence to inspire the kids daily and the neighborhood has been excited and taking care of the park

since our party, which had over 200 in attendance. Funding was provided by the Christian Fellowship Foundation, who is greatly appreciated by many.

We closed out the summer with a day of praise and a performance from the Adoration Dance Team from Shinnston First Baptist Church (Judson). The dance team also worked with our children and let them do one song with them. They were awesome and everyone was impressed!

With the new school year, we start the new phase of the Journey Project. The Social Security Administration has free computers and we are planning to get 100 of them for our program to distribute to our kids and their families, once they earn them. The majority of our children are at a disadvantage at school, beginning with 4th grade timed writing assessments, because they have no computers in their homes. Once they have attended enough of our Life Skills programs and a parent has volunteered at the center at least three times, they will be eligible to take a computer home. Next year we hope to find funding to provide portable internet access and three months of service. Our first distribution will be at our Christmas party. We welcome any gift cards to purchase gifts.

Many thanks for thinking of us in the area of school supplies. Two loads came just in time for distribution, as they do each year, from our friends at Vienna Baptist (Parkersburg) and Pine Grove Baptist (Parkersburg) Churches. The supplies come in handy all year long and the kids count on us to have what they need. So many churches have helped with our quarters' fund and so many of the children's needs. And those of you who contribute financially to us on a regular basis have made this year so much easier for us. We can't thank you enough for being partners in this ministry with us through your support and prayers!

Parchment Valley Conference Center: Reflecting on the Summer Season

As we prepare for the winter season at our beautiful and blessed Parchment Valley Conference Center, I thank my staff and the Parchment Valley Conference Center Board of Directors, under the chairmanship of Ed Rogers for their time, energy and faith in 2012. These blessed individuals shared ideas and worked together as a team, which resulted in many wonderful events and helped to insulate the business, resulting in a positive budget.

This summer at Parchment Valley Conference Center, many of our camps celebrated the great news of individuals making that first-time decision to invite Jesus into their heart as Lord and Savior.

During one of my recent meetings with our West Virginia Baptist Convention executive minister, David Carrico, he shared that in the earlier years of the planned programming for Parchment Valley Conference Center, we were designed to be a weekend place where our church families could get away for a group retreat or some recreation.

This summer we had to turn away several camps because we were unable to accommodate their group size; God is bountiful. Fortunately this season, our registered guest experiences were outstanding. New pool construction and hard working volunteers brought new, beautiful, smiling faces to Parchment Valley Conference Center, which resulted in a blessed summer.

Not only were we able to be a good host for our registered guests, but in the request of an emergency housing situation, we were able to open the missionary house to the burned-out Ramirez family, who are members of our Hispanic church in Ravenswood. They barely escaped the flames from their destroyed home and made it out with only the clothes on their backs. Under the strategic leadership of Lisa Simmons and Juan Aragon, the flood of community outreach was overwhelming. This young family experienced giving in an amazing way. May God be glorified.

On September 1, 2012, we celebrated the life of Timothy Simmons. (II Timothy 4:7-8) Tim was a young man who loved the Lord and was a friend to all who met him, even strangers. Our hearts were touched as many gathered for visitation and fellowship in the Santrock Education Center. The stories were funny and yet heart wrenching as we honored the life of a young man that finished the race and always kept the faith. We are honored to be a part of a wonderful church family, the West Virginia Baptist Convention, that enables and supports the Parchment Valley Conference Center ministry "Where Lives Are Being Changed."

In retrospect and with much praise, let us together thank God that in a chaotic society we have discovered some of God's richest nuggets among His blessed and caring people that continue to make a difference.

Please continue to support the ministry work at Parchment Valley Conference Center through your dedicated giving to the Don Loudermilk Society. Through your investment, lives are transformed and we will continue to grow, dream and live out the vision for a Christian conference center that will always support the need for higher Christian education, recreation and wonderful fellowship in Jesus.

*Thank you and be blessed in His presence today,
Frank Miller
Director of Operations
Parchment Valley Conference Center*

Fall Children's Rally

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. 1 Corinthians 9:24-25

For children entering grades K-5, 6th grade is optional.

November 3, 2012



Theme:
**Gods Olympics:
Running the
Christian Race**

Cost: \$12.00,
if postmarked by October 19.

\$25.00, if postmarked after October 19 or at the door.

Parchment Valley Conference Center

in the Greenlee Activities Center

*For more information or a registration form,
contact Valma at adams@wvbc.org or 800.879.9822.*

Senior High Convention

November 16-18, 2012

**Fifth Avenue Baptist Church,
1135 Fifth Avenue, Huntington**

Speaker: David Nasser

Band: Jason Lovins' Band

More details coming soon...

THINKING MISSIONS

United in Mission



No matter how we have chosen to support missions, American Baptists have always been a missional people. While the specific ways funding has been raised to support missionaries, both at home and abroad, changes we have had at our core purpose the desire to support those who are reaching out to the world with the good news of Jesus Christ.

As the mission societies came together and helped shape the denomination, we all saw the great value of being united in our mission efforts and fundraising. We also saw the efficiency of having a central agency for the collection, recording and distribution of mission dollars. The mission support system administered through the office of the General Secretary, ABC-USA provides each of the mission entities, individuals and churches a very cost effective way to support the many ministries of our denomination family. Without this structure, it would be far more expensive for us to get the mission dollars where God needs them.

In the past few years, we have seen a dramatic shift in the way many churches and individuals give to missions. What we have seen is a movement away from our being *united in mission* and towards a segmentation of appeals for funds. Where a decade ago, you heard a unified message from a minister of mission support, you now hear a cacophony of voices asking you for support. The result is our United Mission dollars are less than half of what they were a decade ago. This has led to the erosion of structural support and a

looming crisis if we continue on this path.

Dr. Allen Reasons, senior pastor of Fifth Avenue Baptist Church (Guyandotte) writing in support of United Missions said, "The truth of the matter is no budget can sustain long on the idea that everyone pick and choose which causes they support individually. The most fashionable causes will eventually win. Whether the budget is for a business, a church, a convention or even a family, we eventually have to pool our resources to pay the bills." I agree with Dr. Reasons when he says, "United Missions is still an effective and healthy way to support missions."

The bottom line is this: if we continue to drain resources away from the core structure that efficiently receives, records and distributes mission dollars to the mission agencies and partners, we will soon have far fewer usable dollars to do the work for which God has called us together. I fully support the idea and practice that new mission dollars are being generated as more direct appeals are made. I am also acutely aware of the tens of thousands of dollars that have been diverted from the whole for individual parts of the body. I am reminded of Paul's words to the Corinthians when he tells them, "The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though its parts are many, they form one body... If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it." (1 Corinthians 12:12, 26)

United in mission - United Missions! Supporting all we do together as American Baptists who continue to have a passion for fulfilling the Great Commission.

*Committed to Missions,
John Simmons
Associate Executive Minister
Missions and Administration*

West Virginia Baptist Convention Annual Meeting

Pre-Convention Activities - Thursday, October 18

Women's Day

American Baptist Women's Ministries of West Virginia

Theme: *Common Vessels... God's Treasure*

Speaker: Olivia Hill Goodwin **Place:** New Baptist Church, Huntington
Registration: 9:00 a.m. **Lunch:** Sack lunches can be purchased for \$6.00. **Special Event:** SKYPE conversation with American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary, Jill Lowery, Democratic Republic of the Congo

Pastors4Pastors: Ministers' Council

Theme: *The Bodies of Christ - Rest, Exercise and Diet as a Witness to Faith in Christ* **Speaker:** Holley Faulkner, Senior Minister, Fairmont Baptist Temple, Fairmont **Place:** Pea Ridge Baptist Church, Huntington
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Cost: \$25.00 for members; \$35.00 for non-members. Lunch is provided. For more information, contact Mike Sisson at 304.252.1365 or Mark Stauffer at 304.727.7802.

American Baptist Men

Place: Heritage Farm Museum **Time:** 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Tom McComas at 304.743.9311 or twmccomas@hotmail.com. For more information on Heritage Farm Museum, go to www.heritagefarmmuseum.com.

Fellowship Opportunities - Thursday, October 18

Baptist Campus Ministries' Banquet

Place: New Baptist Church, Huntington **Time:** 4:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$10.00
Purchase tickets on registration form or at the door.

Friday, October 19

West Virginia Baptist Education Society - Breakfast

Place: Golden Corral, 5177 Route 60, Huntington **Time:** 7:30 a.m.
For members only.

West Virginia Baptist Historical Society - Lunch

Place: Guyandotte First Baptist Church, 217 Richmond Street, Huntington **Time:** 12:00 noon **Cost:** \$12.50 Shuttle available, but limited space. For reservations, contact Sally Cyrus at 304.522.1030.

Ministers Spouses' Luncheon

Place: Highlawn Presbyterian Church, 2814 Collis Avenue, Huntington
Time: 12:00 noon **Cost:** \$10.50 Purchase tickets at the Annual Meeting. For more information, contact Jeannie Bess at 304.727.1394 or bessjl@wvusa.org. Transportation will be provided.

Palmer Theological Seminary Luncheon

Place: New Baptist Church, Huntington **Time:** 12:00 noon
Cost: \$10.00 For reservations, contact Matt Lyons at 304.549.0271 or mlyons@eastern.edu.

147th ANNUAL MEETING

of the West Virginia Baptist Convention



Theme: **Restorers and Repairers**

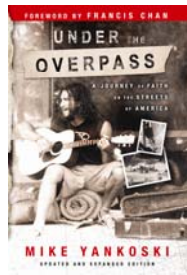
Thursday, October 18 -
Friday, October 19, 2012

New Baptist Church,
610 28th Street, Huntington

Worship Leaders



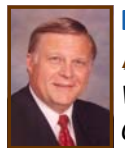
Guest Speaker:
Mike Yankoski
Author of *Under the Overpass: A Journey of Faith on the Streets of America*



Annual Sermon Speaker:
Kurt Busiek
Pastor, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Parkersburg



Worship Leader:
Karen Pruitt
Worship Leader and Choir Director, New Baptist Church, Huntington



Executive Minister:
David Carrico
West Virginia Baptist Convention



Missionary Speaker:
Karen Smith
Director of New Life Center, Chiang Mai, Thailand, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society

Backpack Project

The special project for this year's Annual Meeting is to fill backpacks for the homeless population of Huntington, West Virginia. Please pass this on to your congregation, have them collect the items and see that someone brings it to the Annual Meeting in October. The following is a list of items needed for these backpacks:

USED backpacks (only)

Toothbrush	Toothpaste	Hairbrush	Comb
Razors	Bar soap	Small towels **	Vitamins
Aspirin	Stomach medications	Flashlight **	Can opener **
Cheap flatware **	Non-perishable snacks	Small pots and pans**	Plastic food containers **

** These can be gently used items.

Please help us support this ministry of the West Virginia Baptist Convention and the New Baptist Church in Huntington.

Schedule

Thursday, October 18

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Pre-Convention Activities - See page 5

2:45 p.m. Session 1 - Sanctuary

*Annual Sermon - Kurt Busiek
Ward Hibbs Award
Business Meeting 1*

6:45 p.m. Session 2 - Sanctuary

*School of Christian Studies' Graduation
Mission Moment - Karen Smith, American Baptist Foreign Missionary Society missionary in Thailand
Keynote Speaker - Mike Yankoski
Communion*

8:30 p.m.

Alderson-Broaddus College Reception

Friday, October 19

8:45 a.m. Session 3 - Sanctuary

*Executive Minister Address
Repair and Restore Sessions (workshops)
Session #1: 9:45 - 10:45 Session #2: 11:00 - 12:00*

- Set Your People Free
- Restoring Lives Through Housing the Homeless
- Restoring and Repairing YOUR Physical Self and Sharing Your Faith in Christ
- Peacemaking the Biblical Way
- Children of Divorce: Helping the Hurting
- Human Trafficking
- Restoring and Repairing Lives Through the New Life Center
- Restoring and Repairing Lives in Puerto Rico
- Family Driven Youth Ministry
- Restoring and Repairing Lives Through Prayer
- ACTION! The Backpack Project

1:00 p.m.

Exhibit Hall Meet and Greet

1:45 p.m. Session 4 - Sanctuary

*Business Meeting 2
Recognition of New Ministers
Recognition of Retiring Ministers
Installation of Officers
Keynote Speaker - Mike Yankoski*

PLEASE NOTE: THE 2012 ANNUAL MEETING WILL END WITH THE FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION. THIS SESSION SHOULD ADJOURN AROUND 4:30 P.M.

Delegate Registration

Please use a separate form for each person. (Copy as needed.)

Name	
Name on Tag	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Phone () -	
Email	
Church	
Association	
Delegates MUST have this form signed by church clerk or pastor.	
Clerk or Pastor Signature:	

Registration Fee

(Please check the meal reservations you wish to secure and include the cost with your total registration. Registration packet and meal tickets will be available for pick up at the annual meeting registration area.)

	\$20.00 Delegate and Visitor Fee (REQUIRED)
	\$25.00 - Members - Pastors4Pastors: Ministers' Council Event (Includes lunch)
	\$35.00 - Non-Members - Pastors4Pastors: Ministers' Council Event (Includes lunch)
	\$10.00 - Baptist Campus Ministries' Dinner
	Total Enclosed Make checks payable to WVBC and mail to: Annual Meeting Registrar, PO Box 1019, Parkersburg, WV 26102.

Child Care

Please check appropriate box(es).

Women's Day	WVBC Session 1	WVBC Session 2	WVBC Session 3	WVBC Session 4	WVBC Session 5

Directions to New Baptist:

- Take I-64, exit 11 and follow Hal Greer Boulevard into town
- Turn right onto Fifth Avenue (Route 60 East)
- Travel 12 blocks and turn right on 28th Street
- New Baptist Church is 1/2 block on left

“Doing Church” in South Africa

by Todd McClure

When asked why he had missed church for several weeks in a row, the late Chadd Bain, the original founder of the Izulu Orphan Project (IOP), responded, “It is because I have been busy doing church.”

That is the story of the Izulu Orphan Project, located in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. And that is the story of our team of 11 who traveled to South Africa for two weeks in July 2012. While we did have the chance to participate in a local Zulu church gathering of more than 500 people, our primary reason for going there was to “do church.”

IOP is a strong partner of American Baptist Foreign Mission Society’s missionaries, Rick and Anita Gutierrez. Several churches throughout the West Virginia Baptist Convention support the Gutierrez family financially and through prayer. They have been serving in South Africa for more than nine years, originally serving among the Indian people and now more recently, also serving among the Zulu people. The latter ministry provided us an opportunity to get involved.

Rick and Anita are medical doctors who use their medical knowledge and skills as a platform for ministry. Describing it as a “holistic approach,” they focus on not only meeting the spirituals needs of the people, but also the physical, mental and emotional needs as well. To do this, they have designed a program that trains locals on how to do basic health screenings, while also equipping them to lead Bible studies. Those who graduate from their program are given the title of “Health Builders” and are then commissioned back to their villages to do screenings and to make disciples.

While all of us had the privilege of watching Rick and Anita train some of the Zulus, some even had a further privilege of actually traveling to see a few Health Builders carry out the application of the program by performing health screenings and leading Bible studies. For all of us, it was an incredible example of not just being a “hearer of the word,” but also a “doer of the word.” (James 1:22)

For the rest of us, we did everything from painting schools, to participating in food distributions, to acting as gophers to carry around medical supplies. A couple of individu-



A worship service in South Africa with Drs. Rick and Anita Gutierrez participating in a song.

als primarily spent their time with Rick designing the first prototype of a tool Rick calls “the chicken tractor.” The chicken tractor is basically a chicken coop on wheels that can be moved around the garden for the chickens to fertilize the garden, and it also introduces protein (through the eggs and the meat) into the Zulu diet. Again, this is an example of their holistic approach to ministry.

We did a lot with Rick and Anita and we also did a lot with IOP. But of everything we did, the greatest thing was building relationships with the Gutierrez family, the IOP staff and the local Zulu people. Being located in South Africa, it is rare for the Gutierrez family to host visitors from North America, as it takes so long to travel there. But through our time there, it became obvious how much they care for not only the 11 of us who traveled, but also for all of the churches they have been able to visit during their trips through West Virginia. They recalled names, faces and stories, and they asked for updates on many of you. They really do value the partnership of the West Virginia Baptist churches.

Please continue praying for and supporting the ministry of Rick and Anita Gutierrez. God is at work in South Africa in incredible ways. What a blessing it is to be a part of that work through our giving, praying, going and sending.

Racine First Partners with Racine United Methodist to Provide Vacation Bible School

Racine First Baptist Church (Coal River) partnered with Racine United Methodist Church to provide the Racine community with a Vacation Bible School. The theme was “Jesus to the Rescue.” The Bible school included visits from the Racine Fire Department, Boone County Sheriff and Ambulance Authority. Each night, the children heard the evening lesson from Rev. Bradshaw, Racine United Methodist Church or Rev. Pratt, Racine First Baptist Church. The children also enjoyed traditional things such as crafts, games, food and music. One hundred children, youth and adults came together to enjoy this Bible school experience.

Ray Installed as President of American Baptist Men-USA

At the American Baptist Men-USA National Conference, held August 8-10, 2012 at the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen, Lucky Ray was installed as president of American Baptist Men-USA.

Trading Post

FREE: 40 adult choir robes - royal blue with white stole.
Contact Vienna Baptist Church (Parkersburg) at 304.295.4578.



Obituaries

BOBBY JACKSON BATES, 78, of Fayetteville, died July 10, 2012. He was an active member of Fayetteville Baptist Church (Fayette), serving as a trustee, usher and van driver,

and was also a member of West Virginia American Baptist Men. He served honorably in the United States Air Force during the Korean War Conflict.

CHARLES R. CARDER, III, 90, of Montgomery Village, Maryland, died May 30, 2012. He was an active member of Charleston Baptist Temple (Kanawha Valley), serving as a deacon in the late 1940's. He dedicated more than 40 years of volunteer service to the audio/visual programs at Charleston Baptist Temple, contributing a significant portion of his time and money to the radio and electrical programs at the church.

ROBERT REED CHAMBERS, 77, of Tunnelton, died August 3, 2012. He was a member of the Kingwood Baptist Church (Goshen) since 2005. In 1954, he enlisted in the United States Air Force and retired with 22½ years service. He served at several different bases in the United States and had many temporary duty assignments (TDY) throughout the world including Korea, Vietnam and Spain.

HORACE GOLDEN FLORENCE, JR., 81, of Parkersburg, died August 17, 2012. He was a lifelong member of the Parkersburg Baptist Temple (Parkersburg). He was a veteran of the Korean Conflict. He was instrumental in the ground-breaking and the building of Parkersburg Baptist Temple.

GLEN LEE GREEN, 74, of Pineville, died July 22, 2012. He was a member of Rockcastle Baptist Church (Rockcastle). Having been a pastor for over 40 years, he served the congregations at Black Eagle Baptist Church (Rockcastle), Brooksville Baptist Church, Enon Baptist Church, New Prospect Baptist Church (Hopewell), Mud River Baptist Church, Lacoma Baptist Church (Rockcastle), Welch First Baptist Church (Rockcastle) and Saulsville Baptist Church (Rockcastle).

EDGAR E. HEISKELL, 83, of Fairmont, died July 24, 2012. He was an American Baptist minister and formerly pastored at Plum Run Baptist Church (Fairmont) for 10 years and most recently at Union Baptist Church (Union) for 15 years. He was former moderator for the Fairmont Association of the West Virginia Baptist Convention. He served in the United States Army National Guard 201st Field Artillery as a medic/supply clerk during the Korean War, stationed in Fort Benning, Georgia.

SANDRA WARNER HOOPER, 65, of Vienna, died August 5, 2012. She was the wife of Larry Hooper, chaplain at Camden Clark Medical Center. She was a member of

Vienna Baptist Church (Parkersburg). During Larry's ministry, she was very active in the choir and children's ministries. She had worked for the national headquarters of American Baptist Churches in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, and had been the administrative assistant to the vice-president at the former Eastern Baptist Seminary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, now Palmer Theological Seminary.

WILLIAM D. KOON, 75, of Fairmont, died September 1, 2012. He was an active member of Fairmont Baptist Temple (Fairmont) since 1968, having served on many committees and boards. He was currently serving on the memorial and special gifts' committee and the trustees' committee. He was currently serving as president of the Fairmont Camp of Gideons International and moderator of the Fairmont Association.

NEIL WARREN HOPPE, 81, of Uniontown, Pennsylvania, died August 13, 2012. He was pastor of Twentieth Street Baptist Church (Guyandotte) from 1971-1994.

IRENE MARGUERITE MACCORNACK LAMPRECHT, 83, of Arizona, died July 18, 2012. She was a former American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) representative in Russia and Eastern Europe.

PEGGYANN CLINE LEADMAN died August 13, 2012. She was a member of Hurricane First Baptist Church (Teays Valley), where she loved singing in the choir and teaching her children's Sunday school class for more than 50 years. Peggy loved writing plays for the children of the church that were performed annually at Christmas.

PAUL LOVELL, 101, died July 7, 2012. He was a member of Bridgeport Baptist Church (Judson). He was the oldest living prisoner of war (POW) of World War II and the oldest living member of Bridgeport Baptist Church. He served as a deacon.

BILL DEAN MOLLOHAN, 75, of Charleston, died July 21, 2012. Upon his retirement, he devoted at least one day each week to maintenance work at Charleston Baptist Temple (Kanawha Valley). He was skilled at carpentry, plumbing and electrical work; was the go-to person for problems with the large climate control system; the one to be called out if the alarms went off in the night; and the one to climb up the clock tower to reset the clock.

MIRIAM ANNE ROBINSON, 94, of Fresno, California, died July 29, 2012. She was a former American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary in India and Thailand.

KATHERINE E. (MILLER) SHAWVER, 79, of Williamstown, died Wednesday, August 1, 2012. She was a longtime member of Williamstown First Baptist Church (Parkersburg), where she served as church clerk and secretary, taught Sunday school and Bible school, worked with the junior high youth fellowship and junior

choir. Her passion was her ministry in singing and later directing the adult chancel choir. She also served as a trustee for the church.

TIMOTHY DAVIN SIMMONS, 27, from Sandyville, died, September 1, 2012. He was an active member of the LifeSpring Jackson campus of South Parkersburg Baptist Church (Parkersburg), where he served on the leadership team. Tim was the son of John, associate executive minister, Missions and Administration, West Virginia Baptist Convention and Lisa Simmons, associate in Mission Support, West Virginia Baptist Convention.

CHARLES "CHUCK" PAUL WILSON, JR., of Charleston, died August 9, 2012. He was a member of Charleston Baptist Temple (Kanawha Valley) and served on the diaconate as well as on many other boards and committees. Special to him was the opportunity as usher to meet and greet many people. His membership in The Gideons International, South Camp, brought him much joy and gave him the opportunity to be an avid participant in the Memorial Bible Ministry. He had a special love for Camp Cowen and the various activities of the American Baptist Men of West Virginia. He was inducted into the United States Army Air Force on February 4, 1943, serving in the Western Pacific during World War II, and was honorably discharged on December 11, 1945.

LENORA MAE "PATSY" YOUNG, 76, of Saint Albans, died July 24, 2012. She was a longtime member of Highlawn Baptist Church (Teays Valley) where she taught Sunday school. She also volunteered her time at the church serving others through their many ministries. She was a member of the Etta Samples' Circle and had served as a deaconess.

Leadership Updates

Allen L. Burnsworth to additional pastorate at Union Valley Baptist Church (Fairmont) as pastor in October 2011
Roger Fountaine to Indian Fork Baptist Church (Broad Run) as pastor on June 1, 2012

Gary Lyons to Hurricane First Baptist Church (Teays Valley) as minister of pastoral care on January 1, 2011

Michael D. McCoy to Fairview Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh) as full-time pastor on July 1, 2012

Dale Riley to Hurricane First Baptist Church (Teays Valley) as interim minister of music on July 1, 2012

Jason Sleeth to Fairmont First Baptist Church (Fairmont) as youth director on July 1, 2012

Gary Walker to New Antioch Baptist Church (Elk Valley) as pastor in August 2012

PRAYER CALENDARS

October 2012

October 1 - Tracie Longwell, Outreach assistant, West Virginia Baptist Convention
October 2 - Juan Aragon, Hispanic Ministries' strategist, West Virginia Baptist Convention
October 3 -Debbie Myers, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Mexico
October 4 - The ministry of Sand Fork Missionary Baptist Church; David Vickers, pastor (Coal River)
October 5 - American Baptist Women's Ministries' Spiritual Growth Retreat this weekend at Parchment Valley Conference Center
October 6 -The ministry of Breckenridge Missionary Baptist Church; Dewey Lowe, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)
October 7 - The ministry of New Hope Baptist Church; Larry Coffman, pastor (Elk Valley)
October 8 - Patti Long, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Mexico
October 9 - Roger Jarrett, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
October 10 -The ministry of Millbrook Baptist Church; Denzil Martin, pastor (Hopewell)
October 11 - Karla Harris, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
October 12 - Baptist Campus Ministries' Fall Retreat this weekend at Camp Cowen
October 13 - Kihomi Nzunga, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Haiti
October 14 -The ministry of Big Chimney Baptist Church; Dan Forwood, pastor (Kanawha Valley)
October 15 - The ministry of Fairmont First Baptist Church; Valerie Gittings, pastor (Fairmont)
October 16 -The ministry of Saulsville Baptist Church; Michael Knotts, pastor (Rockcastle)
October 17 - Larry Martin, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Thailand
October 18 - The West Virginia Baptist Convention 147th Annual Meeting begins today at New Baptist Church (Guyandotte)
October 19 -The ministry of Seventh Avenue Baptist Church; Robert Withers, pastor (Guyandotte)
October 20 - The ministry of Hopewell Baptist Church; Andrew Robinson, pastor (Good Hope)
October 21 - Joyce Mills, president, West Virginia Baptist Convention and member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission
October 22 -The ministry of Big Union Baptist Church; Danny Richardson, pastor (Elk Valley)
October 23 - The ministry of Bethel Baptist Church; Ed Moats, pastor (Goshen)
October 24 -The ministry of Dorcas Baptist Church; Steve Davis, pastor (Eastern)
October 25 - Charles Shawver, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Mexico
October 26 - Junior Nelson, trustee and member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
October 27 -The ministry of Victory Baptist Church; Robert Metz, pastor (Broad Run)
October 28 -The Bow Hunters' Retreat I begins today at Parchment Valley Conference Center
October 29 - Glen Chapman, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
October 30 -The ministry of South Fork Baptist Church; Randy Landes, pastor (Harrisville)
October 31 - The ministry of Barnes Memorial Baptist Church; Gary Martin, pastor (Judson)

West Virginia Baptist Convention staff and missionaries listed are on the occasion of their birthday.

November 2012

November 1 -The ministry of Saint Albans First Baptist Church; Joel Harpold, pastor (Teays Valley)
November 2 - Greg O'Neal, trustee and member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
November 3 - Fall Children's Rally happens today at Parchment Valley Conference Center
November 4 -The Bow Hunters' Retreat II begins today at Parchment Valley
November 5 - The ministry of Porter Fork Baptist Church; Richard Ruby, pastor (Coal River)
November 6 -The ministry of Connolly Memorial Baptist Church; Danny Mitchell, pastor (Logan-Mingo)
November 7 - Nancy Lee, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
November 8 -The ministry of Bridgeport Baptist Church; Thomas Edgell, pastor (Judson)
November 9 -The ministry of Crum Missionary Baptist Church; Don Matney, pastor (Twelve Pole)
November 10 -The ministry of Oceana First Baptist Church; Jerry Cook, pastor (Rockcastle)
November 11 - Remember our veterans who have served our country so faithfully
November 12 - The ministry of Willow Tree Baptist Church; David Knotts, pastor (Fairmont)
November 13 -The ministry of Weston First Baptist Church; Kenneth Miller, pastor (Broad Run)
November 14 -The ministry of Fifth Avenue Baptist Church; J. Allen Reasons, pastor (Guyandotte)
November 15 -The ministry of Belleville Baptist Church; Scott Morehead, pastor (Parkersburg)
November 16 - Senior High Convention happens this weekend at Fifth Avenue Baptist Church (Guyandotte)
November 17 - Lea Lindero, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Thailand
November 18 -The ministry of Newton Memorial Baptist Church; Curtis Harris, pastor (Hopewell)
November 19 - Barney Stinnett, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission
November 20 -The ministry of Forks of Cheat Baptist Church; Charles Bowers, pastor (Goshen)
November 21 -The ministry of Beulah Baptist Church; Richard McDonald, pastor (Union)
November 22 - Count your blessings and thank God for what he has done in our lives
November 23 -The ministry of Standard First Baptist Church; Gary Tincher, pastor (Kanawha Valley)
November 24 - Ruth Fox, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Thailand
November 25 - Janet Totten, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
November 26 - The ministry of Wolf Run Baptist Church; Jim Higginson, pastor (Panhandle)
November 27 -The ministry of Burnsville First Baptist Church; Tony Conrad, pastor (Little Kanawha)
November 28 -The ministry of Milhoan Ridge Baptist Church; Dee Rhodes, pastor (Good Hope)
November 29 - The ministry of Orlando Baptist Church; Lonnie Ramsey, pastor (Elk Valley)
November 30 -The ministry of Peterstown Missionary Baptist Church; Jonathan Jennings, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 2012

October 2

Retired Ministers and Mates' Fall Meeting
Days Inn, Flatwoods

October 5-7

American Baptist Women's Ministries' Spiritual Growth Retreat
Parchment Valley Conference Center

October 12-14

Baptist Campus Ministries' Fall Retreat
Camp Cowen

October 13

School of Christian Studies Intro to Missions (Mod-3) One-Day Elective Class
Parchment Valley Conference Center

October 18-19

West Virginia Baptist Convention Annual Meeting
New Baptist Church, Huntington

October 18

American Baptist Men's Day
New Baptist Church, Huntington

October 18

American Baptist Women's Ministries' Women's Day
New Baptist Church, Huntington

October 18

Pastors4Pastors: The Ministers' Council Event
Pea Ridge Baptist Church, Huntington

October 28-November 2

Bow Hunters' Retreat I
Parchment Valley Conference Center

October 29-November 2

Palmer Theological Seminary WV Program: The Gospel of Luke BIBL616, Two Units, Dr. Kent Berghuis
Parchment Valley Conference Center

West Virginia Baptist Newsletter Submissions

Send submissions for *The West Virginia Baptist* to: thewvbaptist@wvbc.org or mail submissions to the West Virginia Baptist Convention, Attention: Donna, P.O. Box 1019, Parkersburg, West Virginia 26102. If you are submitting text, send typed copy only. We no longer accept handwritten text. We also accept hard copy and digital photos of 300 dpi (dots per inch). Please include a caption for your photo and your name and address if you want your photo returned.

Deadline for submission is the 3rd of odd numbered months.

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American Baptist Women's Ministries.....

35th Annual Spiritual Growth Retreat



October 5-7, 2012

Parchment Valley Conference Center

Jeremiah 18:4, But the pot he was



shaped it as seemed best to him.

shaping from the clay was mowed in his hand; so

the potter formed it into another pot.

Theme:
Reshaped from Broken Pieces

Speaker:
Jane Gibbons,
American Baptist Churches
of Ohio Regional Minister

Inspirational Speaker:
Tom Jordan,
Huntington

Song Leader:
Judy Prater,
Emmanuel Baptist Church,
Parkersburg

The registration form is available in the current issue of *Seasons* and at www.wvbc.org.

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