

The West Virginia Baptist Newsletter

June-July 2018

Upgrades Continue at Parchment Valley

The successful completion of recent upgrades at Parchment Valley Conference Center were received with a joyful, celebratory cheer of gratitude for all of you that continue to give of your time and talent to make this a special place, *"Where lives are changed."*

A recent quote from one of our dedicated volunteers is a powerful reminder how the Lord meets our every need when we trust him, "Parchment Valley gives some of us the opportunity to express our love to God. I've been here from the beginning and have seen what God's love can do ... led by His Holy Spirit."

- *New sidewalks poured at the barn area enable our guests in wheelchairs to have a smoother entrance into the dining hall (at left).*



- *Due to this past winter's freezing and flooding, we have remodeled four lodge rooms. New heating and air conditioning units were installed in four of the lodge rooms. The new carpet is amazing. Our hope now is to remodel the other lodge rooms with a more efficient and up to date look. Please contact me how your church/group can assist with these upgrades?*

- *The remodeled Deem nine lower lodge room is now the Dorothy Santrock room. It is completed and is absolutely a labor of love that honors her life and ministry. We have other lower lodge rooms that need remodeling also and your help is requested.*

- *The new concrete turnaround makes for a safer and wider turning area at the upper lodges (at right).*

- *For your worship and training needs, the Santrock Education Center has HDMI accessible 70" flat screen televisions in all four rooms.*

- *Recently, one of our guests, who was retired from the florist and catering business, donated a 330-piece china, glassware and silver flatware set to meet catering needs in Hill Hall (at right).*



The finished projects listed are the result of faithful servants who love the Lord and intentionally seek to share the gospel to a hurting world.

At the end of the day, I am reminded how great God is. The greatest blessing is to know Jesus will send the workers for His purpose. The to-do list grows daily, but let us move forward together and do an even greater work for His glory.

Please stop by Parchment Valley Conference Center today and have a cup of coffee, share a blessing and pray with us. We thank you for your faithful support of this ministry.


*Be a blessing today,
Frank Miller
Director of Operations,
Parchment Valley Conference Center*



The mission of the West Virginia Baptist Convention is to **empower** local churches to be Christ honoring communities of faith and to help them fulfill their mission by **enabling** them to do together what they cannot do alone.



There's an App for That!

 The West Virginia Baptist Convention app is available for Android and Apple products. Download yours today!

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Moving Forward

The book of Proverbs opens with a clear statement of its intended purpose, *"The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel: for gaining wisdom and instruction."* According to Solomon the goal is not only to gain wisdom, but to readily apply it to all aspects of our lives. For example, in chapter 14 we read, *"The wisdom of the prudent is to give thought to their ways"* (Proverbs 14:8 NIV). Later we read, *"Where there is no vision people perish"* (Proverbs 29:18 KJV). Stephen Covey in his best-selling book, *The 7 Habits of Highly Successful People*, suggests that success in life requires we "begin with the end in mind." I believe this is what the Lord is saying to us through



Dr. Michael Sisson

Solomon; we must have a clear vision, God's vision, for our lives, our homes, our churches and our Baptist Convention. Then in response to that vision, everything we plan and do needs to be informed by answering the simple question "Will this move us toward the direction God has planned?" Eugene Peterson's paraphrase of verse 18 sums it up very well, *"If people can't see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves; but when they attend to what He reveals, they are most blessed"* (Proverbs 29:18 The Message).

The late Catherine Marshall, prolific Christian author and wife of Peter Marshall, Chaplain U.S. Senate, states the process eloquently,

"I learned that because God loves us so much, He often guides us by planting His own lovely dream in the barren soil of a human heart. When the dream has matured, and the time for its fulfillment is ripe, to our astonishment and delight, we find that God's will has become our will, and our will, God's."

Take time to reflect on your goals. Consider if they build upon the vision God has for your life, your family and the church. Does God's vision inform your decisions and your actions? Consider carefully the prayer Catherine Marshall prayed when she was confronted with the path of her future.

"Father, once I had such big dreams, so much anticipation of the future. Now no shimmering horizon beckons me; my days are lackluster. I see so little of lasting value in the daily round. Where is Your plan for my life? You have told us that without vision, we perish. So Father in heaven, knowing that I can ask in confidence for what is Your expressed will to give me, I ask You to deposit in my mind and heart that particular dream, the special vision You have for my life. And along with the dream, will You give me whatever graces, patience and stamina it takes to see the dream through to fruition? I sense this may involve adventures I have not bargained for. But I want to trust You enough to follow even if You lead along new paths. I admit to liking some of my ruts. But I know habit patterns that seem like cozy nests from the inside, from Your vantage point may be prison cells. Lord, if You have to break down any prisons of mine before I can see the stars and catch the vision, then, Lord, begin the process now. In joyous expectation. Amen."

*Rich Blessings,
Mike*

Executive Committee and Board Report

The Executive Committee of the West Virginia Baptist Convention met for its regular May session to conduct the business of the Convention. The first quarter financial performance of each Convention ministry was reviewed and found satisfactory.

President David Hogue named the officers of the Convention as the Search Committee to discern with the Executive Minister, Dr. Mike Sisson, whom to recommend as Southwest Area Minister. It was approved that candidate interviews would be conducted on May 30, 2018 and a recommendation to the personnel committee be made on June 9, 2018 at a specially called meeting for this purpose.

The Executive Board met following the commission meetings. Reports were given from each commission with lots of excitement about the new opportunities for ministry with young

adults. The Leadership Development Initiative - an internship/mentoring program - announced there would be as many as seven interns working with churches and associations this summer through this initiative.

It was also announced the Stewardship Commission endorsed M.E.E.T. - Mission, Encounter, Education and Training - for young adults seeking to experience overseas mission for the summer. We have four students that will serve in Mexico this summer. Their externships include extensive training and education as they encounter mission alongside International Ministries' missionaries.

It should also be noted the Executive/Personnel Committee received an e-mail on May 9, 2018 from Rev. John and Lisa Simmons notifying them they will retire on February 28, 2019.

West Virginia Baptist Convention Announces Summer Internship Initiative

Most of us have pondered the fact that sometimes God tells us something - and then tells us again. Like the gospels, God tells the story of Jesus in the Bible four times. Why? There have been many explanations, but to me the simplest has always been "because it's important." Clearly, when something is important, God does not mind repeating himself. Therefore, when multiple people start hearing God telling them the same thing it is time to pay attention.

For the last couple of years, several people within the West Virginia Baptist Convention have felt a growing burden to develop young leaders. All of us know leadership is important. As an unknown source has said, "People don't follow titles. They follow leaders. Provide them with compelling leadership and they will change the world." As Christians, we are in the world-changing business. Therefore, we must also be into growing leaders.

In an effort to address the need to develop new leaders for the churches of the West Virginia Baptist Convention and the kingdom, the Convention announced a new initiative. The first steps of this effort involve a pilot program to create summer internships. This will be a partnership between the West Virginia Baptist Convention, its associations and churches. Working together, we will form service opportunities for potential leaders. The target age for the first summer will be 18-26 year-olds.

Understanding that people in this demographic often need to earn money in the summer in order to pay for college, the internships will be paid, with a stipend roughly equivalent to what a young adult makes working at our West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen over the summer. We would like to recognize some of our churches have already been doing these types of internships, and we thank them for leading us all. In order that churches of all sizes be able to participate, some limited funds have been made available through the Convention to help churches in providing this stipend.

The churches involved will provide housing for non-local candidates and mentors for the interns. The mentors themselves will be provided with training and assisted by Convention staff. Locations for the first summer have been identified, but a group effort is now underway to identify viable candidates for churches participating in the program.

As someone has said, "The only real training for leadership is leadership." In a recent church meeting where this program was being discussed, and an intern approved, a senior leader said, "I remember the opportunities I had as a young adult, and how those opportunities changed me and shaped me for God." Let us look forward to hearing the stories of these young adults as God uses these experiences to hone their leadership skills.

Between Us

Adult Discipleship: Faith in the Workplace Emphasis 2018

In a recent e-mail from our *West Virginia Baptist Convention SwitchTool*, Os Hillman, founder of *Marketplace Leaders*



shares the following: "Years ago, it was not uncommon to have your milk delivered to your home. Doctors made house calls and when you made a call to a company to discuss a problem, you actually spoke to a human being. Those days of personal service are gone,

and if we are not careful, we will follow the same trend in how we share the gospel."

Hillman goes on to say the model Jesus demonstrated was a model of taking the gospel to the people. That meant weekly synagogue meetings were not the primary place for people to encounter the message of the Good News. Hillman points out that in fact "Jesus had less response and found more resistance in the synagogue than in the workplace."

This year our Convention is focusing on *Faith in the Workplace*. The call is to be aware our places of work (wherever

they may be) are places where we have been called by God to show His love, grace, power and forgiveness. We do this by:

- *Acknowledging our place of work is a place of ministry*
- *Being willing to be Christ - like in our work life situations*
- *Speaking about the love and power of God in your life.*

You must be a witness to what God has done and is doing in your life - there can be no arguments about that!

Think for a minute about the impact you, your church and our Convention can have on people, communities and our state if we each would commit to being "worklife" disciples and communicators. Through the power of God and our commitment, wonderful and yes, miraculous things could and will happen!

For more information on resources available to individuals and churches, contact Lisa Simmons at lsimmons@wvbc.org, 304.273.9693 or go to www.wvbc.org and click on *Faith in the Workplace Participating Churches* or *WVBC WorkLife SwitchTool*.

Children Learn About Loving God from the Inside Out at Children's Rally 2018

The Children's Spring Rally was held March 10, 2018 at Parchment Valley Conference Center in Ripley. The theme was



Emotions: Loving God from the Inside Out. We think of some emotions as good and others as bad, but God made every part of us, and no matter what emotion we are feeling, we can turn to Him. The scripture was

Deuteronomy 6:5, "*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.*"

The nearly 200 children in attendance learned about the emotions of anger, fear, disgust, sadness and joy. There was wonderful, fun music, chicken nuggets for lunch and the movie *Inside Out*. The children had an incredible day.

The mission project was collecting items for Weirton Christian Center to help kids go to camp. The children collected

ten twin sheet sets, 15 beach towels, 14 bath towels, 13 washcloths and 32 pairs of flip flops. I thank Mark McCloy for delivering those items to Weirton Christian Center.

We had many incredible volunteers for the Children's Spring Rally. Our helpers were Shana Griffin and Debbie Boso. Members of the band that performed were Tony Nutter, Sam Gasaway, Lydia Nutter and Caleb Villers. Teachers for the event were: Maci Villers, Jennifer Weyandt, Erin McClure, Debbie Shadowen and Von and Mandy Edwards. Sharon Pearson even stopped by on Saturday for a visit.

As always, working with children is a blessing. It makes my heart swell when I see children learning about God and worshipping Him with music.

Koreen Villers
Director for Children's Ministries

by **John Simmons**, Associate Executive Minister
Missions and Administration

Living in Tune



Lisa and I attended a recent concert performance by the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra. It was a wonderful show filled with great music. As we sat in our seats awaiting the beginning of the performance, we observed the musicians warming up. Some would play scales, while others rehearsed parts of the score. The cacophony of sound in no way resembled the wonderful melodies and harmonies that would soon follow.

As the time of the performance neared, the concert master approached the podium and motioned for silence among the orchestra. She then directed the oboist to play a solitary note. From that single note (A above middle C at 440 hertz) the entire orchestra begins to tune. First, the strings and then the brass - each instrument setting their tuning to the voice of the oboe.

The oboe has long been the standard for tuning the orchestra as it is the easiest instrument to tune and its clear tone

makes it easy for the other instruments to hear and to match. Modern oboists and orchestras pre tune using electronic meters, but when it comes time for the performance every instrument is in tune with the oboe as it alone sets the standard for the rest.

And so I raise this question - to what note have you tuned your life?

Paul encouraged young Timothy to "imitate" him. He then goes on to say he was living his own life modeling Christ. There are other examples in scripture where people imitated the nations around them and lived lives disobedient to God's word.

There is lots of noise in our lives. Like the precursor to the symphony, there are things in the world that seek to distract us from truth. There are matters that seek to occupy our attention. There are goals, personal and corporate, that may take us far from where God desires.

We need to live our lives - each day - in tune with Christ! When we tune our lives to His, we become a part of a beautiful, harmonic existence that pleases God.

Committed to Missions,
John

SPEAK IT! SHARE IT!

SHOW IT!

CAMP GLOBAL

August 10-12, 2018
Camp Cowen

FAMILY MISSION CAMP



- Meet South African Missionaries Rick and Anita Gutierrez (at left)
- Enjoy Bible Study and Worship
- Children and Adults' Track
- Activities: The Chiapas Connection, Puebla People and Possibilities, To Russia with Love, Bible Stories by Hand and Bread of the World

Camp starts the evening of Friday, August 10 at 7:00 p.m. and ends on Sunday, August 12 at 1:00 p.m.

Registration will be available online after June 1, 2018 or contact Joan at hall@wvbc.org or 304.422.6449.

Five Graduate from Palmer Seminary's West Virginia Program

Palmer Seminary's West Virginia Program held its 2018 graduation banquet on March 20, 2018 at Parchment Valley Conference Center in Hill Hall. In total, five graduates were recognized. There were two Master of Divinity graduates: Rich Blain and Michael Hooten and three Doctor of Ministry graduates: Jeff Biddle, Mary Beth McCloy and Jana Stoner.

Approximately 80 people attended the event. The evening began with an introduction from Dr. Allan Copenhaver, Palmer Seminary's West Virginia Program Director and an opening prayer from West Virginia Baptist Convention Executive Minister, Dr. Mike Sisson.

Following the meal, Dr. Ron Matthews, new president of Eastern University, brought greetings. Dr. David Bronkema, interim dean of the seminary, shared reflections on graduation. Dr. Don Brash, director of the Doctor of Ministry program, reflected on the seminary's partnership in West Virginia.

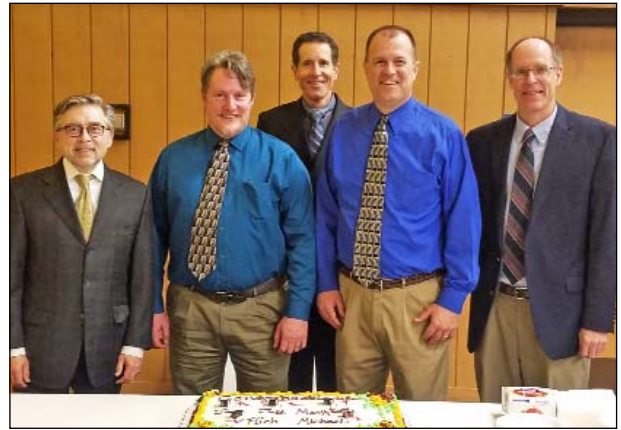
Among the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the Matherly Award. This award is given in memory of Dr. Robert Matherly, whose vision and initial implementation led to the seminary's partnership with the West Virginia Baptist Convention. This year's recipient was Dr. Lawrence Hoptry, Executive Director of the West Virginia Baptist Education Society. The education society funds dozens of ministry students from West Virginia.

The evening concluded with prayer by Dr. Lloyd Hamblin, administrator of the Bowen Charitable Trust and treasurer of the West Virginia Baptist Education Society.

Those wanting more information about Palmer Seminary's West Virginia program should contact Allan Copenhaver at 304.763.8564 or rcopenha@eastern.edu. Registration for the summer and fall semesters is now underway.

Palmer's Master of Divinity (M. Div.) degree is now 78 hours. This allows students to complete the program in four years. And residencies have been reduced to 2.5 days in order to help students balance their current personal and ministry responsibilities.

Students from Convention churches may qualify for two generous scholarships through the Bowen Charitable Trust and the West Virginia Baptist Education Society. For more information, please visit their respective websites: <http://bowentrust.org> and <http://www.wvbc.org/partners/west-virginia-baptist-education-society/>.



(l to r): Doctor of Ministry Program Director, Dr. Donald Brash; M.Div. graduate, Michael Hooten; Eastern University President, Dr. Ron Matthews; M.Div. graduate Rich Blain; and Eastern University Interim Dean, Dr. David Bronkema.



Mary Beth McCloy (l) looks on as Jana Stoner and Jeff Biddle cut the graduation cake.



Dr. Lawrence Hoptry, the 2018 recipient of the Matherly Award.

Building Sunny Day Together

God's plans never cease to cause me to respond with awe and wonder. Often, it is because if left up to me, I never could have imagined the way God would move and how things would come together. I sat awestruck on April 21, 2018 at the *Cowen Block Party and Celebration* - why? Well, as we worshiped together we heard the history of the *West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen*, looked at pictures and memorabilia, saw names signed on a banner of those who were saved at *Cowen*, shared the joy and energy of playing camp games and listened to testimonies of the power of the time spent at *Camp Cowen* "Where people meet Jesus and grow as His disciples in a community of faith." I sat face-to-face with the beautiful story God has weaved during the last 75 years of ministry at the *West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen*. I was amazed at the legacy of ministry we in the West Virginia Baptist Convention family have been privileged to be part of for the last 75 years, and the future we have to look forward to as God continues to bless individuals, families, churches and the Convention through what happens at *Cowen*.

One of the most powerful parts of the day was hearing from people who were campers, some from many decades ago, to campers from the summer of 2017 on how they experienced the life-changing presence of God at *Camp Cowen*. More than that, how God used fellow campers, counselors, staff and camp leaders to accomplish the ministry of the *West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen*. From stories that made us laugh and cry, to hearing the times of struggle and the abundance of blessings, we can clearly see how the Lord was at work through it all - working it all to good and to His glory.

We gathered on April 21, 2018 to celebrate the last 75 years as we look to the next 75 with hope and faith in the work God has planned. The vision we are pursuing in building the *Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center* is to lay a solid foundation for the next 75 years of ministry as we seek to grow the ministry to our campers, the community and the Convention.



Camp Cowen memorabilia from 2000-present.

For our campers, the gym in the activity center would be a space that can hold an ever increasing number of campers no matter the weather, and allow us to add programming we are not able to do in our current facilities. For the community of Webster County, this facility will provide space to run programs, rent classrooms and impact a community greatly in need! For the Convention, the classrooms will become a center dedicated to training and equipping leaders as well as supporting and resourcing youth leaders.

Jill Narraway, Associate Director of Camping and Youth



Lee Boso and Stephanie Spencer display "The Mustard Seed" quilt they won during the quilt auction at the Block Party.

Just like so many times before in the last 75 years, this is a **BIG** project that will require many people, lots of dedicated volunteers and leadership and a **LOT** of money. Hearing the stories of those who rallied to build the *West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen* since 1943, it is easy to see how God has used every one. From those with a lot of money to those whose financial gifts were comparably smaller and from people with incredible talent and skill to those who did the little jobs, every one made *Camp Cowen* what it has been for the last 75 years and what it is today.

The question today is: What part does God have for you in building the legacy for the next 75 years? Prayerfully consider how God is calling you to support this ministry and the *Sunny Day* building project. We are building

Sunny Day together. If your commitment is to fill the *Sunny Day* building block banks, make a monthly donation or provide a large financial gift, no matter the size, all gifts make a difference!

Rowena Sizemore had what she considered a small amount of money she could allocate toward the *Sunny Day* project in 2018. She made the decision to use that amount as seed money to start a fundraising project. With her money, donated t-shirts, help from others and many hours of sewing, she made six *Cowen* t-shirt quilts, which together raised \$4,630! Ron Stoner and Lawrence Hoptry used wood saved from the old dining hall floor to make beautiful wood crosses. During a silent auction, the crosses brought in \$217 and they have orders for more! Bethany Cox sold greeting cards and other items, and the proceeds brought in \$650 for the *Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center*.

God works in ways we cannot imagine, and often don't expect. Maybe you are that person God is calling to join in this project and support the ministry of the *West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen*. What donation are you able to make today?

Can you commit to making a regular monthly donation? How can God use you to multiply efforts through a unique fundraiser to bless this project? I don't know all the details, but I know God has people in place now that will set the foundations and build future projects at the *West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen*. Is God calling you to jump in and be one of those people today?



Crosses constructed of wood from the old dining hall floor.

South Parkersburg Baptist Practices Radical Generosity During Easter Offering

by Rich Blain, pastor, South Parkersburg Baptist Church

For many years, it has been the practice of South Parkersburg Baptist Church (Parkersburg) to promote a special offering at both Easter and Thanksgiving. These offerings have always had a specific purpose such as supporting mission trips, projects in the community or building improvements and maintenance.

Recently, South Parkersburg Baptist Church was blessed with two large, unexpected and anonymous financial gifts. These gifts helped us completely pay off our mortgage, while also generously contributing to our general fund and other mission projects at the church. We are so grateful for God's generosity and the generosity of His people! As we reflected on these amazing and unexpected gifts, we were reminded God has **BLESSED US** so we may be a **BLESSING TO OTHERS**. We remember Jesus' words that *"to whom much is given, much is required"* (Luke 12:48).

Therefore, in place of our Easter offering in 2018, we decided to practice *"Radical Generosity"* together as a church family. Rather than asking our church family to give to the Easter offering, we asked them to provide a *"radical"* gift in the same anonymous fashion as the gifts the church received. Each family was asked to pray about an amount they would give towards the Easter offering, and each family was then asked to pray God would show them a need they could meet. This need could be among our church family, at school or our workplace. It could be in our neighborhood or community, or it could even be a mission on the other side of the world. Our belief was that there is no shortage of needs, and every need matters!

Each individual or family then gave this *"radical"* gift toward their selected need with a spirit of thankfulness to the God who has given to us so generously. Once the gift had been

given, we asked the givers to thank God for the privilege of joining in His work. They were also asked to write an anonymous note stating the nature of their gift, and then to place the note in the offering plate so we could celebrate as a church family what God has done.

The response to this was remarkable. Of the gifts recorded and submitted by our congregation at both of our campuses (South Parkersburg Baptist Church and LifeSpring Mason), there were over 120 needs addressed in this four-week time span. These included things such as: paying utility bills, buying groceries, helping cover medical bills, providing money for dental work - the list goes on and on. Amazingly, the effects of this *radical generosity* extended to four countries on three different continents through mission support - both materially and monetarily.



We praise God for providing the vision for this initiative and for allowing us to participate in what He is doing. Our hope and prayer is that, in the near future, this type of generosity is no longer considered *"radical,"* but rather it becomes a normal, consistent way of life for us as followers of Christ. We believe we serve a generous God, and we believe we are called to be a generous people. This kind of love is *"radical!"* It is world changing! How can you celebrate and pass on the generosity God has shown you?

Mission Trip to Mexico

It is hard to know where to start! There are so many great memories from the trip that it would take pages to share. However, I will attempt to give you a glimpse of our experiences with Rev. Juan and Denise Aragon as we journeyed with them in the high hills of Chiapas, Mexico.

It is a good thing the West Virginia American Baptist Women's Ministries raised the funds so the Aragons could purchase the vehicle needed for their travels. I can tell you after traveling days in the truck a lesser vehicle would not serve their ministry well. The Toyota Hilux Club Cab will easily accommodate five in the front. But there were times when we carried more. With Juan driving and Dr. Mike Stephens riding shotgun, Lisa, Sherry Stephens and I filled the back seat. Denise, Juancito and Zeba rode in the back with the luggage and sleeping mats.



Denise, Juancito and Zeba rode in the back with the luggage and sleeping mats.

Imagine a trip of 50 miles on paved roads taking over four hours! I learned a Spanish word I would rather forget - "tope." Tope is Spanish for speed bump and in the 50 miles we traveled we traversed (and Mike counted) 249 speed bumps!

The experience was worth

the journey! We visited five different communities the first weekend and three the next. In all of my mission travels, this was the most physically challenging I have ever experienced. But the people made the arduous journey worthwhile.

Mike and I led pastor training both weekends, while Lisa and Sherry taught the women. The worship services were

powerful as people shared their musical gifts and testimonies. The churches are vibrant with the new life of Christ indwelling in them.

"I was impressed with the knowledge and willingness to learn," said Mike Stephens. "The people are committed to growing in their faith and walk with God."



For me, the greatest joy was watching Juan and Denise in the communities. I have known them since their first day in West Virginia and have watched them grow as leaders.

Watching them in their new ministry context affirmed without question they are

exactly where God wants them and they are doing what God equipped them to do.

Juan and Denise continue to send their love and thanksgiving to you for your investment in them and their ministry.

Juan and Denise will host three college students from West Virginia this summer. The goal is for these young men to experience life as missionaries as they explore their own call to missions.



Please pray for them as Mexico approaches elections in July. Also, pray for the Aragons as they mourn the turmoil in their homeland, Nicaragua.

*John Simmons
Associate Executive Minister,
Missions and Administration*

West Virginia University Baptist Campus Ministries' Students Travel to Bolivia



BCM

Changing Lives that Change the World

by Kevin Sions

Northern Director, Baptist Campus Ministries

During West Virginia University's spring break, March 9-16, 2018, I had the humble privilege and great opportunity to travel with six students from West Virginia University's Baptist Campus Ministries to Cochabamba, Bolivia. We partnered with International Ministries (IM), missionary J.D. Reed and the House of Hope.

The relationship building was a major part of the trip as the students had an opportunity to meet people leading the House of Hope ministries and people in Baptist churches located in Cochabamba. We were also able to learn about the different House of Hope ministries.

One aspect of the House of House ministries is partnership with churches. One of the churches in Cochabamba was in need of a bathroom. The students worked alongside several people from the church to complete the bathroom addition to an existing church. The bathroom addition would provide four toilets for a church so they could further dream and plan ministries for children and youth.

Carrying bricks, mixing cement and separating rocks from dirt were just a few of the other labor specific tasks completed.

Below are summary statements from the students who experienced Bolivia:

"I am thankful the Lord gave me the opportunity to serve alongside this wonderful team and to partner with the House of Hope. I look forward to the day when I can return!"

- Emily Griffith

"We served the Lord together, we learned together and we worshiped together."

- Kendra Starcher

"I left Bolivia changed, my life touched by the people and by God. He took me out of the comforts of home and made an unfamiliar place another home I can come back to. He used the trip to remind me of His constant goodness, grace, provision and faithfulness."

- Krissy Hotlosz



Team members from West Virginia University Baptist Campus Ministries' trip to Cochabamba, Bolivia: (left to right) Ethan Starcher, Kendra Starcher, Andrew Suggs, Leah Haines, Emily Griffith, Krissy Hotlosz and Kevin Sions

"During my week in Cochabamba, I learned a lot about what selfless sacrifice looks like in daily life. My time at the House of Hope taught me what ministry can look like in the United States. I am now seeking opportunities of how I can daily serve and love others and share my life with those around me."

- Leah Haines

"I couldn't be prouder of the group of students and leaders on this trip. We were able to walk with God in a way that exhorted one another in the midst of feeling tired, ill or hurt."

- Andrew Suggs

"The Lord taught us a lot this week, and I think we all left with relationships formed and strengthened and we developed a greater understanding of the Lord's work around the world. I truly loved every minute of this trip and getting to share it with all these wonderful people."

- Ethan Starcher

The mission of Baptist Campus Ministries is to change lives that change the world. It is evident from the students they were grateful for the mission trip to Bolivia. Their gratitude is sincere because the experience changed their lives as they continue to grow in their faith with Jesus Christ. We are thankful for the churches in the West Virginia Baptist Convention who continue to support Baptist Campus Ministries - where students will have opportunities that will change their life in Jesus Christ, so they can and will change the world.

Jim Anderson, Southeast Area Minister

Shuck Memorial Recognized for Ministry with Foster Parents and Children

On April 27, 2018, Shuck Memorial Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh) was recognized and received an award at the Greenbrier County court house for their ongoing ministry with foster parents and foster children through the Children Youth Advocacy Center and Children's Home Society, both in Lewisburg.

Jonathan Turner, pastor of Shuck Memorial Baptist Church and his wife, Nickalee (who have kept foster children and are now adoptive parents) represented the church and thanked all those who make a difference in the lives of the most vulnerable of our society, our children.

On behalf of the West Virginia Baptist Convention family, Southeast Area Minister, Rev. Jim Anderson, attended the ceremony and commended the church for opening their doors for foster parent support groups, foster parent training and arranging for any needs a foster child might encounter. This is a missional effort and ministry truly being the hands and feet of Jesus Christ.

Moore Ordained at Calvary, Oak Hill

Rev. Ron Moore was ordained into the Gospel Ministry during a special service held at Calvary Baptist Church (Fayette) on April 15, 2018. Moore is the interim pastor of Webster Springs First Baptist Church (Hopewell).

Rev. Greg Swisher, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, and chair of the Fayette Association ordination committee led the service and delivered the ordination sermon. Rev. Andy Moore, Ron's son, delivered the charge to his father and Rev. Andy Smith, Ron's son-in-law, delivered the charge to the church, with members of the church bringing the special music.

Ron and his wife, Brenda, thanked their family, church and association for their support. A time of food and fellowship followed.

Northeast Area News

David Hulme, Northeast Area Minister



Jerry Wetzel (r) is honored for 75 years of service at Mannington First Baptist Church.

Mannington First Honors 50 Plus Year Members

On April 29, 2018, Mannington First Baptist Church (Fairmont) honored 20 individuals who have been members of the church for 50 or more years. Seven 50-year members and 13 previously recognized 50-year members were presented with pins and certificates. Jerry Wetzel was honored with a plaque, certifi-

cate and pin for 75 years of faithful service to the church. A covered dish dinner followed the service. Rev. Greg Roth is pastor.

Hamby Ordained at Elkins First

L. Scott Hamby, senior pastor, Elkins First Baptist Church (Union), was ordained to the Gospel Ministry March 25, 2018. The charge to the candidate was given by Rev. Wade Samples. The charge to the church was given by Dr. Jack Eades. Special music was provided by Savannah and BreAnne Hamby. Also participating in the service were Ms. Debbie Schmidlen; Mr. Mike Steffan; Rev. Jon Villers; Rev. Paul Boyles; Rev. Joe Wolfe; and Rev. David Hulme, Northeast Area Minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention. A dinner followed the service.

Retirement Celebration Held for Delmas Wolfe

A retirement celebration was held for Delmas Wolfe at Page Baptist Church (Fayette) on March 18, 2018 for his 17 years of ministry.

Rick Hogan, chair of the deacon board, led the service with many members sharing memories and praises.

Rev. Jim Anderson, West Virginia Baptist Convention Southeast Area Minister, shared some thoughts and noted Delmas was the first pastor he had helped place in a church after becoming an area minister in 2001, and how vital through Delmas' leadership at Page Baptist Church has been in the House of Hope ministries in Bolivia.

After receiving many gifts, both Delmas and his wife, Nancy, shared their thanks. Delmas noted while he is retiring from pastoring he will continue to preach the word as an evangelist and help Jim with pulpit supply and interim ministry.

Afterward, a time of food and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Anderson Ordained at Hopewell Baptist

On April 8, 2018, churches of the Hopewell Association gathered together at Hopewell Baptist Church (Hopewell) for the ordination service of their pastor, Rev. Michael Anderson.

Rev. Steve Martin, pastor of Millbrook Baptist Church (Hopewell) delivered a wonderful charge to both Mike and the church. The youth of the church provided special music and Rev. Allen Donaldson, pastor of Sunday Road Baptist Church (Hopewell) led the laying on of hands portion of the service.

The deacons of the church presented Mike with his ordination certificate and a Bible to commemorate this special day in the life of Mike and the church.

Mike shared his thanks and closed in prayer and also gave thanks for the time of fellowship and refreshments that was held afterward.

The Power of Praise

So, what happens when you have a duet, three solos, two church choirs, a hand-bell choir, a traveling group and generally a whole bunch of people singing praises to God? You have a great time of worshipping the Lord! Every year, the Panhandle Association gathers together at one of their churches with a single goal in mind - to praise the Lord, and in the process, have a lot of fun and a great time of fellowship. They call this get-together the annual music fest. Each church is encouraged to bring at least one musical act or group. This year's gathering

was at Pine Grove First Baptist Church (Panhandle). Music included lots of styles: Christian contemporary, Southern gospel, blue-grass, acapella and traditional hymns. Everyone was encouraged to sing.



Pictured above is the New Martinsville First Baptist Church Handbell Choir.



New Martinsville First Baptist Church and Sistersville First Baptist Church join together for a joint choir.

Traditional hymns were sung by the gathered congregations as the groups transitioned.

Jerry Kuhens, pastor, Pine Grove First Baptist Church, was gracious to host the gathering, and Don Biram, pastor, New Martinsville First Baptist Church (Panhandle) emceed the event. The host church provided snacks afterward in the church fellowship hall.

Looking for a good event for your association? Maybe something like this would work for you!

Southwest Area News

Fifth Avenue Baptist Honors Past Leaders

Fifth Avenue Baptist Church (Guyandotte) honored Dr. David Carrico, Dr. Fred Lewis and Dr. Max Hill during worship on April 15, 2018, along with a reception in their honor. Recently retired, the three were recognized for their past service with Fifth Avenue Baptist Church and for their many years of service to American Baptist churches in the region.

During the morning service, Rev. Dr. Eric Porterfield, senior pastor, led a conversation with Carrico, Lewis and Hill, asking how God has worked in their lives and how their time at Fifth Avenue Baptist Church helped shape them for future ministries. Carrico and Lewis both noted they had just graduated from seminary when they were hired as associate pastors at Fifth Avenue Baptist Church. Upon arriving in Huntington, they both found the senior pastors were leaving, one to retirement and the other to a new church. They each shared how God used that surprise to teach and mold them as new ministers.

Fifth Avenue Baptist Church was honored to celebrate the faithful service provided by these three ministers and their wives. A reception following the service allowed friends of the past to share retirement well wishes, personal memories and words of thanks.



David Carrico, (l), Maxwell Hill (c) and Fred Lewis (r) are recognized for their service to Fifth Avenue Baptist Church and American Baptist Churches in the region.

Five Deacons Ordained at Mount Vernon

On April 15, 2018, five men were ordained as deacons at Mount Vernon Baptist Church (Teays Valley). They are Don Walker, Nathan Meadows, Elisha Conn, Wayne Dailey and Robert Downing.

WORSHIP CONFERENCE

Mount Vernon Baptist Church
2150 Mount Vernon Road, Hurricane

Schedule:

9:00 a.m.: Registration, 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.: Worship Experience One, 10:30 - 11:45 a.m.: Workshops, Noon - 12:45 p.m.: Lunch, 1:00 - 1:45 p.m.: Worship Experience Two, 2:00 - 3:15 p.m.: Workshops (repeated)

Workshops:

- **Working with Choirs** - An opportunity to sharpen your skills as a choir director
- **Team Communication and Planning** - Effective worship experiences begin here for pastors and worship leaders
- **Dramatic Scripture Interpretation** - Bring God's Word to life in fresh and creative ways in worship
- **Working with Sound** - Hands-on instruction for the experienced and the beginner
- **Working with Praise Teams** - An opportunity for praise team leaders and members to enhance their ability to plan, rehearse and worship
- **Worship Leader as Pastor** - Caring for the spiritual needs of those we lead
- **Toolbox for Small Churches** - Enhance the worship experience in your church, regardless of its size

Cost:

Individual Registration: \$20.00, Group Registration: \$80.00*

*Five or more from the same church registering together

Lunch is included with registration.

JUNE 16, 2018

Register today:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Church: _____

Position: _____

Workshop Preferences:

A.M.: _____

P.M.: _____

Mail with fee to: West Virginia Baptist
Convention, Attn: Donna,
PO Box 1019, Parkersburg, WV 26102

For more information: 304.422.6449

Younger Midler

(grades 2-4)
June 8-10

Junior 1

(grades 5-6)
June 10-16

Junior High 1

(grades 7-9)
June 17-23

Junior 2

(grades 5-6)
June 24-30

High School 1

(grades 9 - HS Grads)
July 1-7

Junior High 2

(grades 7-9)
July 8-14

Senior Day

(2018 HS Grads)
July 14

High School 2

(grades 9 - HS Grads)
July 15-21

Older Midler

(grades 3-4)
July 30 - August 2

CAMP COWEN 2018 DATES

Operation Rescue: Luke 19:10

*For the Son of Man came to seek
and to save the lost.*

Other Camps

*Greenbrier, Raleigh, Rockcastle
Association July 22-27*

Family

July 27-30

*AB Men and Boy's
August 3-5*

Camp Global

August 10-12

*All registration forms, except
association camps are available
by contacting Jennifer at 304.422.6449
or jennifer@wvbc.org.*

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

All student camps begin at 3:00 p.m. on the day camp starts.

153rd

ANNUAL MEETING

of the **West Virginia
Baptist Convention**

October 19-20, 2018

South Parkersburg Baptist Church

"Bearers of Hope"

Keynote Speaker:

*Rev. David Bush, pastor,
Rainelle First Baptist Church*

Annual Sermon Speaker:

*Dr. William Brown, pastor,
Vienna Baptist Church*

JEFFREY MARTIN ASBURY, 66, of Summersville, died March 20, 2018. He was an ordained Baptist minister, deacon and former youth pastor at Summersville Baptist Church (Hopewell). He was a founding member of Higher Law Ministries in Summersville and the Jesus Inn Coffee Shop in Charleston.

ROBIN "EDDIE" BARTON, 75, of Hurricane, died April 21, 2018. He was a member of Calvary Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley), where he was a deacon and usher. He had also been a member of The Redeemers Gospel Quartet.

GENEVA MAE BIRCHFIELD, 91, died April 26, 2018. She was a member of Breckenridge Missionary Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh).

HARVEY DAVID BLAIN, 80, of Point Pleasant, died April 4, 2018. He was an active member of LifeSpring Mason (Parkersburg).

JESSIE IRENE (BEARD) BRAND, 88, of Southside, died April 8, 2018. She was a lifelong member of Harmony Baptist Church (Teays Valley).

BERNICE (BECKY) BROWN, 90, of Pennsylvania, died March 27, 2018. She was an American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) alumna, who was a missionary to Burma (Myanmar).

DANNY M. CLARK, 74, of Fairdale, died January 15, 2018. He was a member of Breckenridge Missionary Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh). He volunteered for the Helping Hands Community Resource Center.

OKEY C. "BUDDY" CLAYTON, 54, of Bunker Hill, has died. He was a member of Bethesda Baptist Church (Fairmont).

T. BENNETT (BEN) DICKERSON, 91, of Pennsylvania, died February 22, 2018. He was an American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) alumnus, who was a missionary to Thailand.

LEONARD G. (GUY) DRAIN, 99, of Harrisville, died March 27, 2018. He was a member of Harrisville Baptist Church (Harrisville).

MARY BARBARA KIRK HOGE, 75, of Chantilly, Virginia, died March 20, 2018. She was a member of Ox Hill Baptist Church, Chantilly, Virginia, where she had taught at the Mother's Day Out preschool. She was the mother of David Hoge, Convention President.

CHARLES R. LONG, 93, of Clarksburg, died April 2, 2018. He was a member of Clarksburg Baptist Church (Union), where he held many offices over the years, including deacon emeritus and chair of the trustees and executive board. He was also a lifelong church choir member. He worked for many years with the Nannie E. Monroe Memorial Fund, culminating with the construction of the Monroe Building at the church. He helped the Baptist church in Zulueta, Cuba acquire property and a building for their worship. He also supported a student through Friends of Fort Liberte, Haiti.

MURIEL RUTH (WEDEPOHL) NOREN, 99, of California, died February 22, 2018. She was an American Baptist Foreign Society (ABFMS) alumna, who was a missionary to China/Hong Kong.

DALE PATRICK RILEY, 82, of Huntington, died March 28, 2018. He was a member of Union Missionary Baptist Church in Chesapeake, Ohio. He was the former minister of music at Huntington Baptist Temple (Guyandotte) for 26 years and was

the minister of music at Hurricane First Baptist Church (Teays Valley) for 22 years.

CYNTHIA LEE ROSENBERGER ROBINSON, 67, of Fairmont, died April 17, 2018. She was a lifetime member of Fairmont Baptist Temple (Fairmont), where she was active in the CWIA Circle and various other church activities.

EARL JUNIOR RYAN, 81, of Yawkey, died April 19, 2018. He was a member of Olive Missionary Baptist Church (Coal River), where he was a deacon.

WILLIAM (BILL) SCOTT, 90, of Belfast, Northern Ireland, died March 3, 2018. He was an American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) alumnus, who was a missionary to India.

ROSALIE NIDIFFER SHUMATE, 85, of Bolt, died March 22, 2018. She was a member of Breckenridge Missionary Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh).

DANNY TOLLIVER, 82, of Bolt, died February 12, 2018. He was a member of Breckenridge Missionary Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh).

JANET KAY WALKER, 75, died April 25, 2018. She was a devoted, active member of Diamond Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley), where she served many faithful years as choir director, youth leader and Sunday School teacher.

C. HOMER WOMACK, 97, of Saint Albans, died March 18, 2018. He was an active member of Highlawn Baptist Church (Teays Valley), where he served as a deacon, taught an adult Sunday School class and sang in the choir.

BETTY JEAN FISHER YOUNG, 91, of Charleston, died April 19, 2018. She was a member of Charleston Baptist Temple (Kanawha Valley) for 74 years. She was active in American Baptist Women's Ministries, the Business and Professional Women's Circle and senior groups. She was a Sunday School teacher, deacon, was on the flower committee and often organized receptions. She participated in two medical mission trips to the Dominican Republic.

Leadership Update

DR. ROBERT ALLAN COPENHAVER to Fairmont Baptist Temple (Fairmont) as senior pastor on May 1, 2018

REV. LARRY FLEMING to Glenville First Baptist Church (Little Kanawha) as senior pastor on April 1, 2018

REV. CYRIL JOHNSTON to Sutton Baptist Church (Elk Valley) as interim pastor on May 6, 2018

Romney First Baptist Seeks Staff

The board of Christian Education at Romney First Baptist Church (Eastern) is seeking to fill the following position: **director of Children and Youth Work**. This is a part-time position in a growing ministry. If you are interested in serving in this position, please send your CV or resume to Missy Strife or Steve Wilson, at Romney First Baptist Church, 325 W. Main Street, Romney, WV 26757 or e-mail fbcrromney@gmail.com.

June 2018

JUNE 1 - Kurt Smalley, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Hungary
JUNE 2 - The American Baptist Women's Ministries' Annual Conference happens this weekend at Parchment Valley Conference Center
JUNE 3 - The ministry of Madison Baptist Church; Jim Butcher, pastor (Coal River)
JUNE 4 - Patricia Magal, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Thailand
JUNE 5 - Gerald Bissett, moderator, Eastern Association
JUNE 6 - The ministry of Mount Zion Baptist Church; Michael Murphy, pastor (Fairmont)
JUNE 7 - The ministry of Crab Orchard Baptist Church; Max Hill, interim pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)
JUNE 8 - Younger Midler Camp begins today at Camp Cowen (June 8-10)
JUNE 9 - Dilia Zelaya, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Honduras
JUNE 10 - Junior 1 Camp begins today at Camp Cowen (June 10-16)
JUNE 11 - Nathaniel McCurdy, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to Costa Rica
JUNE 12 - Ron Forren, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
JUNE 13 - The ministry of Beulah Ann Missionary Baptist Church; Greg Lunsford, pastor (Guyandotte)
JUNE 14 - Sarah McCurdy, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Costa Rica
JUNE 15 - Vital Pierre, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the Dominican Republic
JUNE 16 - The West Virginia Baptist Convention Worship Conference happens today at Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Hurricane
JUNE 17 - Junior High I Camp begins today at Camp Cowen (June 17-23)
JUNE 18 - Jeff Dieselberg, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Thailand
JUNE 19 - The ministry of Davis Baptist Church; Leroy Shook, pastor (Eastern)
JUNE 20 - Katherine Niles, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
JUNE 21 - Don Miles, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
JUNE 22 - Zenith Harless, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission
JUNE 23 - The ministry of Parkersburg Baptist Temple; Scott Wight, pastor (Parkersburg)
JUNE 24 - Brothers' Keeper happens this week at Parchment Valley Conference Center (June 24-29)
JUNE 25 - Valma Adams, office manager, West Virginia Baptist Convention
JUNE 26 - Junior 2 Camp happens this week at Camp Cowen (June 24-30)
JUNE 27 - Peter McCurdy, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Costa Rica
JUNE 28 - Celestyna Hoefle, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to Thailand
JUNE 29 - The ministry of Jackson's Mill Baptist Church; Gregory Miller, pastor (Broad Run)
JUNE 30 - Judith Butta, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission

July 2018

JULY 1 - High School 1 Camp happens this week at Camp Cowen (July 1-7)
JULY 2 - Roger Raikes, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
JULY 3 - The World Mission Conference Bus Trip attendees leave today for Green Lake, Wisconsin (July 3-9)
JULY 4 - Hefziba Aragon, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to Mexico
JULY 5 - The ministry of Spruce Grove Baptist Church; Grover Morris, pastor (Rockcastle)
JULY 6 - Jeff Madden, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
JULY 7 - The ministry of Everson Baptist Church; Robert Tennant, pastor (Fairmont)
JULY 8 - Tim Rice, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
JULY 9 - Junior High 2 Camp happens this week at Camp Cowen (July 8-14)
JULY 10 - The ministry of Fairview Baptist Church; Michael McCoy, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)
JULY 11 - Madeline Flores-Lopez, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the Dominican Republic
JULY 12 - The ministry of Hilton Village Baptist Church; Eric Keister, pastor (Hopewell)
JULY 13 - Marijane Kiley, chair, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
JULY 14 - The ministry of Fola Missionary Baptist Church; Daniel Tanner, pastor (Elk Valley)
JULY 15 - Elianna McCurdy, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to Costa Rica
JULY 16 - Catherine Longkumer, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to India
JULY 17 - High School 2 Camp happens this week at Camp Cowen (July 15-21)
JULY 18 - The ministry of Nitro First Baptist Church; Bobby Goldsberg, pastor (Teays Valley)
JULY 19 - Katrina Williams, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
JULY 20 - The ministry of Saint Paul Baptist Church; Michael Poke, pastor (Kanawha Valley)
JULY 21 - Larry Stanton, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Hungary
JULY 22 - Jason Marshall, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission
JULY 23 - The ministry of Hepzibah Baptist Church; Alan Rosenberger, pastor (Union)
JULY 24 - The ministry of Tallmansville Baptist Church; Timothy Lewis, pastor (Broad Run)
JULY 25 - Ruth Mooney, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Costa Rica
JULY 26 - The Rockcastle Association Annual Meeting today at Toned Missionary Baptist Church (Rockcastle)
JULY 27 - Family Camp begins today at Camp Cowen (July 27-30)
JULY 28 - The ministry of Parchment Valley Baptist Church; Matt Ash, pastor (Good Hope)
JULY 29 - Joshua Shingleton, clerk, Union Association
JULY 30 - Rob Ely, director, Student Ministries, West Virginia Baptist Convention
JULY 31 - Older Midler Camp happens this week at Camp Cowen (July 30-August 2)

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

Coming Events

JUNE 2018

June 1-3

American Baptist Women's Ministries' Conference

Parchment Valley Conference Center

June 8-10

Younger Midler Camp (grades 2-4)

Camp Cowen

Registration begins at 3:00 p.m.

June 10-16

Junior 1 Camp (grades 5-6)

Camp Cowen

Registration begins at 3:00 p.m.

June 16

West Virginia Baptist Convention Worship Conference

Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Hurricane

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.

Event begins at 9:30 a.m.

June 17-23

Junior High 1 Camp (grades 7-9)

Camp Cowen

Registrations begins at 3:00 p.m.

June 24-29

Brothers' Keeper

Parchment Valley Conference Center

Pre-registration is required.

Arrival time: after 3:00 p.m.

June 24-30

Junior 2 Camp (grades 5-6)

Camp Cowen

Registration begins at 3:00 p.m.

June 30

School of Christian Studies Baptism and Communion (E-06)

One-Day Class

Parchment Valley Conference Center in the Santrock Education Center

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

Class begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at

2:15 p.m.

West Virginia Baptist Newsletter Submissions

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

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

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

PO Box 1019, Parkersburg WV 26102; 304.422.6449. US Postage Paid at Parkersburg, West Virginia.

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Editor: Rev. John E. Simmons

Assistant Editor: Mrs. Valma Adams

Layout: Mrs. Donna Snyder

West Virginia American Baptist Women's Conference

June 1-3, 2018

Parchment Valley Conference Center

"Hand of The Man"

Keynote Speaker:

Rev. Ron Stoner



"Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said.

"Why did you doubt me?"

Matthew 14:31

**Registration begins at 4:00 p.m.
on Friday, June 1.**

Program begins at 7:00 p.m.

**Featuring: Leadership Academy Session #9: Resourcing,
Book Sale and Like New Flea Market**

For more information and a registration form, please see the April 2018 issue of *Seasons*. If you have questions, contact Kim Mack at kmack@cyclopswv.com or 304.562.9209.

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