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HOPE

"Building for Generations" at Parchment Valley

In rereading The Parchment Valley Story - I've Been to the Mountaintop Part II, by Don Loudermilk, his thoughts then speak true to our hearts even today: "The success of any venture of faith must depend upon constant planning, implementation and evaluation by those who are chosen to guide such a venture." I am reminded how God also conveys to us this day in His word and through the faithful guiding of His Holy Spirit: *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.* Hebrews 11:1

Don captured the vision, continuing into a new century that is touching hearts and changing lives in the "valley." What great blessings we experienced in 2013 from the faithful work of the Lord's people here at Parchment Valley Conference Center. Per the seasoned words of our executive minister, David Carrico, "Parchment Valley was planned to accommodate our West Virginia Baptist Convention church families' conferencing needs for *just* the weekend, and now we have grown into a 24-7 operation."

The **Don Loudermilk Society** continues to grow, yielding remarkable results at Parchment Valley Conference Center. The individuals who joined the society embrace "*Grounded in the past and soaring into the future.*" Through an annual gift of \$100 or more (tax-deductible), Parchment Valley is able to meet and maintain your conference

center, not only structurally, but also in accommodating our program ministries such as Palmer Theological Seminary West Virginia Program, which has brought on additional cohorts alongside the Master of Divinity and Doctoral Ministry studies. Thank you for supporting these higher Christian education programs, including the School of Christian Studies.

The **Building for Generations** is a new Parchment Valley giving platform gaining rapid momentum, resulting in positive results. For example, the Hill Hall roof was in much need of repair.



The Hill Hall roof at Parchment Valley Conference Center receives much needed repair.

After prayer about the situation, I received a phone call from a member of the West Virginia Baptist Historical Society asking if it was okay to send a \$10,000 check to **Building for Generations** earmarked for the roof repairs at Hill Hall. I was excited

by their generosity. How awesome are our people who trust in the Lord!

Please plan to celebrate with us in 2015 as we praise 50 blessed years of a wonderful and viable ministry in Jackson County. Our buildings are heavily used and are in constant need of updating and repair, but God continues to amaze how He provides so well in meeting the need of the hour at just the right moment. We appreciate the people of the West Virginia Baptist Convention!

*Frank Miller
Director of Operations,
Parchment Valley Conference Center*

COMMENTARY



Dr. David L.
Carrico

A Heart for God

“The most important characteristic of any pastor is a heart for God - a deep desire to live for Christ and to see others come to know Him and serve Him.”

Billy Graham

It seems this is very true for pastors and believers as well. This desire or drive to live and serve Christ can take many forms, each form having one aspect in common - it first and foremost honors God. As we gather for the annual meeting of the West Virginia Baptist Convention, our goals include celebrating who we are and what we do.

This has been a very dynamic year for the West Virginia Baptist Convention with many special challenges in mission and ministry. As the challenges of natural disaster and the shifts of cultural expectations impact our Baptist family, we have remained focused on our purpose of service to God’s kingdom and God’s people. How do we remain strong and face future issues?

Each year we gather during our annual meeting and attempt to provide inspiration and resources for service. As the program unfolds, both priorities are addressed and our annual meeting becomes a “scaffolding” event for our associations, churches and members. The ministries and organizations that are part of our ministry partnerships affirm the relationships that have become the West Virginia Baptist Convention.

As the wave of adaptive thinking sweeps through our church life, it is important to be *“Transformed By the Spirit”* without overlooking our history. Adaptive thinking enables us to better meet the new normal of our day, all the while practicing the theological roots of proclaiming Christ as Lord and Savior. We need to look to the fields that are already “white for harvest.” (John 4:35)

In the latest West Virginia census, 23% of the population noted they are unaffiliated with any religious organization. As we fill our hearts with God, we begin to visualize the wonderful opportunity we have to introduce folks to Jesus. The empty pew can be a silent witness to our ineffectiveness in sharing the Lord with others. We have allowed Biblical tradition to be replaced by traditionalism, holiness to be replaced by legalism and ministry to be replaced by bureaucracy.

How do we move ourselves and our churches to where God wants us to be?

- Develop a heart for God.
- What got you here won’t get you there! That is what Gary McIntosh tells us in his book, *Taking Your Church to the Next Level*, and what we must realize for our churches.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6

Blessings,
Dr. David L. Carrico
Executive Minister

September Executive Committee and Board Meeting Highlights

The Executive Committee of the West Virginia Baptist Convention met on September 6, 2013 for its regularly scheduled meeting. Due to concerns over the change of position the Boy Scouts of America and the actions taken at the 2012 Annual Meeting, the president appointed a resolutions committee to review the Standing Resolutions concerning these entities. The appointed committee is: Marijane Kiley (chair), Mark Wood, Jeremy Myers, Zola Miller and Mike Sisson.

The Executive Committee acting as the Personnel Committee received the letter of retirement from Dr. Michael Stephens, northwest area minister, effective December 31, 2013. It also set forth a plan of action to fill this position with a search committee to be appointed at their October meeting. They established October 15 as the deadline to receive resumes and will approve the new job description at their October meeting.

The Executive Board of the West Virginia Baptist Convention met on September 7, 2013 for its regularly scheduled meeting. It heard and approved recommendations from the Outreach Commission acting on the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee as follows: To retire Standing Resolution Alderson-Broadus 1982 in accordance with the vote

of the Annual Meeting delegates in 2012 to remove all references to AB College from our bylaws as requested by the College; and to rescind Standing Resolution Boy Scouts of America 2001 as the BSA now favor a position that is opposite of ours on this moral issue. These actions being taken in accordance with the bylaws of the Convention require no further action at this time.

The Personnel Committee of the West Virginia Baptist Convention is currently seeking candidates to fill the position of Northwest Area Minister and staff for School of Christian Studies. Interested candidates should submit their resumes to:

AM SEARCH
PO Box 1019
Parkersburg, WV 26102,

on or before October 15, 2013. Applicants must have a minimum of 10-years of full-time ministry experience and a Masters of Divinity or equivalent.



EMBRACE *the* CAUSE

When You Plant the Seed ... The World is Blessed

If only Adoniram and Ann Judson could see the fruit of the seeds they planted in Myanmar (Burma) 200 years ago this year!

In churches like U Naw Memorial Church - the first Baptist church in all of Burma, established by Baptist missionaries - they would see a thriving community growing in Christ and making Him known to others!

Churches like U Naw are actively helping people *come* to faith in Jesus, *grow* in their relationship with God and *change* their worlds through the power of the Spirit.

This is the kind of work YOU make possible around the globe through your gifts to the World Mission Offering. Give generously - and watch those seeds blossom into blessings worldwide!

“All the families of the earth will be blessed through you.” Genesis 12:3 (NLT)



**STATE GOAL:
\$400,000**



October is Clergy Appreciation Month

Now we ask you, brothers, to give recognition to those who labor among you and lead you in the Lord and admonish you, and to regard them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

National Clergy Appreciation Day is the second Sunday in October. We encourage you to honor your executive minister, area minister and pastor anytime in October. It doesn't take a lot of effort to say "thank you." Will your church put thought and action into acknowledging the pastor and ministry staff God has given you? The area ministers are very important to the local church and seldom hear a "thank you." Won't they be surprised! Here are just a few ideas that might get you started. Don't hesitate to create your own ideas.

- **Tie Wardrobe:** If your pastor/staff person wears a tie, ask groups in the church to purchase a nice tie and everyone sign the back with a fabric pen.
- **Text "Bombing:"** If your pastor/staff person has unlimited text messaging on his/her phone, ask all church members and attendees to text an appreciation message on a specific day. Boom - he/she is encouraged!
- **Bound Book of Personal Quotes:** Use a form to ask every church member and attendee to write a one sentence quotation about the pastor/area minister. Combine them into a book and have it bound or ask scrapbookers in the church to create a beautiful book.

- **"My Pastor/Area Minister" Video:** Interview children to ask what they like best about the pastor/area minister, then create a short video. End it with a funny song or rap.
- **Gift Card:** Purchase a gift card to a favorite restaurant or store.
- **Surprise Office Decor:** Use Post-It notes to write things you appreciate about your pastor/staff person. Leave a card on their desk.
- **Lawn Art:** Make giant signs with words of appreciation. Stake the signs on the church or staff person's lawn.
- **Date Night:** Offer your pastor and their wife/convention staff person and their wife a date night and volunteer to watch their children at no charge.
- **Donate to a Favorite Mission:** To honor your pastor/area minister, donate to their favorite mission or ministry.
- **Old Fashioned Pounding:** Have a celebration with refreshments and have everyone bring a pound of something wrapped as a gift - anything the persons likes or uses.

Will your church "honor those who are your leaders in the Lord's work?"

Thank you very much,
The 2013 West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission

Resource: Diana David (www.keeponshining.com)

Stacee's Adopted Cabin

by Stacee Carte, Mid-High counselor, Camp Cowen

The theme for the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen this summer was "Light to the World." The challenge was to take the word of God to the world you belong to! Everybody has a mission field and our desire was to empower young people leaving Camp Cowen to invest in their world and take the gospel to the world. Here is a story that describes how sometimes the world comes to us:

My name is Stacee Carte, and I have been coming to Cowen for the last 13-14 years. I loved being a camper and am enjoying my first years of being a counselor. One of my favorite things about Cowen has always been meeting new people, and this year I had the privilege of counseling the most amazing cabin. Calvary cabin at Mid-High 2013 looks like any other cabin, but the stories I heard amazed me.

We had Loudie, who was adopted from Haiti by a loving family here in West Virginia. Her favorite topic for discussion was how her new family is working hard to bring her siblings from Haiti and adopt them themselves. We also have Jennifer, a girl from my hometown. Jennifer was adopted from Guatemala. She loves to praise the Lord because "He has given her so much more than she could ever need." Then there is Melissa. She was adopted from the Ukraine by a family here in West Virginia. The way she tells of her adopted family makes me see the love they have for her. I couldn't believe I had not

one, not two, but three girls who were adopted. It amazed me the love I could see these girls received when they could have never had it. If that wasn't enough, on Thursday I discovered two of my other girls were from Navy families. Corinna and Ella's dads both serve in the United States Navy. They met when they were babies in Rhode Island, and reunited when their dads got stationed in Virginia, where they really became friends. Corinna continued to move all around the country, and actually is now moving to Illinois. The cool part is she just spent two years living in Italy! Ella's family stayed in one place, but still traveled all over the United States. Corinna has two sisters from China. And Ella has a brother from Ethiopia and a sister from Texas.

Learning about these girls brought so much joy into my heart, and I feel so happy their parents have gone above and beyond to give these girls a good life. I know I have been blessed by their presence this week. Even though the rest of my cabin didn't have stories as exciting, they still touched my heart and brought something different to this cabin. We laughed together and even felt each other's pain. I know this cabin wouldn't have been complete without every one of them. Meeting these girls was God's plan for me, and I thank Him for this opportunity. That is the best thing about camp - never knowing who is going to walk through that cabin door on Sunday. I am blessed to say that 13 amazing girls ended up in my cabin, and I pray they go on to touch more lives as they have touched mine.

Summer Camp and Back to School at Weirton Christian Center

by Kim Weaver, director, Weirton Christian Center

It was a great summer at Weirton Christian Center, with 153 kids attending our program. We sent 83 of them to Elkhorn Valley Church Camp, and this year we took six young ladies to Camp Cowen for a week in July with the Greenbrier-Raleigh/Rockcastle Association. It was a phenomenal week with Doc Adkins, pastor of Beckley First Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh) and Dewey Lowe, pastor of Breckenridge Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh) and their crew. All the girls considered it a great reunion and renewal at one of their favorite places. Life decisions were made and their faith was reignited. We moved our Weirton Christian Center week of camp to Parchment Valley Conference Center, which is two and a half hours away, with the help of Jamie and Katie Wilson and their crew from Sand Fork Baptist Church (Little Kanawha). The kids were so excited to see them again, and spend four days with them learning about the Lord. On the first night, Frank Miller, director at Parchment Valley, planned a barbecue, and our loyal friends from the Good Samaritan Sunday School class at South Parkersburg Baptist Church (Parkersburg) brought ice cream for everyone. We are glad they were able to come and meet some of our kids without having to make the long trip to Weirton. There were 11 children that had never been to camp and all of them cannot wait to go



A group from Weirton Christian Center, pictured above, traveled to Parchment Valley Conference Center for summer camp.

back next year, so we hope it all works out.

Thanks to all who helped with our camp supplies and those of you who adopted special campers at the Children's Rally in the spring. Summer camp means so much when the children are out of their home environments for an entire week to focus on the Lord, and not have to worry about what they are going to eat and where they are going to sleep or do to fill their time. It was such a blessing and I cannot thank those people enough who give of their time to make it all happen!

As school has started, we are transporting 10 children to a Christian school where they have been able to receive scholarships. As Gabby, one of the students attending, put it, "Now I can ask all those questions I couldn't ask at regular school." They are already memorizing scriptures and we cannot wait to see what the year brings. One of the boys who attended the Christian school last year had lived in two homeless shelters and been in five schools for the year, but won the award for the "Most Cheerful" at the end of the year. That is because the school is filled with Christians showing love, and our special "mom" who has taken him and his three sisters in. God is good - all the time! We continue to receive new kids every day and our building is filled to capacity. Please be in prayer with us as we address our need for expansion.

Thank you so much for your continued support and prayers! We could not do what we do without our loving West Virginia Baptist family.

Hispanic Ministries: Cross-Cultural Servanthood - Servidumbre Cross-Cultural

Some stories reveal life-changing insights. A couple of years ago, I read a story that opened my understanding to carefully consider what I do as I interact and build relationships with Americans and Hispanic people from different countries. I have failed many times, but I keep on learning. The tale describes the interaction between a kindhearted monkey and a fish. The story says that:

A typhoon stranded a monkey on an island. In a protected place on the shore, while waiting for the raging waters to recede, he spotted a fish swimming against the current. It seemed to the monkey the fish was struggling and needed assistance. Being of kind heart, the monkey resolved to help the fish.

A tree leaned precariously over the spot where the fish seemed to be struggling. At considerable risk to himself, the monkey moved far out on a limb, reached down and snatched the fish from the waters. Scurrying back to the safety of his shelter, he carefully laid the fish on dry ground. For a few moments, the fish showed excitement, but soon settled into a peaceful rest.

As followers of Jesus Christ, God calls us and sends us to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19). For most of us, relating to people who are from a different social class, race, ethnicity, language and country does not come naturally. God provides His Spirit who breaks those barriers and empowers us for the mission. I want to think none of us want to be like the monkey who was full of good intentions and thought he was helping the fish, but the opposite is true. Thus, I want to share with you some suggestions Duane Elmer offers in Cross-Cultural Servanthood: Serving the World in Christlike Humility. These are skills we all can develop as we engage people from other countries, cultures and languages.

OPENNESS: is the ability to welcome people into your presence and make them feel safe. Openness is captured in the biblical concept of hospitality, loving the stranger (Matthew 25:31-40).

ACCEPTANCE: is the ability to communicate value, worth and esteem to another person (Romans 15:7).

TRUST: is the ability to build confidence in a relationship so both parties believe the other will not intentionally hurt them, but will act in their best interest. How can we build trust with people around us, particularly people who are different from us?

LEARNING: is the ability to glean relevant information about, from and with other people (Proverbs 27:7). Remember, anybody is capable of teaching us something.

UNDERSTANDING: is the ability to see patterns of behavior and values that reveal the integrity of a people. Be aware that understanding the behaviors, customs and values from other cultures is a slow process that emerges over time.

SERVING: is the ability to relate to people in such a way their dignity as human beings is affirmed and they are more empowered to live God-glorifying lives.

We can reverse the order of this set of skills to say we cannot serve someone we do not understand. We cannot understand another person until we have learned from them and, eventually, with them. We cannot learn from another person until we have built trust with them. People will not share important information with someone they do not trust, especially cross-culturally. We cannot build trust with another person until they feel like they have been accepted by us - until they feel we value them as human beings. We cannot communicate value and esteem to others unless they feel welcomed into our presence. Finally, openness with people of another culture requires that we are willing to step out of our comfort zone to initiate and sustain relationships in a context of cultural differences. While requiring some risk, it launches us on the wonderful and fruitful journey to servanthood.

Blessings,
Juan Aragon
Hispanic Ministries' Strategist

Dave Gibbons, The Monkey & the Fish: Liquid Leadership for a Third-Culture Church (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009), 17.

THINKING MISSIONS

Joining God in Mission

Camp Global was a true spiritual experience. Stan Slade, global consultant, International Ministries, led us in Bible study as we explored how Revelation was a statement of mission and an invitation for us to join God in mission. We heard from Anita Gutierrez, International Ministries' missionary, about how she and her husband, Rick have joined God's wonderful work in South Africa teaching holistic health and enabling people to grow food and birds. We were blessed to hear the call of Jenny Pedzinski, International Ministries' missionary, to join God in the mission in Cambodia. We were challenged by young adults, Todd and Erin McClure to allow ourselves to join God in the mission journey. In sharing his journey to mission, Todd said, "We are either goers, senders; or we are disobedient." He invited us to consider our role in God's mission and to join God where God is working.

Too often there is a spiritual disconnect between the invitation to mission and our participation. Scripture teaches us from beginning to end that God is a missional God and we are chosen to join God in mission.

Too often we assume it is not our responsibility to engage in mission if we make a token monetary gift to support a cause.

Too often we clutter our lives with busyness and leave no margin, so when the opportunities for mission present themselves, we simply cannot engage.

God has invited each of us! God has called each of us! God wants each of us to join Him in mission!

As you and your church consider your ministry priorities for the coming year, let me encourage you to make joining God in mission the measure of what you do. As you consider your personal finances and time commitments, let me invite you to support and engage God's mission.

A recent study published at *christianitytoday.com* indicated that 8-out-of-10 non-believers in North America do not know a Christian. If we are to reach the world for Christ, we must get out into the world and join God in mission. If we are to be obedient, we must go; we must send; we must join God in mission.

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

Adult Discipleship - Challenge 52 (For Adults Only)

Yes, I tried to make you look! Usually the phrase "For Adults Only" makes people very curious, and I wanted you to be curious about what **Challenge 52** is and why YOU should be involved.

In a recent article for Adult Discipleship, we have stressed the importance of scripture being embedded in the hearts of Christians in order for them to move forward in their Christian walk. The Bible is God's written message to us and its contents are crucial to our process of maturing as followers of Jesus Christ. We need to know the Bible AND make it an integral part of our lives every day. Yes, this means those of you over 18 too!

As a young child, one of the very first Bible verses I learned was Psalm 119:11 (KJV), "Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against Thee." I learned it in Vacation Bible School as we sang a special song every year when we did the salute to the Bible. To "hide" does not mean to keep it away and a secret from others, but means to honor, treasure and make God's word a part of your very being.

I have found that more and more adults do not see the need to memorize God's word. After all, we can get it on our computers and smartphones in an instant. Why bother? The point is to spend time making God's word a part of you, so His promises, commands and teachings come to you as easily as your own name, and when you are in need of His guidance,

comfort and wisdom these come to you without the need of equipment. God's word is in your memory!

At the West Virginian Baptist Convention Annual Meeting October 17-18, 2013, **Challenge 52** will begin. The challenge is to memorize 52 scripture verses in one year. The challenge will begin October 21, 2013 and go to the 2014 Annual Meeting. Materials will be available to assist you. These can be picked up at the Adult Discipleship exhibit at the Annual Meeting. Start-up materials can also be sent out to those not attending the meeting, and further information will be available throughout the year on the West Virginia Baptist Convention website: www.wvbc.org, under Discipleship Commission. Everyone can be involved! Let's make this a convention wide activity and celebrate how many verses we can learn next year. Will you join us?

Psalm 1:1-3, Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

Lisa Simmons
Associate in Mission Support and Adult Discipleship

Ministers' Wives' Retreat

November 1-3, 2013
Parchment Valley Conference Center

Schedule: Friday night program begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Santrock Education Center. Registration begins at 6:00 p.m. Program concludes Sunday before lunch.

Speaker:
Mandy Burton Jordan

Special Music:
The Gassaway Baptist Church Choir

Cost: \$75.00 Double Occupancy,
\$105.00 Single Occupancy
(Both fees include lodging for two nights, meals and program fee)

For more information, contact Lynne Stauffer at staufferlynn@gmail.com or 304.721.8307.

Limited scholarships available.

Registration forms will be available online.

Senior High Convention

Senior High Convention is a three-day event designed to equip, challenge and encourage the Christian walk of Senior High students in grades 9-12.

November 22-24, 2013
Simpson Creek Baptist Church, Bridgeport

Cost: \$30.00,
including adults, if postmarked by
November 15 with fee enclosed. \$35.00 if
postmarked after November 15 or at the door.

Band: Abandon

Housing Deadline is November 15.

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

Registration forms will be available online.

148th ANNUAL MEETING

of the West Virginia Baptist Convention

HOPE

Theme:

**Christ In You,
The Hope of Glory**

**Thursday, October 17 -
Friday, October 18, 2013**

Simpson Creek Baptist Church,
231 West Philadelphia Avenue, Bridgeport

Featuring:

Guest Speaker: **Lauran Bethell**
Global Consultant with International Ministries,
American Baptist Church in the U.S.A

Annual Sermon Speaker: **Lee Boso**
Associate and Youth Pastor, Summersville Baptist Church

Worship Leader: **Pamela McClain**
Director, Choral Department, Parkersburg High School

**“May the God of hope fill you with
all joy and peace as you trust in Him,
so that you may overflow with hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit.”**

Romans 15:13 (NIV)

Pre-Convention Activities

Thursday, October 17

Women's Day

American Baptist Women's Ministries
of West Virginia

Theme: *Designed to Serve*

Speaker: *Lauran Bethell*

Place: *Simpson Creek Baptist Church*

Registration: *9:00 a.m.*

Lunch: *Sack lunches can be purchased
for \$6.00.*

Pastors4Pastors: Ministers' Council

Theme: *Discipleship and
Family Ministry*

Place: *Bridgeport Presbyterian Church
1 John Calvin Drive,
Bridgeport*

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 Eric
Hayslett (304.562.9281 or
304.638.7349; email:
eric@fbcoh.com)

American Baptist Men

Place: *Pricketts Fort*

Time: *10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.*

Cost: *\$12.00*

R.S.V.P. to Harry Drake at
304.462.7933 or hdrake@wv.net.
Shuttle available, but limited space

Schedule

Thursday, October 17

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Pre-Convention Activities

2:45 p.m. Session 1 - Sanctuary

Mission Moment - *Juan Aragon*

Annual Sermon - *Lee Boso*

Ward Hibbs Award

Business Meeting 1

6:30 p.m. Session 2 - Sanctuary

School of Christian Studies' Graduation

Mission Moment - *Kim Weaver*

Keynote Speaker - *Lauran Bethell*

Friday, October 18

8:45 a.m. Session 3 - Sanctuary

Mission Moment - *Rob Ely*

Executive Minister Address

Workshops

1:45 p.m.

Exhibit Hall Meet and Greet

2:45 p.m. Session 4 - Sanctuary

Mission Moment - *Herman Robinson*

Business Meeting 2

Recognition of New Ministers

Recognition of Retiring Ministers

Installation of Officers

6:45 p.m. Session 5 - Sanctuary

Mission Moment - *Frank Miller*

Keynote Speaker - *Lauran Bethell*

Communion

Directions

From US Route 50:

- Turn left onto CR-24 / North Virginia Avenue
- Turn right onto West Philadelphia Avenue
- Church is on the right

From I-79:

- Take the US-50 exit, Exit 119
- Turn right onto US-50 East
- Turn left onto CR-24 / North Virginia Avenue
- Turn right onto West Philadelphia Avenue
- Church is on the right

*The convention mission project for 2013 is collecting
canned goods for The Shepherd's Corner
and Clarksburg Mission.*

Delegate Registration Registration Fee

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

Name	
Name on Tag	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Email	Phone () -
Church	
Association	

Delegates MUST have this form signed by church clerk or pastor.

Clerk or Pastor Signature:

(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 pickup at the annual meeting registration area.)

	\$20.00 Delegate and Visitor Fee (REQUIRED)
	\$25.00 - Members - Ministers' Council Event (Includes lunch)
	\$35.00 - Non-Members - 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).

Names and ages of children:

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

Crossroads Community and Clearview Fellowship Come Together for Mission in Pineville

Crossroads Community Chapel (Teays Valley) and Clearview Fellowship (Greenbrier-Raleigh) spent a week in Pineville, June 16-21, 2013. In cooperation with Cook Memorial Baptist Church (Rockcastle), 25 youth and adults from the two churches came together to paint two houses, clear brush at one house and replace kitchen cabinets and a sink top at another. The youth from Cook Memorial hosted a youth get-together every night, complete with live music from Nick Joyce and challenging messages from Filip Vlastic, the youth director of



Stacks of brush cleared away by the Crossroads Community Chapel and Clearview Fellowship.

Crossroads Community Chapel and Dillon Adams, youth director at Cook Memorial Baptist Church. During the week, Cook Memorial Baptist Church had Vacation Bible School in the evening, and adults from the mission trip helped with it. Keith Reed, pastor of Cook Memorial Baptist Church, was a great help in organizing work projects and acquiring tools necessary to accomplish the projects. It was a great trip. All involved were blessed, and plans are being made to do it again next year.

Milton Baptist Church Celebrates 135th Anniversary

Milton Baptist Church (Guyandotte) celebrated its 135th anniversary on July 28, 2013 with a special service followed by a luncheon. That morning, special music lifted the experience of worship. Speakers included Rev. Tracy Mills, associate pastor, Milton Baptist Church; Rev. Allen Stewart, pastor, Milton Baptist Church; Rev. Craig Coster, southwest area minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention; and Dr. David Carrico, executive minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Rick Watson, pastor, Union Baptist Church (Guyandotte), the mother church for Milton's origination in the 1870s.

Tracy Mills told the history of the deliberations that resulted in the founding of Milton Baptist Church. The first meeting of the church took place at 1123 Church Street in Milton on July 28, 1878, according to historical records. One hundred thirty-five years later,

Milton Baptist Church is known as a lighthouse to the community, hosting *Fun on the Lawn* at April Dawn Park in Milton four times per year; *Upward Soccer* which has grown to over 300 students and their families every Saturday; frequent Red Cross Blood Drives; and will begin an afterschool program in cooperation with Milton Elementary School in the 2013-2014 school year. Eight members of Milton Baptist Church just returned from Okinawa, Japan, visiting with David, Leslie and Joanna Turley. Following Hurricane Katrina, Milton Baptist Church has visited Mississippi four times.

Milton Baptist Church continues to be involved in the Guyandotte Association and is passionately seeking to ***“Know Christ and to Make Him Known.”*** This is more than a motto. This is ministry. And, this is the life of Milton Baptist Church as they enter their 135th year of ministry to God's glory.

was Charlie Workman, chairman of the deacons at the church.

This is an exciting time for the Big Hurricane Missionary Baptist Church. Not only has their pastor been ordained, but they are well into a building program. The weekly attendance at the church is between 70-75 and the present facility seats about 85-90. For special services, chairs are set in the aisles with standing room in the back of the church. When completed, this new sanctuary will allow them to seat about 220 comfortably. They are fervently praying God will fill the sanctuary and they would always be a place of grace in ministry.

Perry Ordained

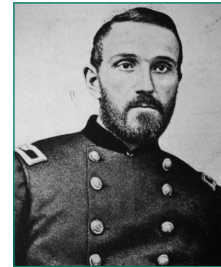
Anthony “Tony” Perry, pastor, Big Hurricane Missionary Baptist Church (Twelve Pole), was ordained into the gospel ministry on August 25, 2013. The meeting was moderated by Tim Preston, chairman of the ordination committee for the association.

The charge to the candidate was presented by Tim Preston. The charge to the church was presented by Craig Coster, southwest area minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention. Special music was presented by Perry's brothers and Sally Brewer. Also participating in the service

West Virginia Baptist Historical Society to Host Annual Luncheon

The West Virginia Baptist Historical Society will be celebrating West Virginia's Sesquicentennial at its annual meeting and luncheon on Friday, October 18, 2013 at Bridgeport Baptist Church (Judson) at noon.

A first person monologue of Brigadier General Joseph Andrew Jackson Lightburn will be given by Dick Hepler. Lightburn was a Union General during the Civil War. He and General Stonewall Jackson were neighbors in Lewis County. Following the Civil War, Lightburn was ordained as a minister of the gospel and served the Broad Run Baptist Church (Broad Run) as well as



Brigadier General Joseph Andrew Jackson Lightburn

other churches in north central West Virginia. Don't miss the opportunity to “hear” Rev. Lightburn, who has been called “one of Lincoln's best.”

The luncheon cost is \$10.00 and reservations are limited to 50. To make a reservation or for more information, please contact Sally Cyrus at 304.522.1030 or sllcrs10@gmail.com.

Children's Rally

November 9, 2013

Parchment Valley Conference Center

Registration forms will be available online.



Obituaries

PAUL VENDOR ANDERSON, 78, of Bridgeport, died July 18, 2013. He had been an active member of

Boothsville Baptist Church (Fairmont) since 1963. He had been the Sunday school superintendent, worship leader, ordained deacon and member of American Baptist Men.

HELEN RUSHBROOK BAZZARRE, 88, of Beckley, died July 15, 2013. She was a member of Beckley First Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh), having served as deaconess, chairman of the kitchen committee and Fellowship Sunday School Class where she served as president for many years. She served in the Cadet Nurses Corps during World War II.

EVERETTE "EDDIE" BLAKE, 52, of Fayetteville, died July 2, 2013. He was a member of Fayetteville Baptist Church (Fayette), where he was an ordained deacon. He served on the board of Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

PHILLIP CAMERON BOWYER, 84, of Saint Albans, died August 23, 2013. He was an active member at Highlawn Baptist Church (Teays Valley) for over 50 years. He served on the board of deacons and board of trustees and was honored with the award of Usher Emeritus on April 15, 2012, for the many years he ushered. He also worked for many years with church camps and Bible school. He served in the United States Navy, with five years active duty during the Korean War and 23 years in Naval Reserves and Seabees.

PAUL E. BRADBURY, 90, of Cape Coral, Florida, formerly of Dunbar, died July 26, 2013. He was a member of Dunbar First Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) and served on the board of trustees. He was a World War II veteran, serving in the China-Burma-India Theater, where he was awarded a Bronze Star.

ESTHER DOUGLASS CONAWAY, 91, of Fairmont, died August 12, 2013. She was an 80-plus-year member of Fairmont First Baptist Church (Fairmont), where she was a past deacon, moderator and trustee.

JAMES R. "JIM BOB" CROUCH, 55, of Sarasota, Florida, died June 25, 2013. He was a Baptist by faith. He was the son of Rev. Jim Crouch of Summersville.

WILLIAM "BILL" EDWIN, 85, of Martinsville City, Virginia, died July 3, 2013. He was a former American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Burma.

ROBERT "BOB" EMERSON FERRELL, 78, of Charleston, died August 17, 2013. He was a member of Dunbar First Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley). He also served in the Navy.

LOREN JACKSON FOX, SR., 87, of Oak Hill, died August 5, 2013. He was an active member of Oak Hill Baptist Church (Fayette), where he enjoyed singing in the choir. He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II.

KAREN S. TROUTMAN HOPTRY, 73, of Hurricane, died August 18, 2013. She was a member of Kingwood Baptist Church (Goshen) and Nitro First Baptist Church (Teays Valley). She served with her husband, Dr. Lawrence Hoptry in the ministry of Christ for 48 years.

DONALD "DONNIE" WAYNE JOHNSON, 70, of Grantsville, died August 5, 2013. He was a member of Grantsville First Baptist Church (Little Kanawha), where he was a trustee.

CHARLES "SKIP" KINDER, 85, of Charleston, died August 3, 2013. His wife, **DOROTHY HALL KINDER**, 85, of Charleston, died August 6, 2013. Both were long-time members of Oakwood Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley).

OLGA MARIE BURNS POWELL, 90, died July 20, 2013. She was a member of Salem Baptist Church (Broad Run), where she was a long time teacher of the Broadwater Sunday School Class and the first woman on the board of deacons.

ARTHUR "ART" LEE POWERS, 74, of Milton, died July 24, 2013. He was an active member of Milton Baptist Church (Guyandotte). He was a veteran of the United States Army, serving his country in Germany.

WANDA CARR THOMPSON, died June 30, 2013. She was the longest serving member at Nitro First Baptist Church (Teays Valley). She joined the church in 1939 and continued to work and serve until her passing. She belonged to the Elsie Kittlitz Circle, served as the church secretary for 15 years, taught Sunday school classes and served on many church boards and in nursery school.

DON L. WALKER, 82, of Ravenswood, died April 11, 2013. He was a pastor for 48 years in Ohio and West Virginia and currently pastor at Antiquity Baptist Church in Racine, Ohio. He did revivals in many states throughout his ministry.

Leadership Updates

Terry Blake to Mount Union Missionary Baptist Church (Guyandotte) as pastor on February 2, 2013

Allen L. Burnsworth to Coon's Run Baptist Church (Judson) as pastor on August 25, 2013

Bill Coffindaffer to Indian Fork Baptist Church (Broad Run) as co-pastor on July 1, 2013

Brinton Easley to Providence Baptist Church (Teays Valley) as pastor on April 1, 2013

Daniel E. Fisher to Indian Fork Baptist Church (Broad Run) as co-pastor on July 1, 2013

Brad Harris to Simpson Creek Baptist Church (Union) as associate in Christian Education and children on July 1, 2013

Trading Post

FREE: Gulbransen Electric Organ with foot pedal keyboard. For more information, contact Chris Hicks at Shuck Memorial Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh) at 304.645.6130 or jchrissyh_3@hotmail.com.

PRAYER CALENDARS

October 2013

October 1 - Tracie Longwell, Outreach assistant, West Virginia Baptist Convention
October 2 - Juan Aragon, Hispanic strategist, West Virginia Baptist Convention
October 3 -Debbie Myers, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Mexico
October 4 - The Baptist Campus Ministries' Retreat this weekend at Parchment Valley Conference Center
October 5 - The ministry of Beaver First Baptist Church; Steve Gibson, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)
October 6 -The ministry of Chapel Baptist Church; Harold Francis, pastor (Little Kanawha)
October 7 - The ministry of Concord Baptist Church; Richard Tench, pastor (Teays Valley)
October 8 - Patti Long, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Mexico
October 9 - Roger Jarrett, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
October 10 -The ministry of Big Clear Creek Baptist Church; Glen Kuhn, pastor (Hopewell)
October 11 - The American Baptist Women's Ministries' Spiritual Growth Retreat this weekend at Parchment Valley Conference Center
October 12 - The ministry of Boaz Baptist Church; Robert Alfred, pastor (Parkersburg)
October 13 - Kihomi Nzunga, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Haiti
October 14 -The ministry of Bethel Baptist Church; Randal Bratka, pastor (Kanawha Valley)
October 15 - The ministry of Boothsville Baptist Church; Gerald Nuzum, pastor (Fairmont Association)
October 16 -The ministry of Bellemeade Baptist Church; Nathan Vance, pastor (Rockcastle)
October 17 - The West Virginia Baptist Convention 148th Annual Meeting begins today at Simpson Creek Baptist Church (Union)
October 18 - The ministry of Bethany Baptist Church; Dan Unger, pastor (Union)
October 19 -The ministry of Central Big Creek Baptist Church; Clifford Wilcoxon, pastor (Guyandotte)
October 20 - The ministry of Ravenswood First Baptist Church; Mark Gerstell, 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 Otter Baptist Church; Fred Patterson, pastor (Elk Valley)
October 23 - The ministry of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church; Michael Harriman, pastor (Goshen)
October 24 -The ministry of Comunidad Luz Y Vida (Eastern Association)
October 25 - Charles Shawver, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Mexico
October 26 - Junior Nelson, trustee and member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
October 27 -The ministry of West Union Baptist Church; Dan Chadwick, pastor (Broad Run)
October 28 -Karla Harris, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
October 29 - Glen Chapman, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
October 30 -The ministry of Harrisville Baptist Church; Robert Perine, pastor (Harrisville)
October 31 - The ministry of Coon's Run Baptist Church; Allen Burnsworth, pastor (Judson)

November 2013

November 1 -The ministry of Riverside Baptist Church; Michael Hanna, pastor (Teays Valley)
November 2 - Leslie Turley, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Japan
November 3 - Kim Brown, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Thailand
November 4 -The ministry of Macedonia Baptist Church; Paul Holton, pastor (Twelve Pole)
November 5 - The ministry of Olive Baptist Church; Walter Ray Williams, pastor (Coal River)
November 6 -The ministry of Logan First Baptist Church; Tim Barnhouse, pastor (Logan-Mingo)
November 7 - Nancy Lee, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
November 8 -The ministry of Wallace First Baptist Church; Keith Swiger, pastor (Judson)
November 9 -The Children's Fall Rally today at Parchment Valley Conference Center
November 10 -The ministry of Toned Baptist Church; James Hamrick, pastor (Rockcastle)
November 11 - Kit Ripley, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Thailand
November 12 - The ministry of Plum Run Baptist Church; Bill Masters, pastor (Fairmont)
November 13 -The ministry of Sago Baptist Church; Wease Day, pastor (Broad Run)
November 14 -The ministry of Providence Baptist Church; William Spears, pastor (Guyandotte)
November 15 -The ministry of Zion Baptist Church; Charles Grays, pastor (Parkersburg)
November 16 - Danny Mitchell, pastor, Connolly Memorial Baptist Church (Logan-Mingo) and member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
November 17 - Lea Lindero, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Thailand
November 18 -The ministry of Swiss Missionary Baptist Church; Edward Marty, pastor (Hopewell)
November 19 - Barney Stinnett, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission
November 20 -The ministry of Masontown First Baptist Church; William Winston, pastor (Goshen)
November 21 -The ministry of East Clarksburg Baptist Church; Larry Fleming, pastor (Union)
November 22 - Senior High Convention this weekend at Simpson Creek Baptist Church (Union)
November 23 -The ministry of South Charleston First Baptist Church; Jody Pistore, pastor (Kanawha Valley)
November 24 - Joel Hoefle, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Thailand
November 25 - Janet Totten, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
November 26 - The ministry of Wheeling First Baptist Church; Darrin Wright, pastor (Panhandle)
November 27 -The ministry of Sand Fork Baptist Church; Phillip Wilson, pastor (Little Kanawha)
November 28 - Count your blessings and thank God for what He has done in our lives!!
November 29 - The ministry of Maysel Missionary Baptist Church (Elk Valley)
November 30 -The ministry of West Point Baptist Church; Ron Miller, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)

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

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 2013

October 1

Retired Ministers and Mates' Luncheon
Parchment Valley Conference Center

October 4-6

Baptist Campus Ministries' Retreat
Camp Cowen

October 11-13

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

October 17-18

West Virginia Baptist Convention Annual Meeting
Simpson Creek Baptist Church, Bridgeport

October 17

West Virginia American Baptist Women's Ministries' Women's Day
Simpson Creek Baptist Church, Bridgeport

October 17

West Virginia American Baptist Men's Day
Pricketts Fort, Fairmont

October 17

P4P: The Ministers' Council Event
Bridgeport Presbyterian Church

October 26

School of Christian Studies
Creating Community (Mod-1)
One-day class
Parchment Valley Conference Center

October 28-November 1

Palmer Theological Seminary
Master of Divinity
West Virginia Program
Spiritual Formation
Parchment Valley Conference Center

NOVEMBER

November 1-3

Ministers' Wives' Retreat
Parchment Valley Conference Center

November 9

Children's Fall Rally
Parchment Valley Conference Center

November 11

Veteran's Day Holiday
West Virginia Baptist Convention
Office CLOSED

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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West Virginia Baptist Convention
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Parkersburg, WV 26102-1019

American Baptist Women's Ministries'



35th Annual Spiritual

Growth Retreat

October 11-13, 2013

Parchment Valley Conference Center

Facilitator: Karen Hargett

Interim Pastor, Two Runs Baptist Church
and Guest Services and Event Manager,
Parchment Valley Conference Center

Song Leader: Sue Cross

Lay Leader, Parchment Valley Baptist Church

Special Testimonial:

Tracy Greenleaf Miller

Singer/Songwriter, Gilboa Baptist Church

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



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