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Hispanic Ministries: Hermanados para Su Gloria - Partnering for His Glory

I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one - as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.

~ Jesus Christ

Nothing of significance was ever achieved by an individual acting alone.

~ John C. Maxwell

Through partnerships we can accomplish God's dream together - every person from every nation, tribe and tongue kneeling and confessing Jesus Christ as Lord for the glory of God. When we partner we bring joy to God's heart and we can have a larger impact for His kingdom. During the annual meeting, Dr. David Carrico announced the West Virginia Baptist Convention is initiating a strategic partnership with the Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico (IBPR). A delegation representing the IBPR came to join us for our annual meeting. Those representing the IBPR were Dr. Josué Gomez (president of IBPR), Mrs. Margarita Ramirez (vice-president of IBPR), Mr. Abner Cotto (president of the Baptist Youth of IBPR), Pastor Felipe Candelaria, Rev. Lydia J. Rivas-Balado (associate executive minister for Evangelism, New Churches and Mission), and Dr. Roberto Dieppa (executive minister). They offered a token to Dr. Carrico as a symbol of this partnership.

As we discussed the shared vision for this partnership, our brothers and sisters from Puerto Rico described several times that "they see this as a call from God to new opportunities where we can learn from each other and enrich our local ministries." In the words of Pastor Felipe Candelaria, "This partnership between our regions is a dream for many in Puerto Rico. God has laid on our hearts a heavy

burden for the Hispanic community which faces tremendous challenges in the United States. To partner in this mission and fellowship endeavor make us realize the times and the ways to engage missions are undergoing radical transformation. It is no longer about going to a country to teach them. Rather it is about learning from each other as brothers and sisters in Christ because together we have been called to establish the kingdom of God in this world."

In Raising More than Money,

Doug M. Carter says through ministry partnerships we "complement each other in the mission" of God, we "intensify our commitment to God and each other and we become an answer to Jesus' prayer in John 17." When the Spirit of God leads to work in togetherness (Acts 2:1;43), the harvest we reap for His kingdom is far larger than if we go as 'lone rangers.'" Ecclesiastes says, "It's better to have a partner than go it alone. Share the work, share the wealth. And if one falls down, the other helps, but if there's no one to help, tough!" (The Message)

God's dreams are so big we cannot achieve them alone, we need each other. Both the West Virginia Baptist Convention and the Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico are passionately committed to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ, and we are partnering with God to transform the lives and destinies of Hispanics and Americans in West Virginia, Puerto Rico and beyond!

Thank you for your prayers and financial support as we transform the lives of Hispanics in West Virginia with the gospel!

*Juan Aragón
Hispanic Ministries' Strategist*



Josué Gomez, president, American Baptist Churches of Puerto Rico (r), presents David Carrico, executive minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention, (l) with a gift symbolizing their partnership.

COMMENTARY



*Dr. David L.
Carrico*

The Advent Event

For churches in the western tradition, Christmas is celebrated during the season of Advent. This marks the beginning of the church year, even though Christmas falls near the end of our calendar year. During December and January, we have a great opportunity to reflect on the past year and look forward to a new year. It is a beautiful season with a profound sense of Godly wonder.

God broke into human history and revealed Himself in Christ reaffirming His love for His creation through the incarnation of Christ as Lord and Savior. The word "Advent" means coming or arrival and the focus of the entire season is the celebration of the birth of Christ. It is also a celebration and anticipation of Christ's second coming. Many Bible themes are included in the celebration of Advent, such as our accountability to be faithful to Him, the judgment of sin and the hope of eternal life.

Many traditions surround Advent: Christmas trees, Advent wreaths, candles, special colors used for decorations, cards, special music, giving gifts and, of course, Christmas carols. Yet, the invasion of materialism and secularism into our culture can choke out our focus on Christ. Folks love to celebrate the cradle, but forget the cross. The nativity of Christ cannot be separated from the crucifixion and resurrection. As the church tells the Christmas story, we must tell the entire story, beginning to end: Jesus came to earth and He will come again.

The main purpose of the incarnation of Christ is to provide hope for those lost in sin. God's people who lived in the first century wanted Christ to come and change their oppressive circumstances of life. There must have been some angry and disappointed people when their circumstances of life may not have changed as they had hoped after Christ's ministry. That is a short-sighted view rather than a view of eternal hope. Our hope is in God! He is a God of new things, new potentials and endless possibilities.

During the events of Advent, what kind of God will we and our churches reveal to the world? A story that illustrates this question was shared in the latest publication of *The Christian Citizen*, a publication of the American Baptist Mission Societies. In a report from a Down Syndrome conference, a parent told a story about her teenage daughter, who has a developmental disability. Coming back one night from a church activity her daughter said, "No more church, Mom. No church. It may be God's house, but He's not home." The choice is ours. Do we want our churches to be places that are accessible to the gifts of all people or places that suggest by our actions and attitudes that God is not home? Make sure your church's Advent celebrations and activities reveal the true Christ to the world!

May our Advent events and celebrations proclaim as did Jacob, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate to heaven!" Genesis 28:7

*Blessings,
Dr. David L. Carrico
Executive Minister*

Delegates Approve Alderson-Broaddus College Trustees Request for Change in Relationship

HUNTINGTON - The delegates at the 147th Annual Meeting of the West Virginia Baptist Convention received a recommendation from the executive committee of the convention to amend the by-laws of the convention in response to a request from the trustees of Alderson-Broaddus College to modify the formal relationship between the college and the convention. The college trustees in their October meetings voted unanimously to begin the process to change the college charter to make its board a self-perpetuating/independent body. They felt this was necessary for the college to move forward in its mission and purpose and for the survival of the institution.

The College Charter Review team made a presentation to the executive committee of the West Virginia Baptist Convention in September and the executive committee received the resolution from the college trustees at its October meeting. The executive committee felt it was in the best interest of the college and the convention that the convention by-laws be amended to allow our relationship with the college to change from a formal/controlling interest to an informal/relational partnership.

Delegates voted in favor of amending the by-laws in the business session. The vote removed Alderson-Broaddus College completely from the convention by-laws as requested by the college.

President Creehan addressed the convention after the vote and assured the delegates that the college does not intend for this change to in anyway diminish the partnership the college greatly appreciates with the churches of the West Virginia Baptist Convention. He expects the relationship to remain strong and the mission of the college to remain faithful to its historical Baptist roots.

The executive committee told the delegates in their memorandum concerning these changes, "We value our historic relationship with the college and will continue to support the college as we always have. We understand the changing dynamics that led to this decision as it is very similar to decisions made at the 2011 biennial that gave our denomination mission entities the right to have independent, self-perpetuating boards."

RETIRED MINISTERS AND MISSIONARIES OFFERING Thank You For...

BUILDING A CULTURE OF GRATITUDE

*"I do not cease to give thanks for you as
I remember you in my prayers." Ephesians 1:16*

In this familiar passage, Paul shows his gratitude to the church at Ephesus for the love and devotion they displayed as he ministered to them. This culture of gratitude - where spiritual leaders give thanks for the church's fellowship, and God's followers give thanks for the ministers' and missionaries' spiritual guidance - is deeply ingrained in the Christian faith.

Today, the **Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering** is a tangible way for

American Baptist congregations to say "Thank you for..." the commitment, service and spiritual guidance of retired ministers and missionaries. The offering supports those who have devoted their lives to God's service by providing emergency assistance in their times of need and a Thank You check at the end of each year. In 2011, the **Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering** provided Thank You checks to more than 3,300 recipients. This year's national **Retired Ministers and**

Missionaries Offering campaign goal is \$1.2 million.

Join us in saying "Thank you for..." the countless ways ABC's retired ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses have contributed to our congregations.

West Virginia Goal:
\$120,000

2012 a Turnaround Year for the Weirton Christian Center

by Kim Weaver, director, Weirton Christian Center

Thank you for your generous contribution to Weirton Christian Center in our 95th year. Our \$95 for 95 years raised over \$10,000 towards operational expenses of the center!

As the end of the year approaches, I'm reminded we are so truly blessed at Weirton Christian Center by the wonderful partnership we have with the West Virginia Baptist Convention churches. It seems like the days go too fast, making it difficult to get done all that needs to be done. I worry I have left out someone, some group or church in thanking them as they should be thanked. For this reason, I want to make sure all of you know how very precious you are to our ministry. I have been doing a lot of traveling to association meetings and American Baptist Women's (ABW) Ministries' gatherings. I have been blessed to visit so many churches, speak at the ABW Ministries' Sunday and meet so many of you at this year's Annual Meeting in Huntington. I love putting faces with the names I've seen so often and planning visits from your groups to the center. I've been blessed to visit churches that have been so instrumental in keeping us going for 95 years. I have also been blessed by those who have become new supporters this year and those who have decided to add us to their mission budgets. It was a very rough year for us financially in 2011, but in 2012 God answered our

prayers. It was definitely a turnaround year for the center. Your support has directly affected over 200 children in our programs throughout the year and we could not do what we do without you. There has been a direct affect on children, age 3-19, and their families.

American Baptist Women's Ministries continue to send more than White Cross as they regularly call and ask what we need so they can get it for us. For camp, you provided hygiene kits, quilts, sleeping bags, beach towels, flip-flops, Wal-Mart cards for clothes, tennis shoes, bathing suits and more. Several Vacation Bible school programs collected quarters or school supplies. Your cards and prayers are valued more than you could imagine. I have never seen such an active and effective group of women! If you are not involved in your church's ABW Ministries' group, you need to join. You will be blessed to be part of those who so willingly serve the Lord by serving others. We are so grateful to be selected as West Virginia ABW Ministries' special project this year. The timing was perfect. As we prepare for the year ahead, we covet your prayers for the Lord's direction and guidance, so we can make an even bigger difference in Weirton. Families will need our help with utility bills, groceries and gas, but what they really need is the Lord. Thank you for helping us to be their resource!

Don Loudermilk Society Repairs Area at Grapevine Chapel

Recently, Parchment Valley Conference Center was host to the American Baptist Women's (ABW) Ministries' Fall Retreat. Many women gathered in faith to celebrate a weekend of fellowship, recreation and worship. One of the outstanding and well planned events was a historical wagon ride to Grapevine Chapel. Lisa Simmons personally narrated a tour of how the events played out that day so many years ago.

Along the tour, Lisa had women deployed at each wind chime station, where they shared their perspective of the martyred missionaries who gave their lives in presenting the gospel at the Hopevale Chapel in the Philippines, during the war. The journey actually portrayed the personal ministry of each missionary and their family who lost their lives in faithful service. As they returned from the tour, every lady shared that the experience was wonderful.

Just prior to the ABW Ministries' Fall Retreat,

Parchment Valley Conference Center saw the need to repair the Grapevine Chapel area that had weathered over the years. Through your dedicated giving to the Don Loudermilk Society, the maintenance department was able to do the needed repair and preserve this unique icon of Parchment Valley Conference Center. One of Don's last projects at Parchment Valley Conference Center was the building of the Grapevine Chapel.

Just as all were blessed during the ABW Ministries' Fall Retreat, many more lives will be blessed through your faithful support of the ministry of Parchment Valley Conference Center. Thank you and we look forward to hosting your next event.

For more information on joining the Don Loudermilk Society, please contact Frank Miller at 800.489.8564 or miller@wvbc.org or visit www.parchmentvalley.org.

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

2013 CHURCH OFFICERS' TRAINING TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 9

Please make plans to attend!

God is indeed "Transforming by His Spirit." We have witnessed tremendous blessings among our West Virginia Baptist Convention churches during 2012 and many of us are planning with great expectation toward 2013.

With this thought in mind, the West Virginia Baptist Convention staff have planned the annual Church Officers' Training Event for Saturday, February 9, 2013 at Parchment Valley Conference Center.

You are invited to send or come with the officers and leaders of your church. Each participant will select one workshop for the morning session and one for the afternoon session. ***The cost will be \$15 per person for the day, including lunch. If you bring eight from the same church, the next two registrations are at no cost.***

Schedule

9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:30 - 10:00 a.m.	Worship
10:15 - 11:45 a.m.	Workshop #1
12:00 Noon - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Workshop #2
2:30 p.m.	Head home

Workshops Include:

- Deacons
- Technology
- Finance
- Trustees
- Evangelism/Outreach
- Missions
- Discipleship
- Associational Leadership
- Senior Adults
- Youth and Children
- Worship and Music
- Family Ministry

Please consider recruiting people from your church to attend each workshop above to maximize the overall learning of the day.

February 2013 Church Officers' Training REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete the following information:

I am registering as (*Please check all that apply.*)

☐ an individual/couple or ☐ part of a church group

☐ I am the contact person for the church group.

☐ My church has met the requirements. I am a free participant.

Name: _____

(One form per person, but you may write one check and return in one envelope.)

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Preferred way to contact: ☐ telephone or ☐ e-mail

Phone or e-mail address: _____

Please check the appropriate fee box(es).

☐ \$15.00 Leadership Conference Fee (Required)

☐ \$25.00 School of Christian Studies ADVANCED Single Fee

☐ \$35.00 School of Christian Studies ADVANCED Couple Fee
(One form per person, but you may write one check and return in one envelope.)

☐ Total Enclosed (*Please write in blank at left.*)

Please list the title of the workshop(s) in the spaces below.

1.) List choice for a.m. workshop: _____

2.) List choice for p.m. workshop: _____

Attention: Church Group Contact Person.

A contact person must be chosen for all church groups.

Please send all church group registrations in one envelope. One check may be written for all registrations. If you plan to use the pay for eight and bring two free rule, please make sure the free participant(s) check the box on the left side of this form. After the first 10, the pay for eight bring two free begins again.

If you have any questions, please contact Donna at snyder@wvbc.org or 800.879.9822.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 4, 2013.

After February 4, the fee is the same, but lunch is not included. It will be on your own. Please make check payable to: West Virginia Baptist Convention and mail to: West Virginia Baptist Convention Church Officers' Training, Attn: Donna, P.O. Box 1019, Parkersburg, WV 26102.

Wishing you all the special blessings of this glorious Christmas season!



And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call His name **Jesus**: for He shall save His people from their sins. **Matthew 1:21**

The West Virginia Baptist Convention

David Carrico
Valma Adams
Jim Anderson
Juan Aragon
Craig Coster
Rob Ely
Kevin Emerick
Adam Goodwin
Tim Gray
Jean Hall
Karen Hargett
Max Hill
Tracie Longwell
Steve McCartney
Frank Miller
Ginny Prunty
Karen Radcliff
Victor Shields
John Simmons
Lisa Simmons
Donna Snyder
Mike Stephens
Koreen Villers

THINKING MISSIONS

Generosity

I continue to be amazed at your generosity. But then, I should not be surprised as the members of our West Virginia Baptist Churches have a long history of giving. Our American Baptist Women's Ministries give 25% of the total Love Gift given. We lead the ABC-USA in nearly every measured mission giving category, providing nearly 10% of the total mission giving through the denomination.

We have stepped up and supported two new missionary couples from West Virginia the past two years. J.D. and Rhonda Reed have finished their language studies and now work and reside in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. Keith and Debbie Myers, commissioned December 1, 2012, will depart the middle of December for language school in preparation for their service in Mexico. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians chapter 9 we will reap generously when we sow generously. We are blessed abundantly. As we finish our Thanksgiving celebrations and turn our focus on Christmas, I encourage you to be radical in your holiday giving. Be different from the prevailing culture - avoid the debt load that often comes from Christmas giving - pay as you go! I also encourage you to find ways to give gifts that change lives. There

are many ways for you to give gifts of animals, seed crops and other needed items that will change lives of families for generations. International Ministries, www.internationalministries.org, has a link to their Global Gifts' page on their website that gives you some opportunities to make a tremendous difference with your holiday giving.

Paul also tells us in this same chapter, God will make us rich in every way so we can be generous on every occasion (verse 11). Think about this - we will always have enough to be generous. Generosity is not about how much money we have; it is about how much love we have in our hearts.

Thank you for your abundant generosity in your giving to support the ministries of the West Virginia Baptist Convention, our missionaries and the work of our local churches.

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

Personal note: Lisa and I thank each of you for your prayers and for your many gifts of support as we walked with Timothy through his illness this summer. We miss him very much, but find great comfort in the assurances of God. We also find great comfort in your friendship. Thanks!

Cowen Receives Storm Damage from Hurricane Sandy Snowstorm

COWEN - On June 7, 2013, there will be Younger Midler Campers getting out of cars and church vans to experience the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen, many for the first time. It will be an exciting day. They have just arrived at the place *"Where people meet Jesus and grow as His disciples in a community of faith."*

It is going to take countless hours to make Camp Cowen presentable to these and many more who will arrive at Camp and see a beautiful place once again.

Hurricane Sandy and the resulting snowstorm has had a tremendous impact on Camp Cowen and the surrounding areas. The Milam/Hopewell cabin was hit directly and has severe damage. The Rickman picnic shelter, Allen cabin, a few other picnic shelters and the caretaker's house also had some type of tree damage. Please pray for us as the cleanup begins. It is too early to discuss a specific plan of action, and we are still waiting on electricity, but please know and pray once winter breaks, the West Virginia Baptist Convention will need to move into action.



The results of a tree falling through the roof of the Milam-Hopewell cabin.

Rob Ely
Director of Discipleship, Camping and Youth

Alderson-Broaddus College Names Rev. Richard McDonald 2012 Ward W. Hibbs Ministerial Award Recipient



Rev. Richard McDonald

PHILIPPI - Alderson-Broaddus College honored Rev. Richard McDonald, pastor of Beulah Baptist Church (Union), with the 2012 Ward W. Hibbs Ministerial Award. Alderson-Broaddus College President Richard Creehan presented the award at the West Virginia Baptist Convention Annual Meeting on October 18, 2012 in Huntington.

This award is given annually by Alderson-Broaddus College in memory of the ministry of Dr. Ward W. Hibbs.

This award is presented to an American Baptist minister who has made outstanding contributions to the ministry of town and country churches.

Rev. McDonald is a graduate of Moody Bible College and Fairmont State University, and has pastored many American Baptist Churches since 1966.

He has been pastor of Beulah Baptist Church since 1984. During these 28 years, church attendance has risen from 45 to nearly 240. The church has received over 160 members through baptism, and many by transfer of letter. To accommodate this growth, the church has built a new annex, baptismal and remodeled its sanctuary. The church has built new parking lots, a new activity building and Sunday school classrooms.

The church maintains a strong community presence through fund-raising for the needy, work at the mission, nursing home services and an AWANA outreach for the youth.

Richard McDonald is a bivocational minister and is vice-president of Stuart-McMunn Company of Clarksburg, where he has worked for 46 years.



Restorers and Repairers

147th Annual Meeting of the West Virginia Baptist Convention

October 18-19, 2012

New Baptist Church, Huntington

Transformed by the Spirit
Journey/Discovery/Renewal
AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA

Scripture Verse:

I'll tell you what it really means to worship the Lord. Remove the chains of prisoners who are bound unjustly. Free those who are abused! Share your food with everyone who is hungry; share your home with the poor and homeless. Give clothes to those in need; don't turn away your relatives. Then your light will shine like the dawning sun, and you will quickly be healed. Your honesty will protect you as you advance, and the glory of the Lord will defend you from behind. When you beg the Lord for help, He will answer, "Here I am!" Don't mistreat others or falsely accuse them or say something cruel. Give your food to the hungry and care for the homeless. Then your light will shine in the dark; your darkest hour will be like the noonday sun. The Lord will always guide you and provide good things to eat when you are in the desert. He will make you healthy. You will be like a garden that has plenty of water or like a stream that never runs dry. You will rebuild those houses left in ruins for years; you will be known as a builder and repairer of city walls and streets.

Isaiah 58:6-12



Rhonda Reed, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Bolivia, speaks at American Baptist Women's Ministries' Women's Day



David Turley, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Okinawa, Japan



Karen Smith, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary, director of the New Life Center, Chiang Mai, Thailand



Mike Yankoski, West Virginia Baptist Convention Annual Meeting keynote speaker



David Carrico, executive minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention



Dan Chadwick, pastor of West Union Baptist Church, is recognized as a new pastor.



Kurt Busiek, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Parkersburg, and annual sermon speaker



Joyce Mills, 2012-2013 president of the West Virginia Baptist Convention



Joan Hall, administrative assistant for Mission Support and the Christian Stewardship Commission, West Virginia Baptist Convention, works to fill backpacks for the homeless.



Karen Pruitt, standing, leads the New Baptist Church Praise Choir.



Juan Aragon, right, introduces the delegation from the American Baptist Churches of Puerto Rico: (l to r) Felipe Candelaria, Abner Cotto, Josué Gomez, Lydia Rivas, Margarita Ramirez and Roberto Dieppe.



David Carpenter is recognized as a retiring pastor.



School of Christian Studies Graduates Twelve

The West Virginia Baptist Convention School of Christian Studies held its annual graduation ceremony at the Thursday, October 18th evening session of the 147th Annual Meeting.

Those present to participate in the ceremony are pictured at left and are as follows (l to r): Valerie Markwith, diploma in Pastoral Ministry; diploma in Advanced Studies; Bonnie Smith, diploma in Pastoral Ministry; George Murphy, diploma in Pastoral Ministry; diploma in Advanced Studies; Marlena Maynard, diploma in Pastoral Ministry; Samuel Myers, diploma in Pastoral Ministry; Terry Peters, diploma in Pastoral Ministry; Larry Cheesebrew, diploma in Advanced Studies; and Kent Hall, diploma in Pastoral Ministry. Not present are Judith Bartlett, diploma in Pastoral Ministry; and Michael Harriman, diploma in Pastoral Ministry.

Annual Meeting Election Results

President

Mrs. Joyce Mills, Beckley

First Vice-President

Dr. Michael Sisson, Crab Orchard

Second Vice-President

Mr. Clark Swebston, Beckley

Secretary

Mrs. Lois Merritt, Huntington

Treasurer

Mr. Clark Mills, Beckley

Executive Board

(Term Ending October 2015)

1. (Trustee) Mrs. Colleen Folger, Sistersville
2. Mr. Ron Adams, Parkersburg
3. Rev. David Carpenter, Washington
4. Rev. Don Fowler, Nutter Fort
5. Mrs. Debbie Harpold, Saint Albans
6. Mr. Craig Kellar, West Union
7. Rev. Jeremy Myers, Saint Albans
8. Mrs. Vonnie Wykle, Oak Hill
9. Mr. William Wilson, Charleston

Baptist Campus Ministry Board

(Term Ending October 2015)

1. Rev. Michael Lewis, Ona
2. Mr. Bobby Neal, Beckley
3. Rev. Jay Teodoro, Buckhannon

Camp Cowen Board of Directors

(Term Ending October 2015)

1. Mrs. Judi Funk, Philippi
2. Mr. Erich Reggi, Hurricane

Parchment Valley Board of Directors

(Term Ending October 2015)

1. Mr. Evan Frees, Mineral Wells
 2. Rev. Jim Mike Ward, Vienna
- Mr. Gary Higginbotham, Ripley
(Filling unexpired term ending 2013)
Mr. Darron Prunty, Parkersburg
(Filling unexpired term ending 2014)

Representatives to West Virginia Baptist Education Society

(Term ending October 2015)

1. Rev. Lee Boso, Summersville
 2. Mrs. Jana Stoner, Huntington
- Alternate: Mrs. Vicki Steele, Grafton

Board of Directors, West Virginia Baptist Historical Society

(Term ending October 2015)

1. Dr. Richard Hepler, Morgantown

Association Representatives

(Term ending October 2015)

Coal River: Rev. Anthony Pratt, Racine
Elk Valley: Mrs. Marilou Legg, Wallback
Greenbrier-Raleigh: Mrs. Rosemary Harmon, Glen Daniel
Harrisville: Mr. Darrell Farley, Harrisville
Parkersburg: Rev. Larry Hooper, Vienna
Twelve Pole: Rev. Mark Booth, Wayne

Greg Ramey Ordained

Crum Missionary Baptist Church (Twelve Pole) called the association together on September 30, 2012 for the examination and celebration of Greg Ramey being ordained to the gospel ministry. Delegates were unanimous in their support. Ramey has served in leadership in the association and the church for many years.

Fall Semester Brings Excitement to Baptist Campus Ministries' Campuses



What an exciting time on the college campus! This fall has been packed with marvelous moments of God-glorifying ministry. From hundreds of students packing into Marshall's Baptist Campus Ministries every week to life-changing discipleship occurring on West Virginia University's campus, this has been an amazing semester for Baptist Campus Ministries statewide. The University of Charleston's Baptist Campus Ministries hosted an incredible event called "Girl's Night Out." Over 150 girls came to the free event and heard the powerful testimony of national speaker and author, Marian Jordan. Jordan challenged the young ladies to trade the worthless treasures of the world for the real and lasting treasure of God. Forty girls gave their lives to Christ and 50 girls committed to refocus their lives on Jesus! Please pray for our associates at the University of Charleston, Todd and Erin McClure, as they reach out to these girls and begin mentoring them in the faith.

Adam Goodwin

Baptist Campus Ministries' Director

American Baptist Men - USA and Boy Scouts of America Form Partnership

During the October 11, 2012 meeting of the American Baptist Men - USA Executive Committee at Parchment Valley Conference Center, Lucky Ray, president of American Baptist Men - USA, signed a memorandum of understanding with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). In addition to members of the executive committee, others present for the signing ceremony were: R. Chip Turner, National chairman BSA Religious Relationships; Mark Wappel, representing the National BSA; and from the West Virginia Baptist Convention, Rob Ely, director of Discipleship, Camping and Youth and Frank Miller, director of Operations, Parchment Valley Conference Center.

American Baptist Men - USA and American Baptist Churches have been heavily involved with scouting in the past. However, because of budget difficulties, lack of volunteers and other reasons, many of our churches do not offer scouting activities. Lucky Ray said, "Our mission statement says our laymen's ministry exists not only for men, but also 'to bring boys into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ,' and this partnership will provide us a wonderful opportunity to accomplish this mission." Chip Turner added, "This closely parallels that of the Association of Baptists for Scouting - 'To Bring Youth to Christ Through A Scouting Ministry.'"

Trading Post

FREE: Baldwin Model 635 Silent Touch walnut finish organ. Rainelle First Baptist Church (Hopewell) would like to donate the organ to any church or organization interested. The dimensions are 58 1/4 inches wide, 54 3/4 inches high, 19 1/4 inches deep and weighs 355 pounds. The organ has standard five channel amplification system which uses five modular cabinet speakers. Speakers not included. System provides suitable sounds for church seating 400 people. A technical manual and organist's manual is included. Contact Rainelle First Baptist Church at 304.438.6311. Leave a message if no one answers.

FREE: Pulpit. Main Street Baptist Church (Teays Valley) has an older pulpit available to donate. Contact Main Street Baptist Church at 304.675.4061.



Obituaries

NORMAN B. ABELL, 86, of Florida, died August 25, 2013. He was an American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

RAY E. BAKER, 98, died September 21, 2012. He served as a Baptist minister for more than 60 years. During the late '40s and early '50s, he conducted revival meetings almost continually in Webster, Nicholas, Braxton and Clay counties. He founded the Baptist Church in Jerryville in the early '50s. His first pastorate was at New Prospect Baptist Church (Hopewell). He also served this church a second time several years later, his last full-time pastorate.

WILMA TOURNAY CARNAHAN, 94, of Weirton, died September 21, 2012. She attended Weirton Heights Memorial Baptist Church (Panhandle).

ROSS BRYANT COTTRELL, 87, of Montgomery, died October 12, 2012. He was a longtime member of Handley Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley), where he had served as lay leader, lay speaker and in many various capacities. He was in the United States Air Force, serving in World War II and was later recalled to active service during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

RUBY GENEVA KOONTZ CROSS, 95, of Elkins, died September 19, 2012. She was a member of Elkins First Baptist Church (Union) for 73 years. She was the pianist for Dell's Quartet singing group, Sunday school teacher, department superintendent for 14 years, president of American Baptist Women's Ministries for three terms, choir member and visitation team participant.

BARBARA SLOAT DEER, 78, of Claremont, California, died October 4, 2012. She was a former American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

PAUL DAVID DYE, 77, of Mineral Wells, died September 30, 2012. He pastored for 33 years in the following churches: Stanleyville Community Church, Ohio, 1969-1970; Waverly First Baptist Church, Illinois, 1970-1972; Calvary Memorial, Longacre, 1972-1973; Big Tygart Baptist Church (Parkersburg), 1973-1974; Dorcas Maysville Baptist Parish (Eastern), 1974-1978; Lauckport Baptist Church (Parkersburg), 1978-1982; Belington First Baptist Church (Union), 1982-1985; Deucher-Lawrence Baptist Parish, Ohio, 1985-1989; Harmony Baptist (Eastern), 1989-2003; Pond Creek Baptist Church (Parkersburg); and Milhoan Ridge Baptist Church (Good Hope). He received the Ward W. Hibbs Ministerial Award in 1998 for distinguished service, effectiveness and faithfulness in town and country ministry. He was a member of Big Tygart Baptist Church (Parkersburg). He was a United States Navy veteran.

HELEN POWERS EGGLESTON, 84, of Scott Depot, died October 12, 2012. She attended Mount Vernon Baptist Church (Teays Valley) most of her life, where she served the Lord in many capacities, including church clerk and on two pulpit committees.

ODIS R. FREEMAN, 85, of Sutton, died, September 29, 2012. He was a member of Sutton Baptist Church (Elk Valley) for 55 years and served as Sunday school secretary for 50 years, deacon for 25 years and was a trustee for the church. He was an Army veteran and served in Germany.

CHARLES A. GROVES, 89, formerly of Weirton, died August 24, 2012. He was a member of Weirton Heights Memorial Baptist Church (Panhandle). He was a World War II Army veteran.

NELLIE LOU COBURN HARRIS, 80, of Big Bend, died October 23, 2012. She was a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church (Little Kanawha), where she was a Sunday school teacher, Baptist Youth Fellowship (BYF) leader and custodian for many years.

IRIS HOPE COOK HESLEP, 89, died October 2, 2012. She was very active in different ministries at Highlawn Baptist Church (Teays Valley). She served as superintendent of the Primary department, taught a Sunday school class for the deaf, interpreted services for the deaf and played handbells.

LORETTA A. HELMICK JUDY, 87, of Seth, died August 24, 2012. She was a member of Racine First Baptist Church (Coal River).

CONNIE LEE KINSINGER, 81, of Weirton, died October 27, 2012. She attended Weirton Heights Memorial Baptist Church (Panhandle).

SARAH IRENE MCCORMICK, 90, of Bloomingrose, died September 13, 2012. She was a charter member of Racine First Baptist Church (Coal River).

RUTH VIRGINIA SANDERS

MCLAUGHLIN, 92, of Elkins, died October 7, 2012. She was a member of Elkins First Baptist Church (Union) for more than 50 years, where she had served as church clerk, former president of American Baptist Women's Ministries and as a member of Church Women United.

RUTHANITA MONTTOYA REDMOND, 84, of Belpre, died October 26, 2012. She was a member of Parkersburg First Baptist Church (Parkersburg) for over 63 years. While a member, she served as moderator, trustee and chairman of the board of Christian Education. She was a past president of American Baptist Women's Ministries at Parkersburg First Baptist Church.

RICHARD "DICK" GLENN SHAHAN, 89, of Nutter Fort, died October 5, 2012.

He was a member of Nutter Fort First Baptist Church (Judson), where he was an active member and held various positions over the years and was given the honor of Deacon Emeritus for his service to his church. He sang in the choir and attended the Open Door Sunday school class. He also sang for several years with the Gospel Heirs quartet. He

served in the United States Navy during World War II in the Pacific and China Sea.

WILLIAM SOL SHEILS SR., 77, of Huntington, died October 28, 2012. He was an active and dedicated member of Fifth Avenue Baptist Church (Guyandotte) for more than 40 years. He served in the United States Army.

HOUSTON L. (HOOKY) TROUT, 60, of Marfrance, died October 30, 2012. He was a member of Quinwood First Baptist Church (Hopewell), where he was a deacon and chairman of the board of trustees.

KENNETH RAY WADDELL, 83, died September 12, 2012. He was a longtime member of Fairmont First Baptist Church (Fairmont), having served on a number of boards and committees. He was past president of men's fellowship and served on the executive committee of the Fairmont Baptist Association for a number of years. He served the Marine Corps. He received the Purple Heart, Navy Commendation with "V for Valor," Navy Commendation/European Clasp, Korean Service Medal with three stars, Presidential Unit Citation with one star, Combat Action Ribbon and Good Conduct Medal. He was a 40-year veteran of the Boy Scouts of America-Mountaineer Area Council.

EVELYN E. WADE, died October 21, 2012. She was a charter member of Emmanuel Baptist Church (Parkersburg) where she served for many years. She and her husband, Jack, were in charge of the church food pantry for 12 years and taught Sunday school for many years.

Christmas in the Valley...

and you're invited!

December 8, 2012

Parchment Valley Conference Center

Schedule of Events:

Craft Show: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Pictures with Santa: 10:00 a.m. - Noon
 Free Children's Activities: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
 Concert with Johnny Staats and Tracy Miller:
 3:00 p.m.

Leadership Updates

Rev. David Carpenter to Salem Baptist Church (Fairmont) as interim pastor on November 1, 2012

Rev. Frank I. Carson to Sardis Baptist Church (Judson) as pastor on August 1, 2012

Rev. Gilbert (Junior) C. Dodson to Black Eagle Baptist Church (Rockcastle) as pastor on September 16, 2012

Mr. Jeff Musgrave to Union Baptist Church (Fairmont) as pastor on September 9, 2011

Mr. Joshua Radcliff to Dent's Run Baptist Church (Judson) as pastor on November 1, 2012

PRAYER CALENDARS

December 2012

December 1 -The ministry of Gassaway Baptist Church; Mark Stump, pastor (Elk Valley)
December 2 - Muzzleloader's Retreat begins today at Parchment Valley Conference Center
December 3 - Thomas McComas, president, American Baptist Men of West Virginia and member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
December 4 - Roger Sites, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
December 5 -The ministry of Forks of Coal Missionary Baptist Church; Keith George, pastor (Coal River)
December 6 -The ministry of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church; John Ellison, pastor (Good Hope)
December 7 -West Virginia Baptist Convention Executive Committee and Executive Board meetings this weekend at Parchment Valley Conference Center
December 8 - *Christmas In The Valley* today at Parchment Valley Conference Center
December 9 -The ministry of Parkersburg Baptist Temple; Larry Dale, pastor (Parkersburg)
December 10 -The ministry of Mount Zion Baptist Church; Michael Murphy, pastor (Fairmont)
December 11 - John Simmons, associate executive minister of Missions and Administration, West Virginia Baptist Convention
December 12 - Sherry Powers, vice moderator, Broad Run Association
December 13 -The ministry of Man First Baptist Church; Clyde Robertson, pastor (Logan-Mingo)
December 14 -The ministry of Pine Grove First Baptist Church; Leary Vanhorn, pastor (Panhandle)
December 15 - Bill Clemmer, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to South Sudan
December 16 - Craig Coster, Southwest area minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention
December 17 - Sarah Chetti, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Lebanon
December 18 - Lisa Simmons, associate in Mission Support, West Virginia Baptist Convention
December 19 - David Turley, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Okinawa, Japan
December 20 - Mike Lowery, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
December 21 - J.D. Reed, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Bolivia
December 22 - John Posey, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
December 23 -The ministry of Deepwater Baptist Church; Thomas Skaggs, pastor (Fayette)
December 24 - Our families, as we gather together to celebrate the birth of our Savior
December 25 - Prayer of thanksgiving for a Savior that was born to save the world
December 26 -The ministry of Rock Grove Baptist Church; James Brunty, pastor (Broad Run)
December 27 - Koreen Villers, director, Children's Ministries, West Virginia Baptist Convention
December 28 -The ministry of Cyrus Baptist Church; Manfred Langer, pastor (Twelve Pole)
December 29 - Richard Sargent, chairman, Committee on Ministerial Standing and member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission
December 30 - Lori Mann, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary
December 31 - Marie Delong, clerk/treasurer, Good Hope Association

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

January 2013

January 1 - Pray for a blessed New Year
January 2 - Stephen "Denny" Brown, moderator, Twelve Pole Association and the ministry of Tabor's Creek Baptist Church (Twelve Pole)
January 3 - John Williams, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
January 4 -The ministry of Healing Stream Baptist Church; Lee Johnson, pastor (Coal River)
January 5 - Ingrid Rold'an-Rom'an, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Puerto Rico
January 6 -The ministry of Providence Baptist Church; Roland Ramsey, pastor (Elk Valley)
January 7 -The ministry of Marshville Baptist Church; Ronald Owens, pastor (Judson)
January 8 -The ministry of Calvary Baptist Church; Mark Wood, pastor (Fayette) and chairman, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
January 9 - Judith Sutterlin, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to China
January 10 -The ministry of Wolf Run Baptist Church; Jim Higginson, pastor (Panhandle)
January 11 - Ann Borquist, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Brazil
January 12 -The ministry of Huntington Baptist Temple; J. Andrew Magnusson, pastor (Guyandotte)
January 13 - Zachary Powell, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission and minister of Youth, Vienna Baptist Church (Parkersburg)
January 14 - Dana Gatewood, president, West Virginia Baptist Education Society; member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission; and the ministry of Summersville Baptist Church (Hopewell)
January 15 -The ministry of Cyclone Missionary Baptist Church; Stephen Walls, pastor (Rockcastle)
January 16 -The ministry of Dixie First Baptist Church; Jeff Sevy, pastor (Hopewell)
January 17 -The ministry of Wayne Baptist Church; Fred Ferguson, pastor (Twelve Pole)
January 18 -The ministry of Clarksburg Baptist Church; David Hulme, pastor (Union)
January 19 - Bob Keen, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission and the ministry of Mill Creek Baptist Church (Good Hope)
January 20 - Marcia Binkley, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary
January 21 -The ministry of Comunidad Nueva Esperanza (Good Hope)
January 22 -The ministry of Crossroads Community Chapel; Roger Adams, pastor (Teays Valley)
January 23 -The ministry of Quiet Dell Baptist Church; Edward Carpenter, pastor (Fairmont)
January 24 -The ministry of Hopewell Baptist Church; Joe Lamm, pastor (Goshen)
January 25 - Bob Hicks, vice-moderator, Panhandle Association
January 26 -The ministry of Big Tygart Baptist Church; Rufus Hoalcraft, pastor (Parkersburg)
January 27 - The ministry of Helen Baptist Church; Danny Lusk, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)
January 28 - Karen Hargett, guest services manager, Parchment Valley Conference Center
January 29 -The ministry of Jordan Run Baptist Church; Rick Bergdoll, pastor (Eastern)
January 30 -The ministry of Ten Mile Baptist Church; Bradley Tenney, pastor (Broad Run)
January 31 - The ministry of Charleston Baptist Temple; Dennis Johnson, pastor (Kanawha Valley)

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 2012

December 2-4

Muzzleloaders' Retreat I

Parchment Valley Conference Center

December 5-7

Muzzleloaders' Retreat II

Parchment Valley Conference Center

December 8

West Virginia Baptist Convention

Executive Board

Parchment Valley Conference Center

December 8

Christmas in the Valley

Parchment Valley Conference Center

December 10

Bowen Trust Committee

Parchment Valley Conference Center

December 24-25

Christmas Holiday

West Virginia Baptist Convention

Office CLOSED

JANUARY 2013

January 1

New Year's Day Holiday

West Virginia Baptist Convention

Office CLOSED

January 8

School of Christian Studies

New Testament I (B-03)

Six-Week Class Begins

Various Locations

January 7-11

Palmer Theological Seminary West

Virginia Program

20th Century Evangelicals

(CHHM622)

Instructor: Dr. George Hancock-

Stefan

Parchment Valley Conference Center

FEBRUARY 2013

February 18-22

Palmer Theological Seminary West

Virginia Program

Baptist Emphasis and Polity

(DNOM510)

Instructor: Dr. George Hancock-

Stefan

Parchment Valley Conference Center

February 26

School of Christian Studies

New Testament II (B-04)

Six-Week Class Begins

Various Locations

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.

The **West Virginia Baptist** is a newsletter of the West Virginia Baptist Convention, associated with the American Baptist Churches, USA,

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Parkersburg, WV 26102-1019

Travel with the West Virginia Baptist Convention by bus to the



Travel Dates: June 19-24, 2013.

Trip Cost: \$525,
plus biennial fees and meals.

A non-refundable deposit of \$75 is due
by December 15, 2012. Payments of
\$90 each are due in January,
February, March, April and May.

Tentative Itinerary

We will be departing Wednesday, June 19 from Parkersburg at 9:00 p.m. There will be a pick up at Saint Albans at 10:15 p.m. and one at Huntington at 11:15 p.m. We will be driving overnight to Overland Park, arriving the morning of Thursday, June 20.

Accommodations will be at the Pear Tree Inn, two blocks from the convention center. Fee includes hot breakfast, outdoor pool and more. ABC will provide shuttles to and from the convention center and restaurants.

To register, please send your name, address, city, state, zip, contact number, e-mail, church and association, along with your check payable to WVBC to: WVBC Biennial 2013, P.O. Box 1019, Parkersburg, WV 26102. Biennial information and registration to follow.

For additional information, contact Joan at 800.879.9822 or hall@wvbc.org.

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