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Appendix B

West Virginia Baptist Convention Yearly Audit Report for 2015
REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

to the

West Virginia Baptist Convention

September 1, 2015 - August 31, 2016

In Article II of the West Virginia Baptist Convention’s Constitution, the purpose of the Convention is stated as follows: “The purpose of the West Virginia Baptist Convention shall be to promote the preaching and teaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ among its member churches by offering opportunities for mutual inspiration and fellowship, providing leadership training and program resources, assisting in the establishment and strengthening of Baptist churches in West Virginia, encouraging and coordinating mission support for the American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A., and providing avenues for working together in denominational, moral and spiritual matters.”

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MINISTER

Dr. David L. Carrico

This past year was a time of planned change and devastating chaos. We must always think like missionaries on the field. Flexibility may be the greatest resource in our ministry tool bag. The retirement of Dr. Victor Shields brought us an opportunity for a new area minister as Rev. David Hulme joined our staff and has been a welcomed addition. We ask a blessing on Victor Shields during his retirement.

Plans were moving along with a new building at our West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen and our state calendar was filling up. Then the rains of June visited our state! Our plans were put on hold as devastation cut into our state. Even now the total of the losses are not known. During these last months our resources of time and finances have been given over to the rebuilding of lives and property. Entire communities have been effected. The recovery of our state will take months, if not years. The West Virginia Baptist Convention continues to respond to the immediate needs of people, as well as planning for the future in many communities. We are growing partnerships to enable folks to rebuild their lives. Partnerships between persons, churches and communities will enable us to rebuild lives as best it can within our resources. Yes, our plans have changed, but God’s plans are always the best even if we don’t understand them. Partnerships will build a tomorrow in the Mountain State. What other partnerships can we build? The West Virginia Baptist Convention will resource efforts as much as possible as God gives us the opportunity. Your faithfulness of prayer, personal time and finances will help us help. Thank you and blessings for your vision of Biblical partnership in the work of the kingdom.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Sandy Phares

I grew up in a WVBC church; Sabraton Baptist Church is my home church. I always enjoyed leadership roles in the church. First BYF, then Girls Guild, then ABWM as the local president. So when I was asked to be Second Vice President three years ago, I was honored and excited to be able to learn more about the inner workings of our convention. These last three years have been very educational and a spiritually growing experience.

As president of the WVBC, I have had the opportunity to attend meetings that address the issues of keeping Parchment Valley up and running. Meetings to help select a new area minister and a new associate director of BCM. Meetings to plan events that would help our people and churches grow spiritually. There have been a lot of meetings! Then there were conference calls, emails and phone calls to help with planning the annual meeting, getting the nominating report completed and personnel issues to deal with that keep this organization healthy and growing. And in the midst of all these plans, our personal lives are still experiencing death, illnesses, floods that try to destroy homes, businesses and churches, family crisis with drug and alcohol abuse and so many problems that we sometimes lose our JOY. Sometimes we lose our focus; sometimes we take our eyes off of Jesus.

So what do we do? We go to God’s Word to find what we need. Right now I am reading Beth Moore’s book “Praying God’s Word Day by Day.” Here are some passages that I want to share with you:

Praise be to the Lord, to God my Savior, who daily bears my burdens. My God is a God who saves; from the Sovereign Lord comes escape from death (Psalms 68:17, 19-20). Father, allow my eyes to see the defeat of my adversary. Let my ears hear the rout of my wicked foe (Psalms 92:11). Cause me to still bear fruit in old age....proclaiming, "The Lord is
upright; he is my rock and there is no wickedness in him" (Psalms 92:14-15). Lord, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds. Renew them in our day, in our time make them known (Habakkuk 3:2).

So many times God has shown me what I needed most from his word at just the right time! Does that sound familiar? Of course it does, because you have experienced the same peace, joy, love and comfort that God shows us through a well placed scripture that I have. Yes, God is good and he is working in our midst through the WVBC and its many churches. I had the most wonderful experience of going to Rainelle FBC with Keith and Debbie Myers to help with the cleanup in that community after the flood. ABMen were on site there organizing the volunteers into teams to go into homes, rental apartments, businesses and FBC to clean, tear out wet drywall and insulation, pull nails and listen to the many heart breaking stories of loss. Not only does he place scripture in our path to help us, he also places people in our path to help. Debbie Myers told me a story about the man down the street from the church who said he was always critical and judgmental of others.....until the flood. Now he reads a Bible that a volunteer from Samaritan's Purse gave him and he's found a new focus.....Jesus. God took away his critical, judgmental attitude and gave him love for others.....God's love.

One place our team was sent to was the local appliance center, where they lost thousands of dollars of appliances. Our job was to clean refrigerators that had floated on top of the waters and were filled with brown silt. When we walked in the door, I noticed two rocking chairs sitting there and wondered why they were there. Later I saw the owner and one of his customers sitting, rocking and chatting just like family. They are hopeful that they will get through this disaster by trusting God and helping each other. So much sadness and destruction, but all I heard from those who lost so much was how grateful they were for all those who came with food, clothes, cleaning supplies and hands to help them at this difficult time in their lives. This experience changed me. I've faced the fact that I could lose everything I own but still have the faith to go on if I keep my eyes on Jesus.

As you read all the reports in this booklet, you will see how our convention is thriving and growing because we put our trust in God to lead us in the right direction. One of the most exciting decisions we made was to partner with our Baptist friends in Puerto Rico. Sharing mission opportunities and working together to strengthen and expand our relationship with God and with each other. Then we received a letter from Juan and Denise Aragon stating that they have accepted a call from International Ministries to serve with the Council of Rural Indigenous Evangelicals in Chiapas, Mexico. God just keeps expanding our territory to help reach others for Christ. I am so happy for them and what a gift they have been to the WVBC from God!

In closing, I want to thank God for the opportunity to serve him through the office of president. It has been a good experience and I praise God that we can work together to bring honor to him no matter our circumstances, our level of education or our place in this life. Thank you too for all your prayers and encouragement during the passing of my mom and grandma. They were so much a part of my life and my Christian growth. They set a wonderful example for me on how to be a Christian woman and encouraged me to accept this position of leadership. I look forward to our next year's theme of "Beacon of Hope" and moving forward with the mission of the West Virginia Baptist Convention.

**DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES COMMISSION**

*Mrs. Donna Dingus, Chair*

The Discipleship Commission is responsible for supporting the discipleship ministries of the local church by developing programs and by providing opportunities for training of local church ministries. The past year has seen several exciting projects initiated by the Commission toward these goals.

The Commission focused much attention on discipleship within the home, producing a resource on “household discipleship.” This workbook centers on ways to encourage parents to take an active role in their child’s spiritual development. The guide includes practical ideas for family devotions, as well as four sermon themes to assist ministers in preparing sermons on family discipleship. A recommended reading list is also included for those wanting to learn more about the role of the family in leading children toward spiritual maturity.

A quarterly publication, *Discipleship Now!* was introduced by the Discipleship Commission during the year. This print newsletter is packed with information on various aspects of discipleship and is relevant to both individual spiritual growth as well as to spiritual growth within the local body of Christ. Free subscriptions to *Discipleship Now!* are available upon request from the WVBC.

The latest project of the Discipleship Commission is *Road Trippin’ for Discipleship* -- the Commission is identifying leaders who will travel and present workshops in local congregations! Workshops on many facets of discipleship will be
available, with the training customized to the specific congregational needs. *Road Trippin’ for Discipleship* will be available in January 2017.

**WEST VIRGINIA AMERICAN BAPTIST YOUTH**

*Mr. Robert L. Ely, Director*

*We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.*

1 John 4:6

The theme for the 2015-2016 school year was “Recognize.” In a culture where one’s attention is constantly divided by distractions, the theme in the teaching for the 2015-2016 school year focused on recognizing who God is and how we, as His people, are to respond to Him. The YMPT Team was:

- **Jodee Bolen**, Judson Baptist Church, Belle
- **Salem Carlton**, Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, Huntington
- **Joshua Eastman**, New Baptist Church, Huntington
- **Abigail Harman**, New Baptist Church, Huntington
- **Kylie Lallemont**, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Parkersburg
- **Andrew O’Callaghan**, Vienna Baptist Church
- **Courtney Powers**, New Baptist Church, Huntington
- **Grace Reed**, South Parkersburg Baptist Church
- **Jacob Tinch**, First Baptist Church of Hurricane
- **Johnna Willis**, First Baptist Church of Kenova

Adult Leaders:

- **Janie Brownfield**, Pea Ridge Baptist Church, Huntington
- **Marty Beckett**, Beulah Ann Baptist Church, Ona
- **Bethany Crouch-Cox**, New Baptist Church, Huntington
- **Allen Hill**, Clarksburg Baptist Church

These young people led an amazing year of ministry.

Fall Rally was held at the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen with Dewey Lowe, Jacob Eastman and Desiree Sowards speaking and Cowen Band leading worship. There were 322 in attendance.

Senior High Convention was hosted by First Baptist Church of Hurricane with Grant Partrick speaking and the Noah Cleveland band leading worship. There were 261 in attendance.

Junior High Convention was hosted by Clarksburg Baptist Church with Jeffrey Dean speaking and the Alan Trent Band leading worship. There were 216 in attendance.

Omega was hosted by New Baptist Church. The multiple speakers for this event included Adam and Olivia Goodwin, Andrew Ely and David Hannan and worship was led by the Marshall University BCM Band. There were 92 in attendance.

As you read this, please pray for the ministry for youth in the West Virginia Baptist Convention. We are trying to continue to reach this generation for Christ and the time students have available for God seems to be diminishing. May God continue to be with us as we reach this generation.

**WEST VIRGINIA BAPTIST CAMP AT COWEN BOARD**

*Mr. Robert L. Ely, Director*

**Be Prepared**

*But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...*

1 Peter 3:15

Again there were campers ranging from 2nd grade through high school seniors and also ABMen & Boys Camp and Family Camp for all ages. Not only were campers impacted by their strong foundation but also volunteers and counselors
who had the privilege to share and invest in the lives of students were able to reinforce their foundations by living out their faith in a real and tangible way.

In spite of weather problems, this year at Cowen was excellent. Hybert Hall’s do over was a high point. It provided so many more opportunities for programming than we have had. The volunteers during the year made this giant improvement possible. A special thank you to all the volunteers over a long time who have given so many hours to keep helping the camp reach its potential.

One of the main goals this year has been to begin planning for the construction of a new gymnasium located near the amphitheater. It is an exciting undertaking and will be a major improvement in our facilities. With the changes in the public school year, this gymnasium will make it possible to provide facilities for more young people. Also the weather at Cowen tends to be wet a lot of the time, so this added room will make activities much easier to plan.

This summer’s staff has been a hard-working staff as they usually are. They were the lifeguards: Morgan Hensley; kitchen help: Kaitlyn Brooks and Emily Fordyce; dish room: Lydia Nutter and Quinton Burton; Challenge Course facilitator: Levi Casto; registrar: Hannah Short; maintenance: Tristan Atha and Nick Mitchell; camp photographer: Sabrina Dennis; assistant cook/lifeguard: Maci Oiler; video media: Drew Mullins; head cook: Barb Lane; maintenance director: Steve McCartney; and camp director: Rob Ely.

Camp directors this year were Older Midler: Lisa and Bill Hatten; Younger Midler: Debbie and Greg Boso; Junior 1: Debbie Shadowen; Junior High 1: Rick Garavaglia; Junior 2: Susan Armstrong and Erin Thorpe; High School 1: Lee Boso; Junior High 2: Matt Ash; High School 2: Eric Hayslett and Adam Goodwin; Family Camp: Bethany Crouch-Cox and Olivia Goodwin; AB Men’s Camp: Sam Gasaway; and Camp Global: Lisa Simmons.

PARCHMENT VALLEY CONFERENCE CENTER
Rev. Frank Miller, Director

The Parchment Valley Conference Center is a place where God’s Beacon of Hope changes lives. For more than two decades, the wonderful people of our West Virginia Baptist Convention continue to give of their time and finances together in prayer to bless those who are our guest and customers.

The American Baptist Women’s Ministries are certainly a joy to host during their yearly conferences and retreats with us. Their sweet and giving spirit brings amazing results through their specific project giving. The two vehicles they recently purchased with their Special Project monies enables Parchment Valley to be a viable Christian conference center. We are forever grateful for their support and fellowship.

During the summer, Parchment Valley had a main waterline break. Our staff searched for two days trying to identify the cause of the issue. Phone calls were made to Charlie Swisher and Charles Plemons, previous directors of Parchment Valley. The leak was eventually located by Pastor Matt Ash and with the incredible volunteer work of the American Baptist Men’s Disaster Relief Team the permanent repair was completed and our drinking water was restored. Thank you...your presence is a genuine gift from above.

Brothers’ Keeper is ramping up for 2017 and youth crews are already registering for BK ’17 which is scheduled for June 24-30. We are seeking skilled volunteers and Christian chaperones, along with youth teams who love to serve and exhibit a can-do attitude for Jesus. We always experience a challenging work week, but through it all home owners have given their hearts to the Lord, tears of joy are shed for making life a little easier for some. Training our young men and women to “be a beacon of hope” in a world that needs Jesus makes this WVBC program a success.

Our Don Loudermilk Society is growing which enables Parchment Valley to maintain its awesome presence. Kay Loudermilk recently visited with me and we spent several hours taking in the beauty of Parchment Valley. Her son, Tim, maintains the chimes on the Grapevine Chapel Trail. While Kay was experiencing the work of her late great husband, Rev. Don Loudermilk, she continually repeated, “When Don came home from volunteering at Parchment Valley, he always said here he felt one step closer to God.” Amen.

The summer of 2016 was a blessing. During the Twelve Pole Association Youth Camp, 15 youth were saved and the
Lord’s divine work continued throughout other church camps with us as many made a profession of faith.

Thank you for supporting the ministry of Parchment Valley!

WEST VIRGINIA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Rev. Richard Hepler, President

The West Virginia Baptist Historical Society has been engaged in several projects that began before 2015 and have kept us busy even into 2016. Several years ago, the Society received the entire historical collection of the Rev. C. Shirley Donnelly who served as President of the Society from 1942 to 1965. The board members and other volunteers have devoted many hours to sorting and cataloguing this collection in the archives at the WV Baptist Conference Center. West Virginia Baptists are indebted to the Donnelly family for the bequest of this extensive collection. The Donnelly Collection has expanded the archives substantially.

Beginning in 2014, the Board laid plans for celebrating the 150th anniversary of the West Virginia Baptist Convention in 2015. Several projects were undertaken in conjunction with this observance. In cooperation with the American Baptist Historical Society, an ABHS Quarterly was published featuring the history of West Virginia Baptists and the formation of the WVBC and its auxiliaries. Contributors to this commemorative quarterly were Bill Bryan, David Carrico, Jean Cunningham, Valerie Gittings, Linda Hepler, Lucky Ray, Truett Rogers and Barbara Smith. Another project for the anniversary observance was a special historical exhibit at the annual convention at Hurricane First Baptist Church. The exhibit included numerous articles from the historical collection at Parchment Valley. In cooperation with the WVBC, the historical society presented several vignettes at the annual meeting of the convention. The vignettes featured impersonations of Ann Judson (Carol Parker), John Alderson (Robert Ball), John Corbly (Jim Ash) and Elizabeth Carter (Kathy Hudson).

In recent years, the WVHBS Board has experienced considerable turnover as we have lost several members via resignation and death. Carol Vandevender, our devoted archivist, died in 2015 and is sorely missed. We are, however, grateful for new members who are committed to the challenge of maintaining and advancing the goals and purposes of the WVHS. May God be glorified and West Virginia Baptists well served.

LEADERSHIP COMMISSION
Dr. Richard Sargent, Chair

The mission of Leadership Development is: to assist church leaders in development and use of their gifts, to equip and lead congregations in ministry.

The following are the goals of the commission with past and future events and programs, which fulfill those goals:

Goal #1: Address the significant leadership needs of West Virginia Baptist Convention churches.

The first way we address the leadership needs of our churches is through the School of Christian Studies. There are three tracks of study in the School of Christian Studies. The first of these is the basic level of courses in all areas of practical ministry for lay and pastoral leaders, which qualifies those who complete the Pastoral Ministry Track for ordination and full credentialing in pastoral ministry. It also leads to certificates in Teaching and Lay Ministry for those not desiring the full pastoral level of basic studies. The second track involves the Advanced Level Modules in special interest areas. These subjects are determined by requests from students, by the School of Christian Studies Advisory Team as helpful to pastors and church leaders, and experienced pastors and leaders who offer to share their learning – all with Advisory Team oversight and approval. The third track is a relatively recent addition called the Congregational Transformation Track. This new three-year program consists of six courses offered in various locations around the state twice per year on a rotating basis. The goal is to take churches beyond surviving to thriving.

The second way we addressed the leadership needs of our churches this past year was via the Church Officers Training Conference held on February 6 at Parchment Valley. This event included workshops for Association Leadership, Children’s Ministry, Deacons, Clerks, Finance, Discipleship, Exploring a Call, Missions, Pastoral Relations Committee, Pulpit Committee, Transformational Leadership, Music and Worship, Senior Adult Ministry, Technology, Trustees, Young Adult Ministry and Youth Ministry.
A third way we have worked to meet the leadership needs of the churches is via the Worship and Music Conference held June 16-18 at Parchment Valley. This conference was designed to help musicians and worship leaders from various sizes of churches and utilizing various styles of music and worship to be better prepared to lead worship and music in our churches.

Goal #2: Address the emotional, physical, financial, relational and spiritual needs of the West Virginia Baptist Convention clergy

The Leadership Commission works in partnership with Pastors4Pastors (The Ministers’ Council) to provide opportunities for continuing education and fellowship needs among our pastors. At last year’s state convention, the Pastors4Pastors held a pre-convention event, led by Dr. Anthony Headly, on the subject of “Emotional Health for Leading Effectively.” Then on March 3-4, 2016, the Pastors4Pastors group piggy-backed on a convention event and provided Bible training for preaching in Jeremiah with Dr. Keown. The Pastors4Pastors group is planning an event this October with Rev. Sharon Koh, the new director of International Ministries for the ABC/USA. Then in March 2017, the pastors’ group is again planning another Bible conference with Dr. Keown. It is also hoped to hold a marriage renewal weekend(retreat for pastors and their spouses this coming year.

Still another way we work to help meet the training needs for our pastors is in partnership with the Palmer Theological Seminary, which offers both the Master of Divinity and the Doctor of Ministry degrees at the Parchment Valley Campus.

To enable pastors to continue their education, the Leadership Commission works in partnership with the West Virginia Baptist Education Society to provide money to students from our churches preparing for full-time Christian ministry. The money becomes a free grant for those who come back to the state following graduation from seminary, with one year of aid forgiven for each year of service in West Virginia or as missionaries with our denomination. Students currently serving in ministry within West Virginia can receive grants to continue their studies at the Palmer Seminary Parchment Valley Campus.

Goal #3: Plan and implement leadership training as an integral part of our statewide events.

Because of needs identified by our commission, we regularly add new segments of training to the Church Officer Training event in February.

We continue to explore how we might implement a mentoring program for new pastors that would help them avoid pitfalls and work through issues they might face in the early months and years of ministry.

Another issue we are working on addressing is how we might encourage the youth from our churches to consider Christian higher education as they prayerfully consider God’s leading for their lives as young

Please remember the Leadership Commission in your prayers as we seek to work with our churches to develop strong leadership among both clergy and laity, that we might better accomplish the mission and calling God has placed upon us.

SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES
Rev. Mark McCloy, Director

The work of School of Christian Studies falls under the auspices of the Leadership Commission and helps fulfill the commission’s mandate to assist church leaders in development and use of their gifts, to equip and lead congregations in ministry.

The School continues to provide a basic level of courses in all areas of practical ministry. Although originally intended for the instruction of both lay and pastoral leaders, the School of Christian Studies is designed to meet the practical needs of any person interested in expanding their spiritual maturity, biblical knowledge and ministry skills. While the School carries no college or seminary credit, it does provide creditable and recognizable training within the Convention family. The Pastoral Ministry track, for lay and pastoral leaders, is a three-year course of study, which qualifies graduates for ordination and full credentialing in pastoral ministry. We also offer ADVANCED level modules in special interest areas. These subjects have historically been determined by request of students and approval of the School of Christian Studies Advisory Team, and are intended to be helpful to pastors and church leaders.

Following are statistics of past and future courses offered:

- There are currently 831 people on the School of Christian Studies’ mailing list. The number taking
classes for credit is 386. Those who have submitted an enrollment form equal 150 and 119 have chosen a program of study. We have had seven new enrollments in 2016.

There are currently 282 people on the SCS ADVANCED mailing list. The number taking classes for credit is 104. Those who have submitted an enrollment form for the two-year ADVANCED General Studies program equal 33. We have had no new enrollments in 2016.

Due to low attendance, the School of Christian Studies ADVANCED Congregational Transformation three-year program will be reducing its schedule of classes. Instead of holding a different class two times per year in each of the five areas on the same date, we will hold one class at the Church Officers’ Training Event in February and try to hold another in the fall each year. The number taking classes for credit is 31. There is only one new enrollment for 2016.

At this time, we have 16 School of Christian Studies’ students scheduled to graduate in 2016. In 2015, we had ten graduates from the School of Christian Studies.

The following School of Christian Studies’ classes have been taught (including the numbers attending) from January 2016 through the present:

**New Testament I** (B-03) six-week class in January 2016: 11 locations with 79 students attending

**New Testament II** (B-04) six-week class in February 2016: 11 locations with 74 students attending

**Worship and Music** (E-03) one-day class taught by Bill Frey on April 16, 2016 with 30 students attending

**Church History** (M-01) one-day class in April 2016: 9 locations with 48 students attending

**Baptist Polity** (E-01) one-day class taught by Mike Sisson on June 25, 2016 with 29 students attending; seven of those via “Go To Meeting;” five students were registered, but not able to attend due to the historic flooding

**Making Peace** (Mod-4) one-day class taught by Mitch and Jennifer Huber on August 20, 2016 with 27 students attending; eight of those tried to attend via “Go To Meeting,” but technical difficulties prevented that

**Teacher Training** (M-03) six-week class in September 2016: ten locations with 44 students attending; seven of those via “Go To Meeting”

Special events where School of Christian Studies’ credit was given:

**Intro to Missions** (Mod-3) was given for attending Camp Global on September 2-3, 2016; 4 students attended

Extra classes held:

David Moutz held four regular classes at Oakwood Baptist Church during June and July 2016 for students that needed the classes. Students in the area were notified of the opportunity.

- Creating Community on June 11, 2016 with eight in attendance.
- Making Peace on July 2, 2016 with six in attendance.
- Baptism and Communion on July 16, 2016 with seven in attendance.
- Weddings and Funerals on July 23, 2016 with six in attendance.

The following advanced level modules have been taught (including the numbers attending) from January 2016 through the present:

Special events where School of Christian Studies’ ADVANCED credit was given:

- Church Officers’ Training Event on February 7, 2016 with 14 attending for ADVANCED credit
- 2016 Bible Conference on March 5, 2016 with 8 attending for ADVANCED credit

Regularly scheduled ADVANCED classes:

- A Christian Response to Poverty taught by Alan Copenhaver on January 30, 2016 with 14 students attending
- Book of Exodus taught by Mark McCloy on April 23, 2016 with 18 students attending

The remaining course for the regular School of Christian Studies’ program in 2016 is:

- Creating Community (Mod-1) at Parchment Valley Conference Center taught by Larry Dale on October 29, 2016

The remaining Advanced Level modules are:
GRADUATION:

School of Christian Studies’ graduation 2016 will be during the evening session of the West Virginia Baptist Convention Annual Meeting on Thursday, October 20, 2016 at Gassaway Baptist Church. There are currently 16 students scheduled to graduate this year.

SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES DIGITAL LEARNING INITIATIVE:

The Digital Learning Initiative is a training program intended to provide quality instruction to pastors, pastors-in-training and other church leaders by digitizing the three-year Pastoral Ministry Program of the School of Christian Studies and making it available to persons who otherwise could not receive training because of scheduling issues or lack of broadband internet.

WEST VIRGINIA BAPTIST EDUCATION SOCIETY

Dr. Lawrence Hoptry, Corresponding Secretary

The purpose of the West Virginia Baptist Education Society is to help members of churches, who have received a call to ministry and are related to the West Virginia Baptist Convention, receive financial support. We can offer this because there are individuals, churches and associations who want to make a difference for the many dedicated men and women who are seeking to serve our blessed Lord.

Currently, we are providing $2,600 a year for resident students to attend up to four years of college and three years of seminary. Students entering the Palmer Theological Seminary Program at Parchment Valley are considered as part-time and will receive a scholarship of $325 per class and on-line students receive $325 per three hour class.

The full-time college and seminary students agree to return to the West Virginia Baptist ministry or to the mission field, giving one year of service for each year of financial assistance. If they are not able to return to the state, drop out of school or change career goals, they are asked to repay the scholarship on terms that are acceptable to both parties. The scholarships are on a no-interest basis. The financial aid for those who are taking classes with Palmer are considered as grants and are re-paid only if the individual leaves the ministry or move.

To qualify for scholarship/loan assistance, you must be a member of a West Virginia Baptist Convention church called to professional ministry. This includes serving as Pastor, Minister of Youth, Children or Adults, Minister of Music, Director of Christian Education or any staff position of the local church or preparing for Missionary service. We require three recommendations from pastors in our Convention and the endorsement of the local church where their membership is held.

The income for the Society comes from four sources. 1. Memorials: churches, groups or individuals wish to honor the memory of a loved one or one who has had a decided impact upon their lives. 2. Gifts of Honor: the same groups wish to honor a living person who has made an impact. 3. Student Fund: gifts that generally support the work of the Society. 4. Repayments: students who have benefited from scholarships, but are not in direct ministry in West Virginia, repay their scholarship loans. Only the interest of the above mentioned income is used for loans and scholarships.

PALMER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY WEST VIRGINIA PROGRAM

Dr. Allen Copenhaver

Palmer Theological Seminary continues to rejoice in our partnership with the West Virginia Baptist Convention. We are excited that the WV program will be entering its 25th year in 2017. Our graduation banquet in March will be the beginning of our 25th anniversary celebration.

The past academic year celebrated the graduation of four M.Div. graduates: Matt Ash, Juan Aragon, Dwight Brohard and Mark Gerstell. We also had three D.Min. graduates: Mark McCloy, Rich McClure and Jeremy Myers. During the graduation banquet, Craig Miller, Associate Registrar, was presented the Matherly Award for his support of the WV program.

Beginning this October, we are piloting shortened M.Div. residencies so that students will only be in class 2.5 days rather than all week. The March residency will also be in this shorter format as we explore the possibility of adopting this format permanently. We are also excited to announce that we will be beginning our fourth D.Min. cohort this January.
Special thanks to the Bowen Charitable Trust and the West Virginia Baptist Education Society who continue to make theological education affordable to West Virginia students. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have about the program.

PASTORS4PASTORS: WEST VIRGINIA BAPTIST MINISTERS’ COUNCIL

Dr. Jana Raines, President

The vision of Pastors4Pastors: The WV Baptist Ministers’ Council is to provide environments for fellowship among the ministers of the West Virginia Baptist Convention; to provide opportunities for education, inspiration and personal/professional growth; and to encourage pastors and churches to maintain healthy relationships in ministry.

In order to accomplish this vision, Pastors4Pastors:The WV Baptist Ministers’ Council, offered the following opportunities during 2015-16:

On October 15, 2015, the P4P pre-convention continuing education event took place at Milton Baptist Church, Milton, WV. Due to the overwhelmingly positive response from the previous Spring Event, Dr. Anthony J. Headley, a psychologist and professor of counseling at Asbury Theological Seminary, returned as our speaker. He brought a presentation on "Emotional Health for Leading Effectively." This was also the annual meeting of P4P, with the election of officers for the following year. During the Annual Meeting of WVBC, P4P recognized retiring ministers with the presentation of a gift book.

On March 3-5, 2016, P4P offered its annual Spring Retreat at Parchment Valley Conference Center in Ripley, WV. Our speaker for the event was Dr. Gerald Keown, Associate Dean, School of Divinity, and Professor of Old Testament Interpretation at Garner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, NC. This event was done in tandem with the Bible Conference offered by the WVBC on March 5. Dr. Keown spoke on “Preaching from the Book of Jeremiah,” bringing in-depth surveys of a number of key passages of Jeremiah to our group. The information was well received, with practical ideas and outlines for sermons. Many of the pastors stayed for the Bible Conference held on Saturday. This was a wonderful time for fellowship and retreat with both ministers who remained overnight as well as those who could drive to join us for the day’s event. Snacks and refreshments were provided by a group from Parchment Valley Baptist Church. As always, we were well taken care of by the staff and management of Parchment Valley. We are blessed to have not one, but two beautiful sites for conferences in our lovely state. It is our goal to make use of both Parchment Valley and Camp Cowen on alternating years, so that we may reach a greater number of ministers within the state.

Our 2016 pre-convention event will take place on Thursday, October 20th at Sutton Baptist Church, 610 Main Street, Sutton, WV. Rev. Sharon Koh, Executive Director of International Ministries ABC, will be our speaker. This will be a great opportunity to discover how we as WVBC ministers are connected with various ministry efforts of ABC/USA around the world.

P4P is also planning another couples’ event for the coming year, as we continue to seek ways to encourage and equip ministers serving West Virginia. P4P is excited to continue to offer high quality events and opportunities. Cost of membership has remained $15 dollars per year which provides discounts for all P4P events. Please join us. Together we can make a difference!

P4P Officers for 2016-17

President - Dr. Jana Raines
Vice President - Vacant

Communications Coordinator - Rev. Jim Compton
Treasurer - Dr. William Thomas
Resource Coordinator – Vacant

Spring Event Coordinator – Vacant
Fall Event Coordinator – Rev. Anthony Pratt
Member at Large - Dr. Dana Gatewood
Member at Large – Dr. Richard Sargent
WVBC Staff Liaison - Rev. Mark McClay

COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL STANDING

Dr. Richard L. Sargent, Chair

The first task of the Committee on Ministerial Standing is to encourage the call to ministry and ordination, and to formally provide regional accreditation of the ordinations of those who wish such recognition. We continue to work quietly in the background to accomplish this task. Because the national denomination now recognizes those who are approved by their respective regions, we take very seriously the task of upholding moral, theological and educational standards for ministry, while encouraging those whom God has called to use their gifts and talents in service to God and the gospel.

One way we have helped to encourage response to the call to pastoral ministry during the past year was working with the Leadership Commission to hold a session on "Exploring the Call" as part of the Church Officers Training Conference in February. We encourage new pastors moving into the state and pastors newly ordained to ministry to apply for regional recognition of your credentials. Applications can be obtained through your area minister or the state office in Parkersburg.

Our other task is to deal with formal allegations of clergy misconduct which may be presented to us. When such accusations are made, we try to deal with them in a spirit of impartiality and pastoral concern. Our goal is always reconciliation and restoration, when possible, while protecting the churches we serve and the confidentiality of the process. Please remember us in your prayers as we seek to do God's will in this, as in all things.

It is a privilege to serve on this committee with other dedicated colleagues to promote healthy ministry among our churches.

OUTREACH COMMISSION

Ms. Katie Linderman, Chair

I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to hear of the various ministries performed throughout the state, nation and world by WV Baptists this year. The following is a brief summary of what the Outreach Commission has been engaged in this past year.

Season of Transformation: A third Season of Transformation event was held in November 2015 with Tom Mercer as the speaker. A Church Transformation Track has been planned for the School of Christian Studies.

American Baptist Women Ministries: ABWM achieved both their 2015 Mission Outreach Project and Special Project goals with over $24,000 being raised for the Myers’ Chicken Project in Mexico and over $14,000 going toward a new truck for Parchment Valley. The 2016 MOP is “Bucks for Buckets,” a project to provide water filtration systems to families in the Dominican Republic. The 2016 Special Project is to provide room furnishings and supplies for the 3-5 year old children at Weirton Christian Center. In April, the first intergenerational women’s camp was held at Camp Cowen.

American Baptist Men: The American Baptist Men have been a blessing this past year through their disaster relief projects. They have also continued to develop their relationship with the ABMen of District of Columbia / Virginia / Maryland.

Baptist Campus Ministries: BCM is growing, with Rob Ely becoming Director of BCM and Kevin Sions joining him as Northern Director of BCM.

Hispanic Ministries: We have seen church growth through Luis Diaz’s ministry in West Virginia with many individuals beginning or reconciling their relationship with God. Juan Aragon has received two grants for his work in Ravenswood and Moorefield. We wish Juan and his family success as his ministry takes him to Chiapas, Mexico as missionaries through International Ministries.

What a blessing it is to see the ministry of the WVBC expand and bear fruit.
OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Dr. Maxwell Hill, Director of Outreach Ministries

As always, it is a pleasure to report the work of the Commission on Christian Outreach. Throughout the last year our constituent bodies have been active in ministry.

Hispanic Ministries has completed another great year under the direction of Rev. Juan Aragon. This has been a busy year for the Aragons. We congratulate Rev. Aragon on his ordination this year. This is another long step on Juan’s journey with us in West Virginia. The West Virginia Baptist Convention part of that journey will soon end. Juan and his wife, Denise, have announced their call to and have been endorsed by International Ministries as missionaries to Chiapas, Mexico.

A new Puerto Rican pastor has come to Luz y Vida Baptist Church in Moorefield. Pastor Luiz Obed Siberon began his ministry this summer. Their former pastor has returned to Puerto Rico to further his education. The Puerto Rico partnership continued to grow and develop.

Director of Student Ministries, Rob Ely, has done yeoman’s work with BCM and particularly with Camp Cowen. The camp, in spite of the damaging floods in June, remained open and conducted a full slate of camps this summer.

Baptist Campus Ministries has undergone further transitions. Rev. Kevin Sions has settled in and continues to adjust to and grow in his new work as Northern Director of Baptist Campus Ministries and Campus Minister at WVU.

American Baptist Women’s Ministries had its usual good year. Their special project is equipment for the new building at Weirton Christian Center. As always, the ABWM has missions at its heart and their mission project is to purchase water filtration buckets for the Dominican Republic.

American Baptist Men continues to do its disaster relief. Unfortunately, they had to spend nine weeks in flood stricken communities right here at home in West Virginia. They also helped to clean up Camp Cowen.

BAPTIST CAMPUS MINISTRIES

Mr. Rob Ely, Director of Baptist Campus Ministries

Baptist Campus Ministry for the school year 2015-2016 was an eventful time for Jesus on the college campuses of West Virginia. The West Virginia Baptist Convention supports ministry on eight different campuses in the state where “Changing lives that change the World” continues to be the mission of BCM. The students continue to seek God and make a difference for Him. Many students throughout the year spend time serving their local church, helping with disaster relief, working on staff at Cowen and mission trips around the world.

Campus Ministers:
- Alderson Broaddus University
  - Koreen Villers
- University of Charleston
  - Todd McClure
- Concord University
  - Vicky Morris
- Fairmont University
  - Karla Carr
- Glenville State University
  - Lance Linden
- Marshall University
  - Rob Ely
- West Virginia University
  - Kevin Sions
- West Virginia University-Tech
  - Anthony Pratt
- West Virginia University-Beckley
  - Patrick Huffman and Mike Rubin

The BCM Fall Retreat was held at Cowen and hosted the Traveling Team. This group focuses on mission around the world. There were 150 students who attended. Ninety students gathered at Myrtle Beach for the Annual Beach Week. Adam Goodwin led bible studies and several campus ministers led the evening worship services.

The biggest changes on campus have been the addition of several campus ministers. Rob Ely as the Director of Student Ministries and the campus minister at Marshall University was added. Kevin Sions is now the director at West Virginia University. Karla Karr is now the campus minister at Fairmont. Patrick Huffman and Mike Rubin have joined the ministry at...
West Virginia University—Beckley Campus. This is a unique transition as West Virginia University—Tech at Montgomery makes the transition to the Beckley Campus in 2017. First Baptist Church of Beckley is hosting the meeting on Thursday nights.

Please continue to pray for the ministry and financial support of Baptist Campus Ministry.

WEIRTON CHRISTIAN CENTER
Mrs. Kim Weaver, Director

This past year has been one of many challenges and opportunities. We started the school year, with everyone back at the Elm Street location, reinforcing the need for the new building once more! The Build-A-Building Project has been in full swing and we have received approximately 34% of the funding expected from our WV Baptist family of churches. Our WV American Baptist Women chose the new preschool as their special project and we have already received 75% of their goal! And once those balances comes through, we are down to the remaining 12% needed to gain that 40% match and start building! We have been chosen to receive the One Great Hour of Sharing Grant for the next three years – with $30,000 toward kitchen construction; $20,000 for equipment; and $10,000 the third year for food and staff for the Kid’s Café. With the favorable response we are receiving from the community and local foundations, this should be no problem reaching that goal in time to BREAK GROUND IN APRIL and celebrate our 100th Anniversary in the building in the fall of 2017!! We thank you so much for continued support and the amazing commitment on this project to keep the Center serving the Weirton area for years to come!

The donated property for our WCC Community Garden has actually tripled this year. The two adjacent lots are being provided by the city and an out-of-town owner. The two beds on our site for the past few years has taught our children about planting, growing and eating healthy vegetables. We currently have 12 raised beds and have plans from a Master Gardener who has been leading our committee with our AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer, Clemmie Frierson. Future plans include a handicap garden, and a meditation walk as well as flower gardens. Our hope is to involve more families in the community and possibly be able to tie in a jobs or education program. We have received grants through our Journey Project to fund this project, outside of normal operations.

In November, we were donated a house on Orchard Street that is now “Evyenia’s House of Hope.” We are currently renting space to Home Base, which is an organization that brings fostered children together with their parents. This helps us cover the utility and cleaning expense. We are able to offer three separate areas for visitation – rather than the one 10X12 room we provided at the house behind the center. We also are able to use the house for counseling for our children and families, and place to teach life skills to a generation of low-income children who need that guidance, as well as their parents. There is a meeting room upstairs, and in the basement, we house over 400 formal gowns, the “Dream Dress Place” for girls to be able to attend formals, even when their families are unable to buy the expensive dresses required. A local gown store, Savvy Divas, donated these gowns new and also those they had on consignment that were not picked up. For the cost of cleaning the gown to put back into inventory, our “center” girls, and others in the area that could not afford one, are blessed with the experience.

Our behavior counselor made great strides with our children, staff and programs. Unfortunately she had to take a full time position at another location before summer, but is still able to come once a week and meet with our children or parents in need of counseling.

We ended 2015 with serving a total of 278 different children in all three programs. Before school started we once again co-sponsored a Back to School Bash and distributed close to 1,000 book bags with school supplies. We continue to offer school supplies to all our children all year long. We ended the school year with 113 children registered, had 83 throughout the summer with Kindergarten Readiness and have 22 preschoolers registered this year.

For the past year and a half, we have been able to work with Drama Direct, a local studio that will offer free lessons to our children in piano, guitar and voice. And for this year, a new 501c3 was developed in town that will now provide scholarships for our children to attend their dance studio. This will be an awesome partnership and as we develop our new building, one room will be dedicated for public use – with a stage and audio/visual equipment that can be used for recitals, seminars, meetings and worship. These opportunities will encourage our children even more to pursue their dreams and talents. We hope to be able to develop a funding source for supporting these instructors so willing to give of their time. Life skills and life lessons are very important to what we do with our children, but not as important as pouring God’s word into them every day. Bible lessons and weekly scriptures are part of the schedule just as much as help with homework, computer time, activities, fitness, snacks and dinner. It is amazing how quickly even the smallest ones learn scriptures and are able to pray with their hearts. We are also teaching to serve. Weekly visits to the geriatric center by two
classes of elementary students this year lets our children pray with residents, take gifts and share songs. They are learning to be a blessing.

Our WCC week at camp ended with 14 baptisms. It was wonderful to have 59 of us all together for the week at Elkhorn Valley Christian Camp, just 45 minutes from the Center. This year the children were also able to attend their age-appropriate weeks with our “Jesus Loves You Scholarships.” These scholarships also enable us to send 18 children to the local Christian School and transport 24 of them to and from school.

We are SO blessed to have so many churches and ABW groups provide us with White Cross items, camp supplies, hygiene supplies, snacks, WalMart Cards, quilts, school supplies and so much more. Thanks go out to the mission team from New Baptist – an amazing group of young people who worked hard to paint and repair all around the Center and then spend a day with our kids at Kennywood! What a blessing! If your church is looking for a new mission adventure, please keep us in mind; whether you’d like to work with kids in the summer or help us with repairs. Actually, as we put up the new building, we will need help in many areas. And the Community Garden is an ongoing work in progress! And of course, our Quarters Fund keeps the children working hard on grades and homework over the course of the year. Thanks go out to all of you who help us fill the needs on a regular basis! We could not make the difference in so many lives, without our American Baptist family. So many churches have annual projects that mean so much: shoeboxes, hats and gloves, and quilts. Over the course of the year, The Weirton Christian Center served over 400 people with many needs, including over 200 children enrolled in all programs. With the help of the “Jesus Loves You” and “God’s Helping Hand” funds, we were able to help with emergency utility assistance, groceries, home needs, transportation and clothing for families, and other areas of living that our children may be at a disadvantage or at risk.

WHAT DO WE DO AT THE WEIRTON CHRISTIAN CENTER?

FREE PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR AGES 3-5

Each year we question whether we will still be able to offer our Christian preschool based on enrollment and funding. It has been proven to us that God wants us here pouring into these little ones, and we are thrilled to continue this year with 22 children and a waiting list is started. Our expense is high, but also one of the most valuable. What these children learn before the age of five makes such a difference in their lives. Getting to know the Lord by praying three times a day and learning values from the Bible is invaluable. We combine 3 and 4-Year old pre-school classes five days per week from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., with time on the Computers for ABC Mouse. They are learning better than ever! And we continue to provide free transportation with our own vans, with the help of funding from the Christian Fellowship Foundation.

FREE AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM FOR AGES 5-18

Homework help: tutoring, Quarters for Grades to inspire better grades, college interns and volunteers to help with homework, and internet access for school homework (when they don’t have it home, we do)

New computer learning programs: Mobymax – used by the Christian School for Reading and iXL for Math, and Science; as well as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Keyboarding; and a designated teacher for the lab

Feeding program: healthy snacks, dinner and “Blessing Bags” for long weekends and holidays

FREE transportation: to and from preschool, Center programs, home from Center and to and from Tri-State Christian School in Burgettstown PA (we provide scholarships) (8-Passenger and two 15-passenger vans)

Fitness / nutrition: walking, running, sports, activities, nutrition instruction; soon to be dance lessons also

Literacy: activities both on site and at the library (partner); summer reading to prevent learning loss

Life skills: for middle school / high school / parents – special guests and programs to develop skills needed to take care of themselves and move into college and adulthood

Music lessons: local studio has three instructors volunteering their time to teach guitar, piano and voice. We have a music room equipped with guitars, keyboard, piano and practicing space.

Daily Bible devotions and weekly Bible study: divided into four age groups to learn biblical truths and build character in all ages; ongoing scripture contest with rewards

Donation room: provides school supplies year round and clothing and shoes for kids, as well as bedding, hygiene kits, even household supplies

Signs of Hope: sign language and singing/dance group that performs at local festivals/ Christmas parade
**The Journey Project:** focus is built around good nutrition, a fitness program and Character-building program. We also focused on educational and community service programs, since life skills are so important and so many of graduates, young adults and our parents need assistance in so many areas. The Christian Center’s RAZE group of kids has been instrumental in many anti-smoking campaigns in both Hancock and Brooke Counties. They keep the information in front of our children on a regular basis also. We continue to partner with other agencies. Our kids volunteer to serve at the Table of Hope and work with autistic children at to have a Bible study at the Family Resource Network. The Community Garden falls under the Journey Project umbrella.

**Summer Program:** weekdays 12:00 p.m.— 4:00 p.m.; offering park staff at Christian Fellowship Park, free lunch, snacks and “themed” weeks of activities; Kindergarten Readiness program. Thanks go out to all the mission groups that come to spend time sharing the Lord with our kids, or help with remodeling/repair projects.

**Christian Fellowship Park:** additional program space and neighborhood use with fenced-in basketball court, new shelter, and playground equipment.

**Jesus Loves You Scholarships:** helping children participate in Christian activities that their families are not able to provide for them: 1) Summer camp; 2) Tri-State Christian Academy; 3) Upwards Basketball

**God’s Helping Hand Fund:** helps our families in emergency situations with utility help, groceries, clothing, sports fees and other needs.

**Campbell’s Labels — AMAZON SMILE — Kroger Community:** Thanks to so many label collectors we have “bought” a lot of necessities, but they are starting to limit what is available. If you would like for us to earn donation dollars through your purchases, there are two programs that will automatically send us points when purchases are made, through grocery store cards, such as Kroger, when your card is registered online and also when you shop Amazon – just go to AMAZON SMILE and designate the Weirton Christian Center for your recipient. It costs you nothing and we receive checks. Thanks to all those who faithfully collect and send us labels and support us through these areas!

**OVERFLOWING GRATITUDE**

As we move into our 100th year in 2017, we hope to celebrate our Centennial in the new building, and will have completed a book and DVD to keep the legacy of the mission alive through the memories of those who were a part in some way over the years. Thank you in advance for your church support in raising necessary funding for the Build-A-Building Project. The Board of Directors is committed to making decisions that will sustain our ministry and stay true to the mission, which means not building until our funds are raised so we will have NO DEBT. Our goal is to continue to provide a safe place for children to be after school and offer life-shaping influences and activities that direct children to a relationship with the Lord. The Christian Center is the safe place for them, a place they come for support, love, faith and care, besides the basic needs of clothing, school supplies and food. We truly appreciate your prayers for us to make the right decisions in all areas of the ministry. Nothing is impossible with God in control. On behalf of the children and families we serve in Weirton, many thanks to our partners West Virginia Baptist Convention and American Baptist Home Missions for your ongoing support as we continue into our 100th year! Unfortunately, our list of wonderful supporters is too long to include, but each and every one is key to our doing God’s work. Please know every prayer, every donation, every card and every encouraging word could not be more appreciated.

For more information, call the center at 304.748.2353, e-mail Kim@WeirtonChristianCenter.com or contact Kim Weaver at 304-479-2140. www.WeirtonChristianCenter.com and Find us on Facebook

**AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN’S MINISTRIES OF WEST VIRGINIA**

*Mrs. Sherry Goldsburg, President*

2015-2016 Theme - "See"

The annual Spiritual Growth Retreat was held at Parchment Valley Conference Center, Ripley, West Virginia on September 24-26, 2015. Our theme was "Seeking God." Rev. Valerie Gittings, pastor of Fairmont First Baptist Church, was our guest speaker. Doris Toothman and Karla Carr were our worship leaders. Women’s Day was held Thursday, October 14, 2015 at the Hurricane First Baptist Church with the theme "Faith in Action." Special recognition was given to all ladies whose names were submitted to the "Million
Women Movement.” Our annual American Baptist Women and AB Girls Conference was held at Parchment Valley Conference Center at Ripley, WV on June 3-5, 2016. Our theme was “Celebrating Women Serving God.” Dr. William Thomas was our speaker. Ginny Prunty was our worship leader. One hundred and ten ladies attended. During the conference the Leadership Academy was introduced by the Resource Team. Dr. Sandra Lutz led our first session “Characteristics of a Christian Leader.” Sixty ladies were in attendance plus two took it on line. The Special Project for 2016 is furniture for the new addition at Weirton Christian Center. Our goal is $12,000. The Mission Outreach Project, with a goal of $6,000 is "Water Filter Buckets" for families in the Dominican Republic that will provide safe, clean drinking water for the families. Each bucket costs $50. The Scholarship Girls Committee granted scholarship/loans in the amount of $18,000. Other ministries: Love Gift, AB Girls, Project Good Samaritan, White Cross and National AB Women’s Ministries Support. The women of West Virginia are dedicated to serving God.

**AMERICAN BAPTIST MEN OF WEST VIRGINIA**

**Rev. Frank Miller, Staff Advisor**

Our annual ABMen’s Prayer Breakfast in February was well attended in churches and associations across the state.

ABMen’s Work Party at Camp Cowen helped clean up the camp and get ready for summer. Only one incident when a widow maker limb took the project coordinator, Bill Wilson, to the ground. Skinned and bruised he finished the mission. We are grateful to God that Camp Cowen experienced another great summer of ministry. Once again, the Work Party will be held in 2017 on April 28-29.

In May, ABM Disaster Relief volunteers built a replacement bridge for a family in southern West Virginia following flooding in 2015. The team experienced an amazing presence of the Lord while building the bridge and connecting with the community.

Following the flood on June 23rd, many ABM Disaster Relief volunteers and partners have spent weeks in the flood stricken counties of West Virginia. The state experienced the loss of lives, homes, infrastructure and businesses. Brokenness and despair was evident as people who never darkened the doors of a church found themselves going there to receive supplies, comfort and hope through the immensely outpouring of donated supplies, food and a listening ear. The work of rebuilding is ongoing, but will take many years. The ABM Disaster Relief Team of West Virginia sets the bar high for answering the call to “go” and serve so ever faithfully.

ABMen’s Camp is held each summer in early August. Once again, ABMen’s Camp 2016 was a touch of heaven, with a lot of fellowship, prayer and worship. And the food was both plentiful and delicious. The messages from Rick Garavaglia and Adam Cheeseman were inspiring and right on target, and everyone was humbled. Another great blessing was seeing many men bringing their young sons! Men’s Camp 2017 will be held August 4-6.

The Lord continues to bless us – and, in turn, we strive to bless others.

**STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION**

**Mrs. Doris Toothman, Chair**

Once again it is time to report on what the Stewardship Commission has been doing throughout the 2015-2016 year. I must say it has been a privilege to be the chair of such dedicated members.

Mission support continues as churches are faithful in their giving.

JD and Rhonda Reed were home from Bolivia staying in the mission house at Parchment Valley. They had many opportunities to tell of their ministry as they traveled throughout the state.

The World Mission Conference was held this year in July at Green Lake, Wisconsin. Many were able to attend this event and meet the new Executive Director Rev. Sharon Koh following the retirement of Rev. Dr. Trulson.

Trips were endorsed to Cuba, Nicaragua, Philippines, Russia, Hungary and Mexico. What a wonderful opportunity for us to see firsthand just how hard our missionaries work and to be part of their ministry!

The Puerto Rican partnership is working on an exchange with the ABWM and the ABMen and possibly a camp ministry.
God is good!
Our own Juan Aragon has been ordained and he and Denise have been endorsed as missionaries to Chiapas, Mexico. Pray for them as they will be needing support financially.

Prayers for the WVBC as we continue to do the work God has called us to do.

MISSION SUPPORT
Rev. John E. Simmons, Associate Executive Minister of Mission and Administration

And the years keep rolling by! In many ways this past year was similar to previous years. However, the ministry is still exciting and unique. I am privileged to attend many of our association meetings each year. These give me the opportunity to hear what God is doing in our churches and to share what God is doing through our Convention.

I am honored to have been selected to serve on the Board of Directors for the American Baptist Foundation. The Foundation Board meets twice each year and helps direct the ministry of the Foundation as it helps people with planned giving and other financial matters.

I have been working with our attorney and trustees on the gas rights issues at Parchment Valley. This is a very complex issue which we hope to have resolved soon.

The Convention professional staff had a very productive retreat at Heritage Farms in January. There was a lot of energy and excitement around the idea of us hiring an “agent of hope” to serve in southern West Virginia. Much work continues to be done as we listen to the churches in that area about what is needed and how we can partner together.

I went to Puerto Rico to work on the continuing partnership between our conventions. We arranged a men’s work trip to PR, but had to cancel due to the flooding in West Virginia. We are hoping to get a trip together for 2017.

With the help of Joan Hall, we organized a bus trip to the World Mission Conference in Green Lake. The trip went very well and the group had a great time.

Camp Global was successful again this Labor Day weekend. However, after consulting with the participants, we will move the date for 2017 to August 11 – 13 in hopes of attracting more participants. Lisa Simmons continues to do a great job planning the camp which helps people experience and learn about missions.

The big challenge this past year was dealing with the impact of the June floods. I have been privileged to administer the funds given by our churches to aid in the flood relief and recovery efforts. Churches have given over $180,000 to help and we are making sure the funds are put to work where they are needed most. As of September 15, 2016, we had distributed over $80,000 in grants and supplies to the flood zones and are working with leadership in each area to determine where to help next.
Appendix A

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
West Virginia Baptist Convention
Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, September 11, 2015
Parchment Valley

Present: At-large Evan Arkell, Executive Minister David Carrico, ABWM President Sherry Goldberg, Discipleship Chair Michael Harper, Outreach Chair Katie Linderman, Secretary Lois Merritt, 1st Vice-President Sandy Phares, Leadership Chair Richard Sargent, Treasurer John Simmons, Immediate Past President Michael Sisson, President Clark Sisson, Stewardship Chair Doris Toothman. Absent: At-large David Carpenter, ABMen President Paul Ritchie, 2nd VP Mark Wood

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Clark Sisson. Devotion and prayer by Sandy Phares.
2. Mike Sisson moved to approve the agenda; motion was seconded by Richard Sargent. Passed.
3. Mike Harper moved approval of the minutes. Sandy Phares seconded the motion. Passed.
4. John Simmons presented several reports:
   a. Treasurer’s Report. As of July 1, 2015, the Convention is $35,270.00 in the red. However, as usual, there are extenuating circumstances and it is more than probable that by the end of the year we will be close to the budget. As for the ministries which are currently overspent, they are aware of the deficiencies and will move to bring them in line with the budget by year end.
   b. Baptist Campus Ministries. Currently $19,751.00 in the red. This deficit is expected to be diminished by the year end, especially with the personnel changes which will be taking place.
   c. Camp Cowen. The books show a deficit of $42,401.00, but this figure does not include the end of season deposit which has not yet been made. Also taking into consideration depreciation, the actual figure is closer to $14,000.00 in the black!
   d. Parchment Valley. The deficit in this fund is $76,988, which is actually good compared to what it usually is at this time of the year. Significant problems have been overcome this year and it is probable that the fund will be in the black by the year end. AND, a significant bequest in the neighborhood of $100,000.00 has been given to PV by the late June Workman of Madison, WV, ½ of which is for a named endowment and the other half to be used at the Board’s discretion.

   Doris Toothman moved to accept the reports; Evan Arkell seconded the motion which passed.
5. Proposed changes in the By-laws were presented. These deal mainly with changing the term of office for all standing boards and committees to a calendar year and were approved by the Executive Board in April. They will be presented to the Convention at the Annual Meeting.
6. Staff changes were presented by the Personnel Committee.
7. Mike Sisson reported from the Executive Minister Emergency Back Up Plan Committee.
8. Mike Sisson moved that the Committee affirm the appointment of Brenda Rosier to the Executive Board as the Union Association Representative (she having already been appointed by the Union Association Executive Committee). Richard Sargent seconded the motion which passed. She was appointed to the Stewardship Commission.
9. John Simmons reported that the Cowen Board of Trustees will ask the Convention to waive the three-bid requirement for new building and award the contract for building the Sunny Day Leadership Center to Pray Construction.
10. It was moved by Sherry Goldberg that the Committee move forward with the Appreciative Inquiry. Seconded by Katie Linderman and passed.
11. John Simmons presented a brief report of his sabbatical work and expressed his appreciation to the Committee for the privilege of going to North East India and Thailand.
12. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. with prayer led by Clark Sisson.

Future Executive Committee and Executive Board Meetings (assuming the By-law changes are approved):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed. Oct. 14, 2015</td>
<td>Executive Committee at Hurricane FBC</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs-Fri, Oct. 15-16, 2015</td>
<td>WVBC Annual Meeting Hurricane FBC</td>
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<td>No December meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. Jan. 8, 2016</td>
<td>Executive Committee at PV</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sat. Jan. 9, 2016</td>
<td>Executive Board at PV</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. May 6, 2016</td>
<td>Executive Committee at PV</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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</table>
Sat. May 7, 2016  Executive Board at PV  9:00 a.m.
Fri. Sept. 30, 2016  Executive Committee at PV  6:30 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 1, 2016  Executive Board at PV  9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

[Signature]

Clark Swepston, President
West Virginia Baptist Convention

Lois Merritt, Secretary
West Virginia Baptist Convention

West Virginia Baptist Convention
Executive Board
Saturday, September 12, 2015
Parchment Valley

1. The Executive Committee met Friday, September 11, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. in Santrock Hall and adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Saturday morning, September 12, 2015.
1. Breakfast was served at 8:00 a.m. in the dining hall.
2. Commission meeting began at 9:00 a.m. in Santrock Hall.
   Lunch was served at noon in the dining hall.

Saturday afternoon, September 12, 2015.
1. The Plenary session of the WVBC Executive Board was called to order at 1:10 p.m. and led in prayer by President Clark Swepston.
2. Worship led by the Leadership Commission. Richard Sargent led the group in singing “Worthy Is the Lamb”, “Crown Him with Many Crowns,” and “I Surrender All”. Victor Shields called the group’s attention to Hebrews 11 and 12, and encouraged us to work together as witnesses to God’s faithfulness.
3. Peter and Sarah MCCurdy introduced their family who are preparing to minister with International Ministries in the Dominican Republic and Cuba as soon as they have raised their support. David Carrico led in a prayer blessing their work.
4. David Carrico presented a “Thank You” gift to Tim Gray and Adam Goodwin and their families as we bade farewell to them. Both will still be involved in ministry as they move on to other responsibilities. Pray of dedication by David.
5. Report of the Executive Committee
   A. Consideration of minutes. Vonnie Wykle moved to receive; Mike Sisson seconded the motion which passed.
   B. Financial report was presented by John Simmons showing a deficit of $35,000+ as of the end of July, about the expected amount. Expenses are in line and in good shape. He reported great August giving and that total mission giving is up 4% over last year at the same time. Zola Miller moved to receive the report, seconded by Koneda Devrick and passed.
   C. A proposal for Bylaw changes was presented for information only. These will be voted on at the annual meeting.
   D. Personnel committee reported job descriptions for new positions.
   E. Nominating Report was presented with the addition of Don Byron as an Alternate to the WV Education Society.
6. Reports of the Commissions

A. Discipleship Commission by Chair Mike Harper.
   i. Parchment Valley: Dining room tables & chairs being replaced. Head Start now meeting there.
   ii. Camp Cowen reported 65 decisions for Christ this summer. Reported progress on the Sunny Day Leadership Center building.
   iii. “Household Discipleship” is the theme for this year. Working with parents to help them discipleship their children. Collecting resources to encourage pastors to direct their churches in this.

B. Leadership Commission by Chair Richard Sargent.
   i. School of Christian Studies doing well. Nine graduates this year. Classes being held in several locations with rotating teachers.
   ii. Both MDiv and DMIN programs going well. Some changes in the offering.
   iii. Ministers’ Council Fall event with Anthony Headley went so well that he is invited back for the Spring event “Emotional Help for Leading Effectively” at Milton Baptist.
   iv. The WVB Education Society is currently funding 20+ scholarships.
   v. The Ministers’ Wives Fellowship is hosting an event November 13-15 at Parchment Valley.
   vi. Extensive discussion on a mentoring program for young and new pastors as well as those coming into the State or from another denomination. Asking SCS Deans for their input on this.
   vii. Planning an Annual Bible Conference perhaps in early March.
   viii. Planning to ask leader of Ministers’ Wives Fellowship and Lisa Simmons to meet with the Commission to plan ways to support spouses.

C. Outreach Commission by Chair Katie Linderman.
   i. Reported staff changes at BCM. Adam Goodwin and Tim Gray have resigned for other ministries. Hope to have a director for WVU by January, 2016.
   ii. ABW Million Women ministry is growing and was instrumental in sending three young women on a mission trip to Mexico. Thirteen scholarships granted for the fall semester.
   iii. Hispanic ministries. Over fifty volunteers from seven churches worked with migrant workers this summer. Juan Aragon and Max Hill are in Puerto Rico. Luis Diaz is working in Moorefield and reported seven first-time decisions and five recommitments in his first month there.

D. Stewardship Commission by Doris Toothman.
   i. Approved a waiver of the normal construction bid process to allow the Camp Cowen Board to engage Pray Construction for the Sunny Day Leadership Center at Cowen.
   ii. Received a report on the Russian Mission Partnership Team trip February 24-March 4.
   iii. Endorsed mission trips to Cuba, Nicaragua, Philippines and Russia.
   iv. Announced that Mission Support giving is up 4%.
   v. Reports were received from Lisa Simmons, Peter and Sarah McCurdy, and John Simmons.
   vi. Report received concerning our Puerto Rico partnership.
   vii. The World Mission Conference at Green Lake will be held July 3-9, 2016.
   viii. Several missionaries are in the U.S. now on home deputation.

E. Clark Swepston announced the Annual Meeting October 8-9, 2015, and recognized those going off the Board.

F. David Carrico reported that the Executive Committee wants to launch an Appreciative Inquiry procedure wherein a consulting firm will look at who we are and where we are going. He formally thanked Clark Swepston for serving as President of the WVBC.

G. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. David leading the closing prayer.
Respectfully submitted,

Clark Sweepston, President  
West Virginia Baptist Convention

Lois Merritt, Secretary  
West Virginia Baptist Convention

West Virginia Baptist Convention  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, October 14, 2015  
Hurricane First Baptist Church

Present: At-large David Carpenter, Executive Minister David Carrico, ABWM President Sherry Goldsburg, Discipleship Chair Michael Harper, Outreach Chair Katie Linderman, Secretary Lois Merritt, 1st Vice-President Sandy Phares, Leadership Chair Richard Sargent, Treasurer John Simmons, Immediate Past President Michael Sisson, President Clark Sweepston, Stewardship Chair Doris Toothman, 2nd Vice-President Mark Wood
Absent: ABMen President Paul Ritchie recovering from surgery.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Clark Sweepston. Psalm 84 was read as a devotion with prayer led by Clark.
2. David Carpenter moved to approve the agenda; motion was seconded by Mark Wood. Passed.
3. Sandy Phares moved approval of the minutes. Sherry Goldsburg seconded the motion. Passed.
4. John Simmons presented several reports:
   a. Treasurer’s Report. The Convention is currently over budget mainly because of the employee insurance change. A $93,000.00 deficit is expected. However, a tax return is also expected next year. Actually, the spending is satisfactory as most accounts are presently less than budget and the spending is just about what was expected at the 3rd quarter. Employee changes this year will affect next year’s budget.
   b. Baptist Campus Ministries. $2,000.00 deficit but it is still too early to tell what difference the new employee status will bring. The Board hopes to have the Morgantown office filled by January, 2016.
   c. Camp Cowen. The books show a $53,000.00 deficit but taking depreciation in view, the organization is actually $19,000.00 in the black.
   d. Parchment Valley. Due to change in personnel, PV is $15,000.00 over budget, but it looks promising in the future, especially with the bequest mentioned in the last meeting’s minutes.
5. Mike Harper moved to accept the reports; Doris Toothman seconded the motion which passed.
6. The proposed By-Law changes will be presented at the Annual Meeting and voted on by written secret ballot.
7. Future Executive Committee and Executive Board Meetings were approved (assuming the By-law changes are approved).

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. Oct. 14, 2015</td>
<td>Executive Committee at FBC</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs-Fri, Oct. 15-16</td>
<td>WVBC Annual Meeting FBC</td>
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<td>No December meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. Jan. 8, 2016</td>
<td>Executive Committee at PV</td>
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8. A third member being needed on the Bowen Trust Committee for Distribution, Mike Sisson moved that Rich McClure fulfill the interim term as a member of the Committee. Motion was seconded by Mark Wood and passed.

9. David Carrico expressed his appreciation for the work done by the Committee this year.

10. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. with prayer led by Katie Linderman.

Respectfully submitted:

[Signatures]

Clark Swepston, President
West Virginia Baptist Convention

Lois Merritt, Secretary
West Virginia Baptist Convention

150th Annual Meeting
West Virginia Baptist Convention
Thursday and Friday, October 15-16, 2014
Hurricane First Baptist Church
Convention Theme: Legacy.
Theme Scripture: Philippians 3:13b-14

Session I: Thursday afternoon. Clark Swepston, President, presiding

1. Gathering music by Marsha Raker, Music Minister Director, Oakwood Baptist Church, Charleston.


3. Welcome and Prayer by President Clark Swepston.

4. Welcome by Ron Stoner, interim pastor of the host church.

5. Greetings from the Honorable Scott Edwards, Mayor of the City of Hurricane.

6. David Carrico, Executive Minister, recognized several special guests: Margarita Ramirez, President of Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico; Brunilda Gonzalez, Chair of Integral Ministry of Missions and Fraternal Relationships of the Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico; and Alberto Diaz, Pastor, Iglesia Bautista de Mamey. After each had greeted the delegates and visitors of the Annual Meeting, Dr. Carrico invited Luis Diaz, pastor of the Comunidad Luz Y Vida to sign the Covenant of Relationship and Agreement of Collaboration. The signature of Roberto Dieppa, Executive Minister of the Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico, who was ill and unable to attend, will be affixed to the document at a later date.

7. Congregational singing led by Marsha Raker.

8. The Ward Hibbs Award was presented by Carl Gittings, representing Alderson-Broaddus University to Archie Snedegar, currently interim pastor of Calvary Baptist Church of Charleston.

9. Special music was presented by the Women’s Quartet from Alderson Broaddus University.

10. The Annual Sermon was presented by Max Hill, Associate Executive Minister of Missions and Ministry and Southwest Area Minister, WVBC. Using the Convention Theme Scripture (Phil. 3:13b-14), he said it is right to celebrate our legacy stretching all the way back to the Civil Way but we must move on from there. The baton has been passed to us. Through our faithfulness to the Word of God and our Churches, we speak a word of hope and healing to the 75% of people in West Virginia who are without Christ.

11. Following more congregational singing, Clark Swepston called the Annual Business Session to order.

a. 1st Vice-President and Chair of the Program Committee Sandra Phares presented the agenda. Coming from committee, no second was required. Approved by consensus.
b. Sandra also presented the time and place for the 2016 Annual Meeting which will be held at the First Baptist Church, Hurricane WV, October 13-14, 2016, the annual sermon speaker will be Bobby Perine, Harrisville Baptist Church. John Vetter moved to accept the report; Don Biram seconded the motion which passed.
c. 2nd Vice-President and Chair of the Nominating Committee Mark Wood presented the Committee’s report to be voted on during the Friday business session.
d. Secretary Lois Merritt presented the Executive Board Report, to be voted on during the Friday business session.
e. Clark Swepton presented the Proposal of By-Law changes, to be voted on during the Friday business session.
f. There being no other business presented, the session was recessed until Friday.

12. Closing prayer was led by Associate Executive Minister of Missions and Administration, John Simmons.

The Annual Baptist Campus Ministries dinner was held at Forrest Burdette Methodist Church at 5 p.m.

**Session II. Thursday evening. Sandy Phares, 1st Vice-President, presiding.**

1. Gathering music led by Marsha Raker.
3. Welcome and Opening Prayer by Sandy Phares followed by Congregational Singing.
   *not present for the ceremony.
5. Sandy Phares led the offering prayer. Music was presented by the Oakwood Baptist Praise Team led by Marsha Raker.
6. Special Music was presented by the Oakwood Baptist and Hurricane First Baptist Churches’ Combined Choir with narration by David Carrico.
7. Keynote speaker for the Annual Meeting was John Upton, Executive Director, Baptist General Association of Virginia and the Virginia Baptist Mission Board in the United States and President, Baptist World Alliance. From different Scriptures, he asked three questions which will determine our Legacy.
   Where are you? This is not a location question but a relationship question.
   What is your brother?
   What are you doing here?
   He concluded by reminding his hearers that the Church will not have the cultural support it has enjoyed in the past. But don’t be discouraged because God is still God!
8. Congregational singing followed his address with Associate Executive Minister John Simmons offering the closing prayer.

A reception hosted by Alderson Broaddus University was held following the service in the Hurricane First Baptist Church Hospitality Area.

**Session III: Friday morning. Mark Wood, 2nd Vice-President, presiding.**

1. Congregational Singing led by Marsha Raker.
2. Historical Society Vignette: Ann Judson (by Carol Parker)
3. Welcome and Opening Prayer by Mark Wood.
6. Executive Minister David Carrico gave his “State of the State Address”, discussing the ways that the Convention can build on its great legacy. He pointed out three aspects of that legacy:
   a. A vision for the future.
   b. Communication. We need to tell the story of Jesus!
   c. Celebrate the past to support the future.
He reported new ways we are planning to move forward: New website and Facebook coming. Growing our partnership with Puerto Rico Baptists. The Sunny-Day Leadership Building at Camp Cowen. The coming Appreciative Inquiry of Discovery, Design, and Delivering. And finally, a new cheer WE ARE . . . MISSIONS!

7. Closing prayer was led by Rob Ely, Director of Student Ministries, WVBC.

Workshops and Luncheons.

Session IV: Friday afternoon. Clark Swepston, President, presiding
1. Welcome and opening prayer by Clark Swepston who expressed his appreciation to all who have had a part in the planning and executing of the Annual Meeting.
2. Historical Society Vignette: Elizabeth Carter (by Kathy Hudson)
3. Congregational singing led by Marsha Raker.
4. Recessed business session was reconvened with Clark Swepston announcing the number of registered delegates as 241.
   a. 2nd Vice President Mark Wood presented the report of the Nominating Committee. There being no nominations from the floor and no second being required, the Convention voted to elect the nominated officers.
   b. Secretary Lois Merritt presented the Executive Board Report which was received.
   c. Clark Swepston presented the Proposed By-Law Changes. A ballot vote was taken. The vote was 120 ayes, 0 nays. The motion passed.
   d. There being no further business, the session was adjourned.
5. Offering prayer was led by David Carrico. Offering music was presented by the Oakwood Baptist Praise Team led by Marsha Baker.
6. Jim Anderson, Southeast Area Minister, presented the James Anderson, Sr. Bi-Vocational Pastoral Ministry Award to Wanda Hartley Butts, pastor of Goose Creek Baptist Church.
8. After more congregational singing, Keynote Speaker John Upton again challenged the Convention by recalling how we love epic stories of long journeys because they tell us what we are and who we are. He challenged everyone to continue the mission, explore the opportunities, reach out and “boldly go where no man has gone before!” Anyone who says “Follow Me” is going somewhere. It’s the following that we are supposed to do!
9. Communion service led by David Carrico and Ron Stoner.
10. David offered the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

Sandy Phares, President
West Virginia Baptist Convention

Lois Merritt, Secretary
West Virginia Baptist Convention

West Virginia Baptist Convention
Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, January 8, 2016
Parchment Valley

Present: Executive Minister David Carrico, Discipleship Chair Donna Dingus, ABWM President Sherry Goldsburg, 2nd Vice-President David Hoge, Outreach Chair Katie Linderman, Secretary Lois Merritt, At-large Ken Miller, President Sandy Phares, Ministers’ Council Jana Raines, AB Men President Paul Ritchie, Leadership Chair Richard Sargent, At-large Yevette Shafer, Treasurer John Simmons, Immediate Past President Clark Swepston, Stewardship Chair Doris Toothman, and 1st Vice President Mark Wood.
All present.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Sandy Phares who presented devotional thoughts based on 1 Peter 5:6-11 and then led in prayer.

2. Paul Ritchie moved to approve the agenda; seconded by David Hoge and passed.

3. Mark Wood moved approval of the minutes; seconded by Sherry Goldsburg and passed.

4. John Simmons presented his reports:
   a. Treasurer’s Report. As of Nov. 30, 2015, the Convention finances show a deficit of $68,959. However, contributions for December were good and by the time all of those are received, we will be within the budgeted amounts.
   b. Both Baptist Campus Ministries and Camp Cowen will end the year without a deficit; Parchment Valley is presently running at a deficit but with the changes which have been made, there is every expectation that 2016 will see them ending with a surplus. In fact 2016 may be their best year. Paul Ritchie moved to accept the report; Doris Toothman seconded the motion. Passed.

5. Business session.
   a. John Simmons presented the proposed Ministry Budget for 2016, giving a detailed description of the process for the benefit of the new members of the Executive Committee. He presented the rationale behind each section of the budget and the review process through which it goes. After answering the Committee’s questions, John moved the Budget be approved for a vote by the Executive Board. Jana Raines seconded the motion which passed.
   b. John also presented the proposed Ministry Budgets for Parchment Valley, Camp Cowen, and BCM. Coming from their respective boards, no second was required and the measure passed.
   c. David Carrico discussed some of the safety issues that church congregations now face and reported that workshops are being planned to aid our churches in being proactive in these concerns.
   d. David gave an update on the Appreciative Inquiry process which is being initiated for the Convention.
   e. Sandy Phares presented a list of presidential appointments. David Hoge moved that the Committee approve these and present them to the Board at tomorrow’s meeting. The motion was seconded by Katie Linderman and passed.
   f. The appointment of Kay Hensley to fill an unexpired term on the BCM Board was presented. Sherry Goldsburg moved to recommend her to the Executive Board. Motion was seconded by Doris Toothman and passed.
   g. Area Minister Victor Shields was invited to address the Committee. He expressed his gratitude for the support the WVBC has given his ministry especially during his cancer treatments and asked that he be allowed to retire as of March 1, 2016. Mark Wood moved to affirm his request with thanks for his ministry with us. Paul Ritchie seconded the motion; all agreed by a round of applause.
   h. Area Minister Jim Anderson presented a proposal for a sabbatical to extend from Feb. 7 to July 26, 2016. His proposal, having been approved by the Executive Minister, the Committee voted to affirm it and wished him well.
   i. A motion was then made by Clark Swepston to ask the Rev. Mike Stephens to serve as part-time Interim Area Minister beginning March 1, 2016, through the time of Jim Anderson’s sabbatical. His motion was seconded by Richard Sargent and passed.

5. There being no further business to address, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. with prayer led by Clark Swepston.

Future Executive Committee and Executive Board Meetings:

- Fri. May 6, 2016: Executive Committee at PV 6:30 p.m.
- Sat. May 7, 2016: Executive Board at PV 9:00 a.m.
- Fri. Sept. 30, 2016: Executive Committee at PV 6:30 p.m.
- Sat. Oct. 1, 2016: Executive Board at PV 9:00 a.m.
- Wed. Oct. 19, 2016: Executive Committee at Gassaway Baptist Church (if needed) 4:00 p.m.
- Thurs-Fri. Oct. 21, 2016: Annual Meeting at Gassaway Baptist Church
- Fri. Jan. 6, 2017: Executive Committee at PV 6:30 p.m.
- Sat. Jan. 7, 2017: Executive Board at PV 9:00 a.m.
- Fri. May 5, 2017: Executive Committee at PV 6:30 p.m.
Sat. May 6, 2017  Executive Board at PV   9:00 a.m.
Fri. Oct. 6, 2017  Executive Committee at PV  6:30 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 7, 2017  Executive Board at PV   9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Sandy Phares, President
West Virginia Baptist Convention

Lois Merritt, Secretary
West Virginia Baptist Convention

**West Virginia Baptist Convention**

**Executive Board**

**Saturday, January 9, 2016**

**Parchment Valley**

1. The Executive Committee met Friday, January 8, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. in Santrock Hall and adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**Saturday morning, January 9, 2016**

1. Breakfast was served at 8:00 a.m. in the dining hall.
2. Commission meetings began at 9:00 a.m. in Santrock Hall.
   Lunch was served at noon in the dining hall.

**Saturday afternoon, January 9, 2016**

1. The Plenary session of the WVBC Executive Board was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Sandy Phares.
2. Worship led by Discipleship Commission. Lisa Simmons read James 3:5b-12 who asked that we use words that comfort and uplift each other.
3. Report of the Executive Committee
   A. Consideration of minutes. Roger Raikes moved to receive; Richard Sargent seconded the motion which passed.
   B. Financial report as of November, 30, 2015 was presented by John Simmons.
      i. By the time all December contributions have been accepted and recorded, the Convention will end within budget.
      ii. Giving to both United Mission and Love Gift increased for the year.
      iii. The Standing Boards (BCM, PV, and Cowen) are all in good shape financially.
      iv. Koneda Devrick moved to accept the report; Nancy Wolfe seconded the motion which passed.

6. Reports of the Commissions
   A. Discipleship Commission by Chair Donna Dingus
      i. “Household Discipleship” is the theme for the year and a booklet is being developed which will include resources for families to use to develop discipleship in the home.
      ii. A new publication–Discipleship Now!– (replacing EdVantage) and mailed out three times a year will be out beginning next week.
   B. Leadership Commission by Chair Richard Sargent.
      i. School of Christian Studies. Nine graduates in 2015. 80 students in the Sept. class; 29 in Oct. including online students. Considering the possibility of a bachelor’s completion program.
      ii. Palmer Seminary. Some reorganization occurring due to budget deficits and low enrollment but the Seminary has reaffirmed its commitment to and relationship with WVBC. In fact, they hope to use our program as a model to develop elsewhere.
      iii. Ministers’ Council Spring event will be March 3-4 immediately prior to the new Bible Con-
iv. The WVBS Education Society is currently funding 41 scholarships.

v. The Ministers’ Wives Fellowship had 20 attending the November meeting at Parchment Valley.

vi. Continued the discussion on a mentoring program for young and new pastors as well as those coming into the State or from another denomination. In conjunction with this, it was decided to look into the possibility of requiring SCS students who are studying in the pastoral track to secure a mentor of their own or be assigned one.

vii. The Commission is sponsoring a Bible Conference on Jeremiah on March 5, 2016, at Parchment Valley with instructor Dr. Gerald Keown.


C. Outreach Commission by Chair Katie Linderman.

i. BCM. Interviews are being held for a northern BCM director.

ii. ABWomen. Preparing for an intergenerational Woman’s camp in April, Women & Girls Conference in June, and Spiritual Growth Retreat in September. Exceeded goals for 2015 Mission Outreach Program as well as Special Project. 2016 projects are “Bucks for Buckets” and room furnishings for Weirton Christian Center.

iii. Hispanic ministries. Max Hill is planning the next phase of our partnership with churches in Puerto Rico and Cuba. Over 20 people have received Christ or been reconciled where Luis Diaz is working. Juan Aragon has received two grants for his work in Ravenswood and Moorefield. He is also connecting with a Cuban pastor in Charleston for another possible ministry opportunity.

iv. 150 people attended the November Season of Transformation event with the Rev. Tom Mercer.

v. ABMen. WV Men are attending a conference this weekend with the AB men of DC/VA/MD.

D. Stewardship Commission by Doris Toothman.

i. Russian Mission Partnership Team trip February 24-March 4.

ii. Number of those involved in mission involvement was down in 2015. All churches sponsoring mission trips, please let Joan Hall know. WVBS Mission Trip policies were presented; it was voted to reaffirm these.

iii. A mission trip to Hungary with Drs. Rick and Anita Gutierrez was endorsed.

iv. Lisa Simmons reported on the AB International Ministries’ meeting to discern the direction of missions in the next five to ten years.

v. Lisa also reported on the Puerto Rico partnership. She will be meeting with them in February to help facilitate an exchange with the ABWM and the ABMen and possibly a camp ministry.

vi. The World Mission Conference at Green Lake will be held July 3-9, 2016.

vii. Approved the 2016 WVBC budget and the giving goals for 2016.

viii. J. D. and Rhonda Reed are in the U.S. until August 1.

E. David Carrico presented the following items for the Board’s consideration:

i. Announced the retirement of Area Minister Victor Shields. He called for a vote of affirmation. Noting that there were numerous “No” votes, he informed the Board that Victor was retiring anyway!

ii. The Board approved a sabbatical for Area Minister Jim Anderson.

iii. A Contract Area Minister job description was also approved. The Executive Committee has approved the Rev. Dr. Mike Stephens for that appointment.

iv. The appointment of Kay Hensley to the BCM Board was affirmed.

v. The list of presidential appointments was likewise affirmed.

vi. David discussed the problems of drug overdose deaths and church security. He said the officers of the Convention are working on providing suggestions for the churches.

F. The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m. with Sandy Phares leading the closing prayer.
West Virginia Baptist Convention  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Saturday, February 6, 2016  
Parchment Valley

Present: Executive Minister David Carrico, 2nd Vice-President David Hoge, Secretary Lois Merritt, At-large Ken Miller, President Sandy Phares, Ministers’ Council Jana Raines, AB Men President Paul Ritchie, Leadership Chair Richard Sargent, At-large Yevette Shafer, Treasurer John Simmons, Stewardship Chair Doris Toothman, and 1st Vice President Mark Wood.  
Absent: Discipleship Chair Donna Dingus, ABWM President Sherry Goldsburg, Outreach Chair Katie Linderman, and Immediate Past President Clark Swepston,

1. A called business meeting to consider the report of the BCM Search Committee. The meeting was called to order at 2:40 by President Sandy Phares who noted the presence of a quorum and led the opening prayer.
2. Copies of the Job Description for a BCM Campus Minister at West Virginia University at Morgantown were distributed, followed by copies of the resume of Rev. Kevin Sions who was nominated for the position by the Search Committee and Executive Minister David Carrico. Dr. Carrico informed the Committee that all pertinent materials concerning the candidate had been gathered except the background check which was forthcoming. [An informal okay was given but the paper itself has not been received.]
3. After some introductory comments about the candidate, Kevin was invited into the meeting.
4. A question and answer discussion took place.
5. Jana Raines moved that the candidate be called as the BCM Associate in the North; seconded by Paul Ritchie and passed unanimously. John Simmons moved that Kevin’s housing allowance be set at $15,000.00; seconded by Doris Toothman and passed unanimously.
6. There being no further business to address, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. with prayer led by Kevin Sions.

Respectfully submitted:

Sandy Phares, President  
West Virginia Baptist Convention  
Lois Merritt, Secretary  
West Virginia Baptist Convention
West Virginia Baptist Convention  
Executive Committee  
Friday, May 6, 2016  
Parchment Valley

Present: Executive Minister David Carrico, ABWM President Sherry Goldsburg, 2nd Vice-President David Hoge, Secretary Lois Merritt, At-large Ken Miller, Leadership Chair Richard Sargent, At-large Yvette Shafer, Treasurer John Simmons, Immediate Past President Clark Swepstson, Stewardship Chair Doris Toothman, and 1st Vice-President Mark Wood.  
Absent: President Sandy Phares, Discipleship Chair Donna Dingus, Outreach Chair Katie Linderman, Minister’s Council Jana Raines, ABMen President Paul Ritchie

1. The meeting was called to order and welcomed at 6:00 p.m. by 1st Vice-President Mark Wood in the absence of President Sandy Phares (death of her mother). David Carrico presented a devotional based on Philippians 1:6. He reminded the Committee that it’s not up to us; it’s up to God. This is His work. We are only the servants. He then led the group in prayer.  
2. The agenda was presented and approved.  
3. The minutes of the previous meeting were presented and approved.  
4. The treasurer’s report was presented by John Simmons.  
   a. Total income for the first quarter was $311,793; total expenditures $384,832, giving a negative balance of $73,039. However, as is always the case, there are one-time expenditures early in the year that are not repeated later and, in his opinion, we are about as usual at this time of the year.  
   b. BCM. Total receipts $43,648; Expenditures $29,471, leaving a balance of $14,177.  
   c. Camp Cowen. Total receipts $29,339; Expenditures $85,506, leaving a deficit of $56,167, but again, Cowen’s funds don’t begin coming in until the summer. John expects a very good report at the end of the year.  
   d. Parchment Valley. Total receipts $72,657; Operating expenses $98,398, leaving a deficit of $25,741, about half the amount it was last year. John expects this fund also to be good at the end of the year.  
   c. John also reported that the Convention has initiated a lawsuit against a conglomerate of gas companies with regard to the gas wells on Convention property. The next step is to get a cost analysis of the gas obtained. Nothing to report on that as yet.  
   d. The reports were approved as read.  
5. Business session  
   a. David Carrico presented a report on the WVB/CIBPR relationship. Exciting things are in the works. The ABWMen are planning a work mission trip to Puerto Rico in November to be led by John Simmons and Mike Stephens. Cost $1100 which will cover everything. Several projects being discussed. Another trip is being arranged for the spring. The ABWWomen are also exploring a mission trip there.  
   b. Mark Wood presented the name of David Hulme to be recommended to the Executive Board for the North East Area Minister position. David was recommended by the Search Committee and by David Carrico. Unfortunately he was unable to be at this meeting because his son was graduating from college in Iowa. John Simmons moved that David Hulme be given a housing allowance of $19,000. Richard Sargent seconded the motion which passed unanimously.  
   c. David Carrico gave an update on the Appreciate Inquiry process. He explained that the person who is leading this process is now working on the Camp Cowen Sunny Day project; he will be spending more time on the AI study later.  
   d. The Committee received with joy a letter from Juan Aragon that he and Denise have accepted a call from International Ministries to serve with the Council of Rural Indigenous Evangelicals in Chiapas, Mexico. We will be sorry to see them leave WVA, but still expect to be involved in their ministry there.  
   e. David Carrico reported on the Agent of Hope trip to southern West Virginia. He described the situation as economically depressed but saw great work going on among the churches. The trip was to determine how the Convention might best develop a ministry outreach there. A representative from National Ministries was involved in the trip. No proposal to be offered yet but we are in the process of offering one.
f. Clark Swepston moved that Val Gittings and Scott McClure be appointed to fill two vacant spots on the Executive Committee. David Hoge seconded the motion which passed.

g. David Carrico presented the Convention themes for the next three years: Beacon of Hope, Bridge of Hope, Bearers of Hope. The theme verse for the Annual Meeting is Psalm 43:3. *Send me your light and your faithful care, let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell.*

h. A list of requests of exhibitors for the Annual Meeting was presented. With three minor changes, the list was approved.

i. The Program Committee asked to what used to be known as the Exhibit Hall, the Resource Center. The Executive Committee approved that change.

j. The Program Committee offered a unanimous recommendation to the Executive Board that the dates of the Annual Meeting be changed from Thursday and Friday, October 20-21 to Friday and Saturday, October 21-22. They asked that if it was too late to change it for this year, that the change be considered for next year. Clark Swepston moved the change be rejected for this year, but that the Committee offer the General Board an opportunity to take a poll to determine the feelings of the entire group.

6. The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Ken Miller at 8:14 p.m.

Future Executive Committee and Executive Board Meetings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri. Sept. 30, 2016</td>
<td>Executive Committee at PV</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. Oct. 1, 2016</td>
<td>Executive Board at PV</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. Oct. 19, 2016</td>
<td>Executive Committee at Gassaway Baptist Church</td>
<td>(if needed) 4:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs-Fri, Oct. 21, 2016</td>
<td>Annual Meeting at Gassaway Baptist Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. Jan. 6, 2017</td>
<td>Executive Committee at PV</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. Jan. 7, 2017</td>
<td>Executive Board at PV</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. May 5, 2017</td>
<td>Executive Committee at PV</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. May 6, 2017</td>
<td>Executive Board at PV</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. Oct. 6, 2017</td>
<td>Executive Committee at PV</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. Oct. 7, 2017</td>
<td>Executive Board at PV</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respectfully submitted:

Mark Wood, 1st Vice-President
West Virginia Baptist Convention

Lois Merritt, Secretary
West Virginia Baptist Convention

West Virginia Baptist Convention
Executive Board
Saturday, May 7, 2016
Parchment Valley

1. The Executive Committee met Friday, May 6, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. in Santrock Hall and adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Saturday morning, January 9, 2016
1. Breakfast was served at 8:00 a.m. in the dining hall.
2. Commission meetings began at 9:00 a.m. in Santrock Hall.
   Lunch was served at noon in the dining hall.

Saturday afternoon, January 9, 2016
1. The Plenary session of the WVBC Executive Board was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by 1st Vice-President Mark Wood. President Sandy Phares was absent due to the death of her mother.

2. Worship led by Stewardship Commission. Chair Doris Toothman led in the singing of “To God Be the Glory”. A devotion based on Phil. 4:4-7 was brought by Dan Meadows followed by the singing of “Let’s Just Praise the Lord.”

3. Mark welcomed J. D. and Rhonda Reed, our WV Missionaries to Bolivia, to speak about the work there. Due to the great lack of educational opportunities in Bolivia, J. D. is involved first in leadership training, and second, in urban ministry. Citing the great need for this, he noted that ninety-three percent of the people in Bolivia live in five cities! Rhonda is working in the House of Hope, a ministry in that serves the needs of women, children, pastors and families both from rural and urban areas. These ministries range from working with children at risk in the red-light district to programs for handicapped children, agricultural and green projects, including solar panel installations, soy milk distributions in malnourished neighborhoods and even ministries that simply bathe babies who live in some of the most impoverished parts of Cochabamba.

4. Report of the Executive Committee
   A. Consideration of minutes. Doris Toothman moved to receive; Gerry Prunty seconded the motion which passed.
   B. Financial report as of March 31, 2016 was presented by John Simmons.
      i. Income for the first quarter of the year is $311,793. Expenditures $384,832, showing a deficit of $73,039. John explained that there are several expenditures that take place during the first of the year that are not repeated; the next report will be considerably better.
      ii. BCM, Camp Cowen, and Parchment Valley are all doing well for this time of the year.
      iii. Koneda Devrick moved to accept the report; Rick Marshall seconded the motion which passed.
   C. Mark Wood reported that Executive Minister David Carrico, on the recommendation of the Search Committee, has named someone for the position of Northeast Area Minister, but inasmuch as the candidate has not yet informed his church, his name will be released at a later date.
   D. It was announced that Val Gittings and Scott McClure have been appointed to fill unexpired terms on the Executive Board.

5. Juan Aragon came to the podium to speak. He reminded the Board of his and Denise’s trip to West Virginia eight years ago this month and the following fruitful years of working with the WVBC in ministry in WVA. Over a year ago, they began to feel that their time here was coming to an end, and after seeking God’s guidance, they believed He was leading them in a different direction. To make a long story short, International Ministries has endorsed them for missionary service in Chiapas, Mexico, serving with the Council of Rural Indigenous Evangelicals of Mexico. Denise’s assignment will involve empowering women, especially those who are victims of domestic abuse. Juan will be working in the areas of Theological Education and Leadership Training. They are now beginning to develop a Mission Partnership Network to raise the funds needed to begin their service there. The Convention is blessed to have had the privilege of working with Juan and Denise and prays for their continued success in ministry.

6. Reports of the Commissions
   A. Discipleship Commission by Vice-Chair Yvette Shafer.
      i. The Commission spent the morning discussing new ways to do things that we have done in the past!
   B. Leadership Commission by Chair Richard Sargent.
      i. School of Christian Studies. Continued success in training students for ministry. New ways of reaching students continues to be implemented. Discussed an Excellence in Preaching advance class. Also the possibility of applying for a grant to fund a tablet ministry.
      ii. Palmer Seminary. Graduated four MDiv students and three Dmin students in April! There are about 12-15 persons currently in the program.
      iii. Ministers’ Council Spring event with Dr. Gerald Keown was well-received. Time of next year’s event not yet decided.
      iv. The WVBC Education Society continues to fund scholarships.
      v. Continued the discussion on a mentoring program for young and new pastors as well as those coming into the State or from another denomination. Decided to apply for a grant to help fund this program.
vii. The Spring Bible Conference was so successful and so well received that it will be repeated March 25, 2017, with Dr. Gerald Keown back with us.

viii. Annual Church Officers’ Training Event had 205 in attendance.

C. Outreach Commission by Max Hill.
   i. Reported on Rob Ely’s trip to India.
   ii. One hundred eighty-nine attendees for the Intergenerational Conference.
   iii. Our continued joint participation in Missions with Puerto Rico.
   iv. Marshall University BCM meeting with Hindu and Muslim students.
   v. Davis & Elkins College (with no BCM director) has students beginning a group on their own.
   vi. Spoke briefly about the Sunny Day Leadership & Activity Center.

D. Stewardship Commission by Chair Doris Toothman.
   i. Though only four took part in the Russian mission trip, it turned out to be a great blessing.
      Three 2016 trips were endorsed: Mexico August 17-24, Puerto Rico Nov. 3-12, and Young Adult Mexico Trip Dec. 27, 2016-Jan. 5, 2017.
   ii. Announced that Juan Aragon is now officially Rev. Juan Aragon. A round of applause followed the announcement.
   iii. Camp Global will be held Labor Day weekend.
   iv. Mission Quest (new name for the Puerto Rican partnership). Beginning in October, five youth from WV and five from Puerto Rico will switch places. Lisa Simmons is writing a grant to support this. Also an all-woman trip to PR is being planned.
   v. Asked prayer for the church in Moorefield.

7. John Simmons announced that the Mountain State Offering package is now available.

8. David Carrico announced the Convention themes for the next three years:
   Beacon of Hope, Bridge of Hope, and Bearers of Hope. The theme scripture for our annual meeting will be Psalm 43:3: Send me your light and your faithful care, let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell.
   He also announced that what used to be called the exhibit hall will be called the Resource Center at the annual meeting with each display under the auspices of the appropriate commission.

9. Rob Ely gave a brief presentation on the Sunny Day Center.

10. The meeting was adjourned with prayer by David at 2:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Mark Wood, 1st Vice-President
West Virginia Baptist Convention

Lois Merritt, Secretary
West Virginia Baptist Convention
Appendix B

WEST VIRGINIA BAPTIST CONVENTION
YEARLY AUDIT REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 2015
WEST VIRGINIA BAPTIST CONVENTION
Regular Audit
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

www.perrycpas.com

...“bringing more to the table”
Tax - Accounting - Audit - Review - Compilation - Agreed Upon Procedures - Consulting - Bookkeeping - Payroll
Litigation Support - Financial Investigations
Members: American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
* Ohio Society of CPAs * West Virginia Society of CPAs * Association of Certified Fraud Examiners *
* Association of Certified Fraud - Money Laundering Specialists *
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Independent Auditor's Report</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Statements:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Statements of Financial Position Entity Wide – Modified Cash Basis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Ministry Statements of Activities – Modified Cash Basis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mission Operating Fund</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp Cowen Fund</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parchment Valley Conference Center Fund</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation for Campus Ministry Fund</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Extension Fund</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes to the Financial Statements</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

September 13, 2016
West Virginia Baptist Convention
1019 Juliana Street
Parkersburg, WV 26101

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the West Virginia Baptist Convention (a non-profit organization) (the Convention), which comprise the statement of financial position entity wide – modified cash basis as of December 31, 2015, and the individual ministries' statements of activities – modified cash basis for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management’s Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor’s Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor’s judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Convention's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Convention’s internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

..."bringing more to the table"
Basis for Qualified Opinion

In 2015, the Convention changed its method of accounting for external reporting purposes to a modified cash basis to be consistent with its internal reporting used to manage the various ministries. Net assets are not classified by restrictions and the statements of activities for the ministries are not reconciled to the entity wide statement of financial position as required by accounting standards.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects on the 2015 financial statements of not classifying net assets by restrictions and not reconciling the statements of activities for the ministries to the entity wide statement of financial position as described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of West Virginia Baptist Convention as of December 31, 2015 and the changes in its net assets for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 15 to the financial statements, in 2015, the Convention changed its accounting basis from Generally Accepted Accounting Principles to a modified cash basis. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Perry and Associates
Certified Public Accountants, A.C.
Marietta, Ohio
## ASSETS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Current:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash (Note 3)</td>
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<td>Investments (Notes 4 &amp; 5)</td>
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<td>Current Notes Receivable (Note 6)</td>
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<td>Prepaid Expenses (Note 9)</td>
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<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Property and Equipment:</strong></td>
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<td>Land</td>
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<td>Construction in Progress</td>
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<td>Equipment</td>
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<td>Less: Accumulated Depreciation</td>
<td>(4,216,472)</td>
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<td><strong>Net Property and Equipment:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Other Assets:</strong></td>
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<td>Notes Receivable (Net of Current Portion)</td>
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<td><strong>Total Other Assets:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
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## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

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<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
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The Accompanying Notes Are an Integral Part of These Financial Statements.
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<th>Support and Revenues:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United Mission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Directed Giving</td>
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<td>America for Christ (WV Portion)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mountain State Mission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
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<td>Endowment Income</td>
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<tr>
<td>WV Baptist Camp</td>
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<td>Church Extension Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>School of Christian Studies</td>
<td>41,740</td>
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<td>West Virginia Baptist Subscriptions</td>
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<td>WV Baptist Conference Center</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Hispanic Ministry Support</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
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<td><strong>Total Support and Revenues</strong></td>
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<td>Ministry with Youth</td>
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<td>Church Leadership Training</td>
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<td><strong>Total Christian Leadership Commission</strong></td>
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The Accompanying Notes Are an Integral Part to These Financial Statements.
WEST VIRGINIA BAPTIST CONVENTION
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES - MODIFIED CASH BASIS
MISSION OPERATING FUND (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<td>Christian Outreach Commission:</td>
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<td>Church Growth and Evangelism</td>
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<td>Hispanic Ministries Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campus Ministries</td>
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<td><strong>Total Christian Stewardship Commission</strong></td>
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<td>American Baptist Men of WV</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Baptist Women of WV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Historical Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister's Council of WV</td>
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<td>Minister's Wives Fellowship</td>
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<td>Weirton Christian Center</td>
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<td>WV Baptist Education Society</td>
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<td>Retired Ministers &amp; Mates</td>
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<td>Cooperative Ministries:</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cooperative Ministries</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,032</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,447,942</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Income / (Expense)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$ (37,495)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Accompanying Notes Are an Integral Part of These Financial Statements
Revenues:
- Registration Fees: $264,895
- Store Income: 55,457
- Contributions: 61,554
- Rental Income: 30,405
- Miscellaneous Income: 12,421
- WVBC Director Reimbursement: 20,667
- Convention Subsidy: 15,000
- Endowment Income: 23,258

Total Revenues: 483,657

Expenses:
- Personnel Expense: 127,880
- Personnel Benefits Expense: 68,962
- Insurance: 21,870
- Licenses and Permits: 1,409
- Utilities: 41,875
- Telephone: 2,842
- Maintenance: 38,473
- Housekeeping: 8,811
- Food Purchases: 81,949
- Program Expenses: 4,476
- Store Supplies: 51,964
- Miscellaneous: 3,922
- Promotion: 3,720
- Postage: 1,277
- Background Checks: 1,876
- WVBC Administration: 8,000
- Travel: 12,009
- Depreciation: 97,087

Total Expenses: 578,402

Net Income / (Expense): $ (94,745)

The Accompanying Notes Are an Integral Part of These Financial Statements.
WEST VIRGINIA BAPTIST CONVENTION
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - MODIFIED CASH BASIS
PARCHMENT VALLEY CONFERENCE CENTER FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

Revenues:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration Fees</td>
<td>$183,663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>63,498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Store Income</td>
<td>3,079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>36,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Income</td>
<td>11,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
<td>8,936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>32,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance Endowment</td>
<td>5,349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from Trusts</td>
<td>11,611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WVBC</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated Funds</td>
<td>14,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don Loudermilk Society</td>
<td>8,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brothers Keeper</td>
<td>55,451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on Sale of Asset</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>465,675</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Expense</td>
<td>166,659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Benefits Expense</td>
<td>82,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>18,549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>65,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>19,901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housekeeping</td>
<td>10,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen Expenses</td>
<td>47,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wastewater Pool</td>
<td>6,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Expenses</td>
<td>17,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licenses and Contracts</td>
<td>6,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brothers' Keeper</td>
<td>28,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Store Expenses</td>
<td>1,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Fees</td>
<td>2,233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>1,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>8,759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate Tax</td>
<td>2,675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office</td>
<td>3,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>119,686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>619,727</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net Income / (Expense)**: $ (154,052)

The Accompanying Notes Are an Integral Part of These Financial Statements.
WEST VIRGINIA BAPTIST CONVENTION  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
FOUNDATION FOR CAMPUS MINISTRY FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenues:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$103,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>16,155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WVBC Salary Support</td>
<td>55,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td>174,672</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Expense</td>
<td>71,812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Benefits</td>
<td>46,406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alderson-Broaddus College Programs</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairmont State College Programs</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenville State College Programs</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall University Programs</td>
<td>11,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Charleston College Programs</td>
<td>2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WVU Tech Program</td>
<td>1,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concord College</td>
<td>1,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences and Retreats</td>
<td>2,719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising/Brochures</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>10,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>1,398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>156,956</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net Income / (Expense)**  
$17,716

The Accompanying Notes Are an Integral Part of These Financial Statements.
WEST VIRGINIA BAPTIST CONVENTION  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
CHURCH EXTENSION FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenues:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Income</td>
<td>$20,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Contributions</td>
<td>$874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>$2,436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>$23,865</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WVBC Church Development</td>
<td>$16,975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Church Planting - Hispanic Ministries</td>
<td>$203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$17,178</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net Income / (Expense)**      | **$6,687**

The Accompanying Notes Are an Integral Part of These Financial Statements
NOTE 1. NATURE OF THE ACTIVITIES

The West Virginia Baptist Convention (the Convention) was established in 1865 to promote the preaching and teaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ among its member churches by offering opportunities for mutual inspiration and fellowship, providing leadership training and program resources, assisting in the establishment and strengthening of Baptist churches in West Virginia, encouraging and coordinating mission support for the American Baptist Churches in the United States of America, and providing avenues for working together in denominational, moral, and spiritual matters.

NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The significant accounting policies followed are described below to enhance the usefulness of the financial statements to the reader.

a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the West Virginia Baptist Convention have been prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting. Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. The modified cash basis is an accounting method that combines elements of the two major accounting methods, the cash method and the accrual method. Under the modified cash basis of accounting applied by the Convention, revenues are recognized when earned for some types and when received for other types and expenses are recorded when incurred.

b) Investments

The Convention follows the recommendations of the Financial Accounting Standards Board in FASC 958-320. In accordance with FASC 958-320, investments in marketable securities with readily determinable fair values and all investments in debt securities are reported at their fair values in the Statement of Financial Position. Unrealized gains and losses are reflected in the Statements of Activities.

c) Fixed Assets and Depreciation

The West Virginia Baptist Convention capitalizes fixed assets costing $1,000 or more. All other purchases are expensed. Assets are carried at cost and depreciated by using the straight-line method.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset Type</th>
<th>Useful Life</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and Equipment</td>
<td>3 - 20 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicles</td>
<td>5 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buildings</td>
<td>39 Years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

d) Income Taxes

As a religious organization, the West Virginia Baptist Convention is exempt from federal income taxes under section 501(d).

e) Estimates

The preparation of the Convention's financial statement in conformity with the modified cash basis requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosure. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.
NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

f) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents consist of highly liquid investments with an initial maturity of three months or less. Fair value approximates carrying amounts.

g) Inventories

The Convention considers inventories of materials and supplies as expended at the time of purchases; therefore they do not appear in the Convention’s financial statements.

h) Maintenance and Repairs

Minor renewals and replacements are charged against income - major renewals and replacements are charged to appropriate fixed asset accounts.

NOTE 3. SIGNIFICANT CONCENTRATIONS OF CREDIT RISK

a) The Convention maintained petty cash in the amount of $100 for the calendar year ended 2015.

b) Deposits with financial institutions as of December 31, 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>United National Bank</th>
<th>Book Balance</th>
<th>Bank Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Checking</td>
<td>$100,012</td>
<td>$126,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checking</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>113,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money Market Account</td>
<td>116,511</td>
<td>116,511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checking</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$227,523</strong></td>
<td><strong>$357,620</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$100 Petty Cash

$250,000 of the deposits with financial institutions was covered by FDIC as of December 31, 2015.

c) The notes receivable balance consists of monies loaned to various churches for church extension purposes, and to professional staff for housing loans.

d) The Convention places its temporary cash investments with credit-worthy, high-quality financial institutions. The Convention employs investment managers that invest funds in United States Government Bonds and Notes, as well as bonds and equity securities in financially strong corporations. These investments are maintained within limits to prevent risks caused by concentration.

NOTE 4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The fair value hierarchy defines three levels of input, as follows:

Level 1: Valuations based on quoted prices (unadjusted) in an active market that are accessible at the measurement date for identical assets or liabilities. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to Level 1 inputs.
NOTE 4.  FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (CONTINUED)

Level 2: Valuations based on observable inputs other than Level 1 prices such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities, quoted prices in inactive markets, or model-derived valuations in which all significant inputs are observable or can be derived principally from or corroborated with observable market data.

Level 3: Valuations based on unobservable inputs are used when little or no market data is available. The fair value hierarchy gives lowest priority to Level 3 inputs.

In determining the fair value, the Convention utilizes valuation techniques that maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs to the extent possible in its assessment of fair value.

Financial assets and liabilities are carried at fair value at December 31, 2015, and are classified as Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets Carried at Fair Market Value</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Funds</td>
<td>$3,342,727</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$3,342,727</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE 5.  ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Income earned by the funds is to be distributed quarterly, unless the donor specifies that they want the income to be retained in the funds. Income not distributed is automatically re-invested, but is not considered a contribution until the next distribution.

Distributions from the funds are to be used for the purpose of providing financial resources necessary to sustain and enhance the objectives of the West Virginia Baptist Convention.

The following is the activity of the funds for the year ended December 31, 2015:

- Beginning Fund Balance: $3,710,247
- Interest and Dividends: 95,077
- Realized Gain: 41,838
- Unrealized Gain (Loss): (315,220)
- Deposits: 281,471
- Purchases: (128,093)
- Withdrawals: (338,042)
- Management Fees: (4,551)
- Ending Fund Balance: $3,342,727

NOTE 6.  NOTES RECEIVABLE

Another aspect of the Convention’s activity is the promotion of church extension in the form of loans to affiliated churches. The Convention also provides home loans to the Convention’s professional staff.
NOTE 6. NOTES RECEIVABLE (CONTINUED)

The following is the notes receivable balance at December 31, 2015:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Affiliated Churches</th>
<th>Professional Staff</th>
<th>Total Notes Receivable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$64,898</td>
<td>13,781</td>
<td>$78,679</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beginning Balance</th>
<th>Additions</th>
<th>Reductions</th>
<th>Ending Balance</th>
<th>Amounts Receivable</th>
<th>Ending Balance</th>
<th>Amounts Receivable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$52,266</td>
<td>$55,000</td>
<td>$(26,587)</td>
<td>$78,679</td>
<td>$16,445</td>
<td>$78,679</td>
<td>$16,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$52,266</td>
<td>$55,000</td>
<td>$(26,587)</td>
<td>$78,679</td>
<td>$16,445</td>
<td>$78,679</td>
<td>$16,445</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE 7. PENSION PLAN

The West Virginia Baptist Convention participates in a pension plan administered by its Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board of the American Baptist Churches, in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. All full-time employees with at least two years employment may participate. The Convention contributes 16% of each employee’s gross earnings to the plan, for the years ending December 2015, 2014 and 2013, contributions were $175,517, $147,063 and $193,089, respectively.

NOTE 8. COLLECTING AGENT

The ABC/USA Missions Fund is responsible for the collection and the dissemination of the support from churches. The ABC/USA Missions Fund collects funds from the American Baptist Churches of West Virginia on behalf of the American Baptist Churches of the United States of America and for the various funds of the American Baptist Churches of West Virginia.

West Virginia Baptist Convention collects mission receipts from churches in the West Virginia area and remits a portion of the receipts collected to ABC/USA. Mission receipts collected in an agency or pass-through capacity are not considered support and expenses of the Convention, and are not shown in these financial statements.

NOTE 9. PREPAID EXPENSES

Prepaid expenses are comprised of the following at December 31, 2015:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Insurance</td>
<td>$38,856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Other</td>
<td>3,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Postage</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>$43,747</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WEST VIRGINIA BAPTIST CONVENTION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

NOTE 10. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable was comprised of the following at December 31, 2015:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receivable Description</th>
<th>Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mission Giving</td>
<td>$ 156,975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hill Lyons 4th Quarter Interest</td>
<td>45,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 202,614</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE 11. CONTINGENCIES

West Virginia Baptist Convention receives a substantial amount of support from church giving. A significant reduction in the level of this support, if such were to occur, would have a material effect on the Convention's programs and activities.

NOTE 12. ENTITY RISK

The Convention carried insurance for all risks of loss including Workers Compensation, property insurance and bonding. Settled claims resulting from any risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past four years.

NOTE 13. FIXED ASSETS

The summary of and changes in the fixed assets as of December 31, 2015 are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Beginning Balance</th>
<th>Additions</th>
<th>Dispositions</th>
<th>Ending Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land</td>
<td>$ 92,674</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 92,674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction in Progress</td>
<td>121,344</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>(117,644)</td>
<td>3,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buildings</td>
<td>7,133,474</td>
<td>178,775</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>7,312,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>952,530</td>
<td>62,915</td>
<td>(82,582)</td>
<td>932,863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 8,300,022</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 241,690</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ (200,226)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 8,341,486</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Accumulated Depreciation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Beginning Balance</th>
<th>Additions</th>
<th>Dispositions</th>
<th>Ending Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buildings</td>
<td>(3,317,259)</td>
<td>(183,352)</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>(3,500,611)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>(711,818)</td>
<td>(86,625)</td>
<td>82,582</td>
<td>(715,861)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Accumulated Depreciation</strong></td>
<td>(4,029,077)</td>
<td>(269,977)</td>
<td>82,582</td>
<td>(4,216,472)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fixed Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Beginning Balance</th>
<th>Additions</th>
<th>Dispositions</th>
<th>Ending Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$ 4,270,945</td>
<td>$ (28,287)</td>
<td>$ (117,644)</td>
<td>$ 4,125,014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Depreciation Expense Charged to Operations:

|                        | $ (267,181)       |
NOTE 14. FUNDS HELD IN TRUST

West Virginia Baptist Convention serves as a trustee for the following Trusts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Fund</th>
<th>Fair Market Value at 12/31/2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Howard Burk Trust Fund</td>
<td>$116,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrinston/Youravish Memorial Trust Fund</td>
<td>22,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia G. Burgess Trust Fund</td>
<td>6,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert H. &amp; Isabelle J. Grant Trust Fund</td>
<td>16,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Baptist Women's Ministry of West Virginia</td>
<td>24,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kincaid/Youravish/Wriston Endowment Fund</td>
<td>14,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page Baptist Church</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clara L. Lamp Trust Fund</td>
<td>586,418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huffman Trust Fund</td>
<td>264,731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Trust Fund</td>
<td>223,299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fulks Scholarship</td>
<td>54,418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Scholarship</td>
<td>14,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salem Baptist Church</td>
<td>497,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whipkey Trust Fund</td>
<td>15,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WVBC/ABW Ministries Good Samaritan</td>
<td>19,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rule Trust Fund</td>
<td>148,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Zion</td>
<td>94,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hope</td>
<td>120,936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enon Baptist Church</td>
<td>161,165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light Fellowship Mission Fund</td>
<td>26,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ada Price Trust Fund</td>
<td>15,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandler Trust Fund</td>
<td>91,244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WVBC James Anderson SR. Award for Bivocational Ministry</td>
<td>2,957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$2,542,444</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These funds are not owned by the West Virginia Baptist Convention and therefore are not reported on its financial statements. The interest that is earned by these funds is given to the West Virginia Baptist Convention or entities designated by the funds and are unrestricted in use. The West Virginia Baptist Convention does not charge a fee for its services. These funds have not been audited by an outside accounting firm.

15. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING METHOD

The Convention elected to change the basis of accounting from full accrual to a modified cash basis. The following is a summary of the effects on the financial statements as a result of the Change in Accounting Methods:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Net Assets, End of the Year</td>
<td>$8,382,055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Accounting Method</td>
<td>(203,741)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restated 2014 Net Assets, End of the Year</td>
<td>$8,178,314</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
16. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated events subsequent to the date of the statement of financial position through September 13, 2016, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. No events have occurred subsequent to the statement of financial date through September 13, 2016 that would require adjustment or disclosure in the financial statements.
September 13, 2016

West Virginia Baptist Convention
1019 Juliana Street
Parkersburg, WV 26101

To the Board of Trustees:

In planning and performing our audit of the basic financial statements of the West Virginia Baptist Convention (a nonprofit organization) (the "Convention") as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Convention’s internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Convention’s internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses and therefore, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency or a combination of deficiencies in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity’s financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the following deficiencies in the entities internal control to be material weaknesses:

Changes in Temporarily Restricted and Unrestricted Net Assets

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) require nonprofit organizations to present revenues and expenses and the changes in net assets according to the type of net assets they relate to. These changes in net assets should be presented either on the face of the financial statements themselves or in a note to the financial statements and should match the classifications of revenues and expenses as presented in the statement of activities. The Convention has elected to use a modified cash basis of accounting as opposed to GAAP, however we believe Financial Accounting StandardsCodification (FASC) No. 958-205 should be implemented to provide financial statement users information critical to understanding not-for-profit financial statements.

..."bringing more to the table"
West Virginia Baptist Convention  
Communication of Material Weaknesses  
Page 2

Changes in Temporarily Restricted and Unrestricted Net Assets (continued)

We recommend the Convention track the revenues and expenses of each type of net asset during the year or summarize the revenues and expenses for each class of net assets at the end of the year and reconcile such information so that the information can be presented in the financial statement or notes to the financial statements and be subjected to auditing procedures.

Reconciliation of Entity Wide Balance Sheet to the Ministry Income Statements

The Convention's internal accounting consists of an entity wide listing of assets and liabilities and reserve accounts and then the income and expenses are classified by the individual ministries. The trial balance for the organization balances however, we recommend management perform a reconciliation between the entity wide balance sheet and the ministry income statements as an internal control procedure. We further recommend this reconciliation become part of the externally reported financial statements so that a financial statement reader can better understand them.

Receipts

When testing receipts coming from off-site locations such as Camp Cowen and Parchment Valley, we identified that the supporting documentation is not sent to the accounting department. Many times it's only the bank deposit slip that is provided. These receipts consist mostly of fees and cash collections which have high inherent risk for theft and misappropriation.

We recommend the Convention accounting department establish policies and procedures so that an adequate, accurate audit trail is maintained for all receipt cycles. We understand that many control procedures such as, Store sales logs have been established but are not being provided to the accounting department for verifying accuracy. These should be sent to accounting along with the deposits or a verification step added to reconcile the deposit to the support by a location manager.

In addition, we noted other matters involving the internal control and its operation that we have reported to management of West Virginia Baptist Convention in a separate letter dated September 13, 2016.

The purpose of this communication, which is an integral part of our audit, is to describe for management and those charged with governance the scope of our testing of internal control and the results of that testing. Accordingly, this communication is not intended to be and should not be used for any other purpose.

Perry & Associates  
Certified Public Accountants, A.C.  
Marietta, Ohio
MANAGEMENT RESPONSE TO MATERIAL WEAKNESS COMMUNICATION

September 19, 2016

TO: Perry and Associates and WVBC Trustees

Upon receipt of the audit draft and communications of material weaknesses, management wishes to include in the final audit report its responses to the recommendations and findings in the “Communication of Material Weaknesses” letter included in the audit report.

Changes in Temporarily Restricted and Unrestricted Net Assets

Management in consultation with Perry and Associates and the WVBC Trustees implemented the change in audit standards as described. It was determined that it was no longer feasible nor cost effective for the audit team and/or the Convention to reclassify internal transactions to be fully GAAP compliant when the published statements that the Boards used fully communicated the operations and financial positions clearly.

The move to a modified cash basis for final audit report fulfills the primary purpose of an annual audit for the Convention and its constituency. Management does request of the auditor a print copy of the referenced FASC No. 928-205 for it records and compliance efforts.

Reconciliation of Entity Wide Balance Sheet to the Ministry Income Statements

This issue has been difficult for both management and the annual audit teams as the financial functions of the Convention ministry entities are both separate and integrated. Added to this complication are the numerous reserve (restricted) accounts that are managed by the Convention whose activities are not a part of ministry entity operations. To address this issue, management will work with its staff and accountants to develop a report of reserve activities that will be included in subsequent audit reports so that the net change in the balance sheet is reconciled with the operation statements in the report.

Receipts

This issue is one management has had full awareness of for many years. Management appreciates the matter being raised by the audit team. However, management’s on-site observations and internal controls indicate that current practices are sufficient given the complexity of any additional measures which in management’s opinion would not add value to the current practices.

Management will stress to the leadership at Camp Cowen and Parchment Valley the critical importance of them holding their staff to the standards and practices we have in place. We will also require more consistency from their staff in the documentation of their financial transactions and deposits.