

Baptist Campus Ministries' Students Share at American Baptist Men Prayer Breakfasts

People love sharing stories about their lives. Vacations, newborns, grandchildren, health news and any other topics that affect the lives of individuals are shared daily among friends, family and even strangers. When there is important, memorable or difference-making news in our lives, we often feel compelled to share the story with others. Through storytelling people experience a connection with one another. Individuals can relate to each other, often building a relationship that leads to growth.

Baptist Campus Ministries (BCM) is one of those experiences where stories are shared. Students' lives are changed through Christ and they are seeking to change the world. *Baptist Campus Ministries* is currently active on nine college campuses in West Virginia. Partnering with churches that support us through prayer, encouragement and finances is vital to our ministry. *Baptist Campus Ministries* is one of those experiences where people experience growth and connection in a community. On some occasions, the relationships built through *BCM* overlap into other ministries.

Baptist Campus Ministries is grateful to the American Baptist Women's Ministries in West Virginia as they have selected *BCM* as their Special Project in 2019. We also express our gratitude to the American Baptist Men of West Virginia as they raised awareness and support of *BCM* through their prayer breakfasts on February 23, 2019. Several *BCM students* attended the various men's prayer breakfasts. Listed below are some of their thoughts about their experience.

Going to the men's prayer breakfast was an awesome experience. We don't often get to see behind the scenes of other ministries within the West Virginia Baptist Convention. It was great to see the men lifting up their churches, ministries and country in prayer. --Kayla

I always love talking with people about what BCM is doing and how God is using it to change lives. I think sharing personal experiences with people who support us is an encouragement to them and helps them know how they can pray for us. --Krissy

Speaking at the men's prayer breakfast gave churches in the West Virginia Baptist Convention an opportunity to hear about how BCM is changing the lives of college students so that we can be the generation that goes out to change the world. Many of the churches were receptive to the testimony I shared which allowed a calling to be placed on their heart to help reach out and support BCM. --Jenni

It was encouraging to be able to share what BCM is and what we are doing. --Logan

It was exciting to see the younger and older generations rally together as one to support a growing ministry. Baptist Campus Ministries has actively changed my life and the lives of those around me, so it was very encouraging to share that testimony with those who help support BCM. --Bree

Students loved having this opportunity to share the stories of how *BCM* is "*changing lives that change the world.*" The impact of the stories is evident in how people are responding with their support of *BCM*. We appreciate the opportunity to share and look forward to the continual impact and growth of connecting with other ministries.

During the month of March, *BCM* students had the opportunity for more relationship building and connecting with an international community. *Baptist Campus Ministries'* students from the campuses of Marshall University and Fairmont State University spent a week in Bolivia (Marshall) and Mexico (Fairmont), partnering with International Ministries' (IM) missionaries to serve communities in a variety of ways. Please pray for these students as they continue to travel and serve. Be prepared to hear more stories from *BCM* about *lives being changed* that are being used by God to *change the world.*

*In Christ,
Kevin Sions
Northern Director of Baptist Campus Ministries*

The West Virginia Baptist Convention is a family of churches committed to reaching all generations for Jesus Christ both here and abroad by equipping one another to be healthy, growing and unified in Christ and for Christ.

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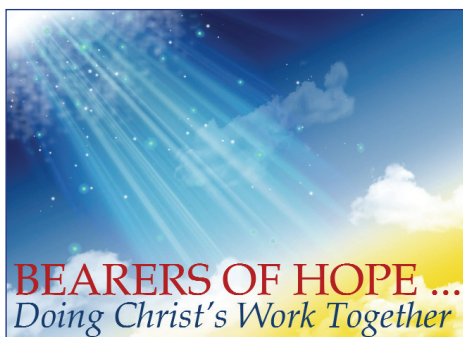
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No Compromise



Dr. Michael Sisson

We are blessed as a convention family to have access to some wonderful training and education opportunities. One such event is the West Virginia Baptist Convention Bible Conference, which is held annually at Parchment Valley Conference Center located in Ripley. This year, the study focused on the Book of Exodus, taught by Dr. Trent Eastman, pastor of New Baptist Church (Guyandotte). During the study, it was noted that the Lord's command to Pharaoh to "Let My people go, that they may serve Me" was initially met with a resounding no! However, Dr. Eastman pointed out that after the plagues came upon Egypt, Pharaoh changed his strategy and began to offer Moses a series of compromises aimed at keeping the Israelites from ever being truly free. This brought to mind a sermon by the late Peter Marshall, former chaplain of the United States Senate, titled simply, "Compromise in Egypt." Marshall alludes to four separate compromises offered by Pharaoh:

- First compromise, "All right! Go ahead and offer sacrifices to your God, but do it here in this land." (8:25). There were over 2,000 names of gods in Ancient Egypt. Pharaoh was telling Moses we are a tolerant people and there is room right here in Egypt. In fact, your god will blend right in with all the others as long as you do not try to claim exclusivity. No need to change or stand out, just blend in right where you are so no one will accuse you of being too narrow-minded.
- Second compromise, "All right, go ahead ... but don't go too far away." (8:28). How about this Moses. Go and serve your god, but no need to go too far away. All things in moderation. No need to change too much, to be too different or become fanatical about your faith. It is okay to keep one foot in Egypt (or the world). G.K. Chesterton once said of compromise, "Men do not differ much about what things they will call evils; they differ enormously about what evils they will call excusable."
- Third compromise, "We will all go - young and old, our sons and daughters." ... Pharaoh retorted, "Never! Only the men may go" (10:8-9). Ok Moses, the men can go, but don't take your families. Just leave your kids behind. There is no need to impose your faith on your family, just keep it to yourself. Keep your family values and your Christian values separate.
- Fourth compromise, "Go and worship the Lord," he said. "But leave your flocks and herds here. You may even take your little ones with you" (10:24). Finally, Pharaoh tells Moses, you and your families can go to serve and worship the Lord, but no need to include your possessions, your finances or your business. Your money and possessions belong to you so there is no need to include God in your financial or material decisions. And yet, the Lord reminds us we are only stewards of all He has entrusted us with.

Do any of these sound familiar? We as followers of the Lord Jesus Christ face these and many other temptations to compromise our faith walk every day. However, the Lord has called us to surrender all of ourselves, our decisions, our lives, our families and our possessions to Him. "You were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies" (1 Corinthians 6:20).

Once the journey out of Egypt was complete, Moses' successor, Joshua, challenged the Israelites with these words, "Now, therefore, fear the Lord and serve Him in sincerity and in faithfulness ... And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve ..." God has called us to follow and serve Him without compromise. Peter Marshall concludes, "The choice before us is plain: Christ or chaos, conviction or compromise, discipline or disintegration."

*Blessings,
Mike*

M.E.E.T: Mission, Education, Encounter, Training - Meet the M.E.E.T Team

This summer, we have the privilege of commissioning six of our young adults to the mission field, where they will serve as interns alongside some of our International Ministries' (IM) Global Servants. The Mission, Encounter, Education, Training (M.E.E.T.) Program was designed to help young adults explore their calling to missions by giving them extended opportunities to serve in a country where they can get a taste of what long-term service looks like. Below is an introduction to our 2019 team and a short description of what they will be doing this summer.

Ethan Starcher

Ethan is a first-year student at Moody Bible College in Spokane, Washington, studying aviation missions. His wife, Kendra, is finishing her senior year online at West Virginia University. Prior to moving to Washington, they were both active in Baptist Campus Ministries and members of New Hill Community Church (Goshen). Ethan will be spending five weeks this summer with J.D. and Rhonda Reed in Bolivia, doing photography and helping manage several short-term teams.



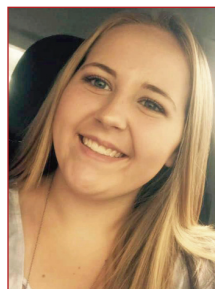
Cortney Belcher

Cortney is a graduate of Marshall University and was active in Baptist Campus Ministries. She now serves as a fourth grade teacher in Fort Gay, and is a member of Huntington Community Church. She is excited about the opportunity to spend three weeks this summer with Juan and Denise Aragon in Chiapas, Mexico. As an experienced educator, she will be leading various workshops for women, equipping them to reach out and minister to the children in their communities.



Taylor Huffman

Taylor is a sophomore biology major at the University of Charleston, where she is active in Baptist Campus Ministries. She is also a member of Genesis Fellowship (Kanawha Valley), serving in a variety of ministries. Wanting to explore opportunities in medical missions, she will be spending three weeks in northeast India working alongside our Baptist partners at Tura Christian Hospital.



Jenni Rosenberger

Jenni is an elementary special education major at Fairmont State University and is a member of Baptist Campus Ministries at West Virginia University. She is a member of Hepzibah Baptist Church (Union), where her father, Alan, serves as pastor. God has been leading her to explore mission opportunities ever since she heard Keith and Debbie Myers speak at her church last year. This summer, she will have the opportunity to explore that further, serving alongside the Myers in Puebla, Mexico.



Abigail Harman

Abigail is a sophomore at Marshall University, where she is majoring in international affairs. She is active in leadership at Baptist Campus Ministries and is a member of New Baptist Church (Guyandotte). She has extensive missions experience and is pursuing long-term opportunities to serve on the mission field. This summer, she will be spending six weeks in Lebanon, working alongside Dan and Sarah Chetti. During that time, she will be exposed to the various ministries Sarah has established for migrant workers, and she will also have the opportunity to participate in Arabic language courses and the Middle East Consultation at Arab Baptist Theological Seminary.



It is exciting to see how God is opening doors for our young adults to serve Him this summer and further explore their own calling to missions. If you would like to be part of supporting any of these individuals, you can make a donation on their behalf by sending a check to the West Virginia Baptist Convention office and designating it to the M.E.E.T. Program. We would also encourage you to find each person on Facebook, where you can read updates and pray for them throughout the summer.

***Todd McClure,
Minister of Missions and Finance***

Leadership Development Initiative

Opportunity. Leadership. Mentoring. Experience. Service. The Leadership Development Initiative is a project of the West Virginia Baptist Convention that seeks to bring all of these words together by connecting interested young adults with the churches, associations and ministries of the convention.

Why is this important?

Our young leaders need it ...

Studies have shown that one of the key factors in the development of young adults is the opportunity to serve.

Young leaders need to be and feel included, connected, engaged and relevant. They are not just the church of tomorrow, but a critical part of the church today.

Our churches need it ...

There is a downward trend - nationwide - in children, youth and young adults being engaged by traditional ministries, and thus a downward trend in church attendance.

A recent study of one area of the state shows 59% of churches being pastored by someone who has already retired once.

We all need it ...

In the project, churches can receive help in areas they previously could not explore. Young adults can explore ministries for which positions previously did not exist. Pastors

can grow by being mentors and mentored. Regional staff can interact with and resource both.

So how do we do it?

We do this by offering paid internships as an experiential learning opportunity for young adults to explore and develop their gifts. This will create new space for young adult leaders and a church culture that produces such opportunities.

You can help ...

Create an internship at your church. You may contact your area minister for help. Don't know who that is? Call the West Virginia Baptist Convention office at 304.422.6449. Tell them what church you are from and they will give you the contact information for your area minister.

Give to help the convention in our ongoing mission to help you and others as we seek to Do Christ's Work Together.

Tell others - your pastor, your kids, your grandkids. Think your church can't afford it? We offer grants to help. We offer training to both mentors and interns. We help churches that need it with payroll, job descriptions, planning and visioning.

Ask your questions. Please feel free to call the office with your questions, and we will connect you with the answers.

Weirton Christian Center

A Plea for Prayer

*by Kim Weaver
director, Weirton Christian Center*

The *Weirton Christian Center* is ready for spring! The new building is warm, comfortable, safe and secure, everything we dreamed of. However, it has been a difficult winter, with the weather causing us not to have our children in our preschool or afterschool programs. Other forces are also working against us.

In the past month, our precious children have been targeted by internet hackers who want to convince them to harm or kill themselves, and even friends and family who have taken them to places that adults find hard to handle.

I tell you this to ask for your prayers for our ministry. The *Weirton Christian Center* is the one place our kids are sure to feel safe, loved, cared for, fed and told what is right in God's eyes. There are many places and forces in the world that are teaching or showing them the wrong things to do and making it seem right.

Please pray God will guard their hearts and minds and keep them safe. Please pray our staff is equipped and prepared

to handle whatever comes their way from these children. Please pray we are able to provide what the children and their families need as we move forward.

We hope to expand our programming with the help of the 21st Century Learning Grant. Be in prayer for this endeavor as we plan to add programs and staff that will enhance the ministry we are doing. After having our first Asian and Hispanic children since the first of the year, we are looking to be able to offer much-needed services, such as English-speaking classes as well as parenting workshops. Our Baptist family has prayed through so much over our 102-year history and we still count on you for those prayers as well as your financial support. Thank you for helping to make a difference in the lives of our children, and for helping to make us the ministry that we are!

If you would like for me to visit your church, American Baptist Women's Ministries' rally or mission event, please feel free to call 304.479.2140 or e-mail kim@weirtonchristiancenter.com.

Undisciplined People Groups

Judges 2:10 is one of the most indicting passages in all the Bible. Soon after the Israelites finally entered the Promised Land - the same Israelites who had seen God part the Red Sea, who had enjoyed His provision of manna for 40 years and who had seen His faithfulness in driving out opposing armies - it says, "And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the Lord or the work that He had done for Israel."

Let that sink in for just a minute. One generation removed from the one that had seen all those miraculous works, and "there arose another generation after them who did not know the Lord or the work that He had done for Israel." How can that happen?

I had a missiology professor in seminary who had coined the term **undisciplined people groups**. The term people group has been around for nearly 50 years and can be defined as simply "the largest group within which the gospel can spread without encountering barriers of understanding or acceptance." In Matthew 28:18, for example, when Jesus says, "Go and make disciples of all nations," the correct understanding of the word "nations" is not the 200+ geopolitical countries we have today, but rather the 17,000+ people groups we have today. In other words, it should be understood as, "Go and make disciples of all people groups."

Also, for about 50 years, missiologists have differentiated between **unreached** and **reached people groups**. An

unreached people group is one that lacks the adequate number of believing Christians and resources to evangelize their people group without outside assistance. A reached people group is one where there is an adequate number and resources. For reference, nearly 42% of the world is unreached.

My professor introduced the concept of undisciplined people groups to identify those who had initially been reached with the gospel, but had not been disciplined in such a way so as to pass their faith on to others. It is estimated that nearly half of those who are "reached" could also be classified as "undisciplined." It is within this category that we could place the Israelites in the passage above. The Israelites had obviously been reached, seeing firsthand the work of God, but they had not disciplined the next generation, and within one generation their faith community was gone.

Every church is always one generation away from extinction. That is why discipleship matters. That is also why we have been commissioned to make disciples, rather than simply making converts. The nations will never be reached by making converts. The nations will only be reached by making disciples who make disciples who make disciples.

How is your church doing in making disciples? How are you personally doing in making disciples? I pray that what was said of Israel in Judges 2:10 may never be said of anyone in our West Virginia Baptist family.

2019

mountain state
MISSION OFFERING

DOING CHRIST'S WORK *together*

Mountain State
Mission Offering
2019 packets
will be mailed
in early April.

If you do not receive
a packet and need
one, please contact
Joan at hall@wvbc.org
or 304.422.6449.

100% Supporting the Mission and Ministries of the
West Virginia Baptist Convention.

Encouraging and Building Up Each Other

Intentionally helping one another along life's journey is a heartfelt challenge for each of us to accept. Busy schedules, daily interruptions and planned commitments consume much of our time, but the word of the Lord speaks clearly to us. I Thessalonians 5:11 says "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

In a recent conversation with a West Virginia Baptist Convention pastor, their encouraging words complemented the mission of *Parchment Valley Conference Center*, "Where lives are changed." They shared from the heart that many people have noticed the change in our worship and programs. These new work projects and scheduling of many more camps and conferences is a great blessing. We celebrate the seed of faith planted by those that were encouraged 60 years ago to continue to broadcast the gospel that is now in full bloom.

In February 2019, we hosted a new group of 200 college students from across the country. Their passion for preaching, teaching and recreation was over the top. When our *Parchment Valley* staff asked them about their first experience with us they told us *Parchment Valley* was so conducive to their ministry program and the staff's willingness to meet their needs was superb. They said, "Please tell us you have availability on your calendar for our retreat next year and we will bring more students."

Another growing segment of our ministry is the West Virginia Baptist Convention Annual Training Event, formerly known as Church Officers' Training. Great instruction through workshops brings a blessed time of fellowship. Every building was utilized in this great opportunity to equip and provide training and resources for people of all ages. We are excited about what the future holds for this event.

Our focus this spring is repairing and updating the facility as we will be at full capacity for the summer. Some of the projects will include revamping the barn bathrooms and being handicap accessible. On the exterior of the barn, we have plans to install new columns around all the porches. Across the facility, many painting and cleaning projects will be undertaken. A high school shop class built two new lifeguard stands to better guard our swimmers this summer. Our hearts are encouraged in doing the Lord's work.

Parchment Valley Conference Center is the fruition of your legacy gifts, both past and present, that enable ministry programs to reach hearts for the Lord and encourage the servants who make this possible: American Baptist Women's Ministries of West Virginia, American Baptist Men of West Virginia Disaster Relief, dedicated staff and volunteers and the many prayer warriors who by faith do a great work which radiates Christ's love in our hearts. Thank you a thousand times for your continued support and fellowship. *Where lives are being changed for His glory.*

Brothers' Keeper - Helping Families, Changing Lives



Attention: all junior and senior high youth! Brothers' Keeper will June 23-28, 2019.

No passport is required to come and change the world. Serve, learn, grow, worship and fellowship together as Bearers of Hope.

Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

In this, our 19th season of missional work camp, many miracles and blessings continue to happen. We join hand in hand, youth and adults, across the Jackson County area. Our mission is helping families who have tremendous needs, but little means to meet them.

Each year, *Brothers' Keeper* crews personally experience God's hand upon their lives and the lives of those they minister to. In 2018, one of our crew teams from a Pennsylvania church provided some much-needed home repairs for a family that was broken financially and spiritually. As the *Brothers' Keeper* team prayed and worked on the family's home, they noticed the lady was going through a very difficult time with cancer and battling for her life. The crew built a special bond in Christ with the family. The

family was so touched by the hard work, prayers and faith of the youth and their leaders that they asked them to stay in touch. Tearfully, the team members departed, but the story wasn't over yet. When the youth returned home, they were compelled to have a fundraiser for the family. They worked hard and sold



Brothers' Keeper recipient, who is now cancer free!

t-shirts and wrist bands (both saying "God's got this"), asking for prayer and donations for the family. The mission soon touched the hearts of many strangers who gave to support this family. When the family received the money, they were so overwhelmed. The prayers continued and a short time later the Pennsylvania church received a call from the homeowner who had the most wonderful news to share: "She was now cancer free!"

Lives continue to be changed and we are encouraged that *Brothers' Keeper* continues to grow and reach more people for Christ. We need your youth and adult volunteers to continue this mission to help our brothers and sisters in need.

Please visit our webpage, www.brotherskeeperwv.org, for videos, testimonies and more information on how to get your youth and adult leaders connected to a mission trip that is out of this world.

Adult Discipleship: Journey Alongside

This year's Discipleship theme is: Journey Alongside. In the last issue of the *West Virginia Baptist Newsletter*, I shared the first five wide-spread observations of discipleship trends observed for 2019. This is the second part of that article. In this article, I will share the five top needs for disciple making today. I encourage you to consider how you can adopt the following practices into actions. I believe these are foundational to the long-term effectiveness of discipleship.

1. Get People into God's Word

People need God's word. The church needs to put a new emphasis here. In the past, reading scripture daily, memorizing scriptures and praying the scriptures were the norm, but not anymore. In order to be faithful to God, we must be in God's word daily and realize the importance of God's sovereign word. God's word - spoken and written - changes lives, and it works like nothing else. True Jesus-style disciple making depends on God's word.

Takeaway: Find ways to help people to know and follow God's Word.

2. Provide Simple Ways to Get into The Word

The most effective method of Bible study is getting into the raw word. Not using books about the Bible or inspirational devotionals or even application of the truths in the Bible, each have a place, but nothing replaces getting into the actual word of God. Watch lives change as the plain word of God is read.

Takeaway: Find ways to overcome the two biggest barriers keeping people from God's word today - time and practice. Help people make time by introducing them to simple ways of reading the word of God for themselves.

3. Encourage Life-On-Life Relationships

God's plan for disciple making has always been relational. Deuteronomy 6:6-9 is the great commission before the Great Commission because it was the original mandate of God to make disciples. It was for parents to disciple their children.

*"These commandments that I give to you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."
(Deuteronomy 6:6-9)*

This model is the exact model Jesus used with His disciples. He told them about God's kingdom and the teachings of scripture as He and His disciples sat in homes, walked along the roads and during their sleeping and waking times together.

Contrast to the educational discipleship model, Jesus style-disciple making incorporates all of life, which goes beyond church

buildings and programs. This practice ensures disciples apply the teachings of God's word to their entire life. There is just no substitute for life-on-life if we want to help people to grow as disciples.

Takeaway: Orient your church's disciple making practices around real-life situations and contexts, not just at the church or in programs.

4. Teach People Obedience-Focused Discipleship

Obedience has fallen on hard times. We are so concerned with being grace oriented and the role of the Holy Spirit in transformation we forget about the dynamics of obedience. Obedience always begins with grace and it's always empowered by the Spirit, but it's never done apart from our will - and active participation (Philippians 2:12-13). Let's learn to properly emphasize obedience again.

Carefully notice our role of obedience in the Great Commission of Matthew 28:19-20:

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Jesus did not command us to teach everything He commanded, but to teach people to obey everything He commanded.

Takeaway: Let's start talking more about obedience focused discipleship and healthy ways to recapture the hearts and minds of a new generation so we can champion obedience to God.

5. Learn How to Fast and Pray and Lead Others to do the Same

It is not common practice to emphasize regular prayer and fasting. We need to learn how to fast and pray the way Jesus did and the way Christians around the world today and throughout history have - so we can petition God to move in a strong way among us. We believe a fasting-and-prayer-focus is a vital key that is lacking in many efforts to make disciples today.

Takeaway: Grow in prayer and fasting and encourage leaders and everyday-disciples to engage more regularly in fasting and prayer.

We believe this is an exciting time for disciple making as the church increasingly refines and encourages these efforts. We believe the way Jesus made disciples is the best way for helping people trust and follow Him today - in any culture, any place and any time!

This article is paraphrased from *discipleship.org* and written by Bobby Harrington. Bobby Harrington is the co-founder (with Todd Wilson) of and executive director of *Discipleship.org*, a national ministry that advocates for Jesus' style of disciple making and hosts a national forum on disciple making.

 MISSION SUPPORT		 PER CAPITA		 #4* Total		 #1*		 #3*		 #1*		 #1*		 #1* Regional		 SUPPORT	
Fifth Avenue	99,456	Bethel, Morgantown	1,160	Fifth Avenue	78,549	Hurricane First	5,966	Hurricane First	23,024	Fifth Avenue	4,750	Hurricane First	29,232	Fifth Avenue	51,307		
Saint Albans First	87,178	Send the Light	1,028	Lubeck Community	26,057	Beulah	4,213	Long Run	22,642	Shuck Memorial	3,439	Ravenswood First	16,403	Crab Orchard	47,980		
Hurricane First	72,781	Wilsonburg	423	Calvary, Oak Hill	21,432	Saint Albans First	4,202	Fifth Avenue	18,695	Summersville	3,373	Kenova First	16,000	Saint Albans First	45,742		
Vienna	71,217	South Fork	391	South Parkersburg	18,274	Williamson First	3,679	Bethesda	13,465	Bethesda	3,222	Parchment Valley	14,064	Hurricane First	31,652		
South Parkersburg	68,068	Flint Chapel	382	Oak Hill	17,989	Indian Fork	2,943	Saint Albans First	12,873	Gassaway	3,022	New	13,000	Vienna	26,336		
Crab Orchard	66,064	Saint Albans First	377	Rainelle First	17,700	South Parkersburg	2,275	Simpson Creek	11,691	Willow Tree	2,943	Summersville	10,667	Simpson Creek	25,193		
Simpson Creek	51,501	Mount Pisgah	371	Madison	15,000	Guyandotte	2,179	Gassaway	11,330	Indian Fork	2,815	Barboursville	10,442	Beckley First	20,701		
Emmanuel, Parkersburg	43,678	Sabraton	350	Summersville	12,692	Crab Orchard	2,133	Vienna	8,670	Mount Vernon, Hurricane	2,815	Racine First	9,000	Emmanuel, Parkersburg	20,167		
Beckley First	39,303	Mount Vernon, Salem	333	Charleston Baptist Temple	12,518	Vienna	2,124	South Parkersburg	8,407	Hurricane First	2,583	Oakwood	8,940	Elkins First	20,003		
Summersville	35,398	Auburn	326	Judson, Belle	12,467	Bethesda	2,013	Huntington Baptist Temple	7,332	South Parkersburg	2,275	Sabraton	8,533	Summersville	18,959		
New	34,470	Hopewell, Mount Alto	312	New Martinsville First	11,754	Nutter Fort First	1,895	Petersburg First	7,300	Emmanuel, Parkersburg	1,667	Genesis Fellowship	7,668	Lubeck Community	17,264		
Lubeck Community	33,331	Dorcas	310	Highlawn	11,130	Milton	1,795	Emmanuel, Parkersburg	6,545	Fairmont Baptist Temple	1,626	Logan First	7,250	Ravenswood First	16,874		
Sabraton	28,019	Parchment Valley	304	Salem	9,584	Petersburg First	1,650	Fairmont Baptist Temple	6,401	Charleston Baptist Temple	1,617	Mill Creek, Leroy	6,153	Kenova First	16,000		
Calvary, Oak Hill	27,818	Calvary, Oak Hill	302	Saulsville	8,676	Shuck Memorial	1,607	Charleston Baptist Temple	6,401	Enon	1,509	Reynoldsville	5,964	Parchment Valley	14,845		
Kenova First	26,900	Concord	301	Sistersville First	8,125	Emmanuel, Parkersburg	1,565	Union, Milton	6,000	New	1,461	Beulah	5,951	Calvary, Oak Hill	13,809		
Gassaway	25,697	Willow Tree	300	Shuck Memorial	7,825	New Martinsville First	1,482	Crab Orchard	6,000	Kenova First	1,443	Judson, Winfield	5,430	New	13,000		
Petersburg First	25,370	Springdale First	300	New England	7,766	Charleston Baptist Temple	1,475	Guyandotte	5,977	Bethesda	1,375	Buckhannon First	5,400	South Parkersburg	12,239		
Beulah	24,796	Beckley First	283	Dorcas	7,624	Old Greenbrier	1,377	Albright	5,750	Fairview, Forest Hill	1,360	Kanawha City	4,550	Rainelle First	12,164		
Willow Tree	24,326	New Martinsville First	277	Shinnston First	7,513	Madison	1,362	Salem	5,702	Bethel, Morgantown	1,285	Williamson First	4,008	Oak Hill	11,379		
Madison	23,826	Sistersville First	275	Gilboa	7,394	Wilsonburg	1,265	New	5,700	Spencer First	1,200	Hopewell, Mount Alto	3,811	Racine First	10,548		
Parchment Valley	23,718	Matewan	275	Fayetteville	7,192	Willow Tree	1,219	Beckley First	5,663	Broad Run	1,169	Lacoma	3,707	Barboursville	10,442		
Charleston Baptist Temple	23,593	Indian Fork	268	Mount Zion	6,675	Bethany	1,205	Glennville First	5,595	Pine Grove First	1,148	Grass Lick	3,566	Madison	10,049		
Ravenswood First	23,324	Scarbro First	260	Weirton Heights Memorial	5,645	Beulah Ann	1,200	Madison	5,413	Hepzibah, Bridgeport	1,024	Petersburg First	3,295	Sabraton	9,995		
Sistersville First	23,119	Fifth Avenue	249	Hamlin First	5,472	Pea Ridge	1,100	Milton	5,405	New Hope, Parkersburg	1,013	Toned	3,046	Oakwood	8,940		
Elkins First	22,744	Salem	247	Main Street	5,456	Ravenswood First	1,055	Oak Hill	5,300	Wilsonburg	1,000	Buckhannon First	3,000	Judson, Belle	8,603		
Rainelle First	22,252	Oak Hill	236	Hope, Frametown	5,153	Weston First	1,053	Grafton First	5,220	Connolly Memorial	1,000	Forks of Coal	3,000	Williamson First	8,484		
Mount Vernon, Hurricane	22,142	Forks of Coal	236	Williamson First	5,111	Racine First	1,025	Wilsonburg	5,200	Oakwood	1,000	New Hope, Parkersburg	3,000	Charleston Baptist Temple	8,317		
Oak Hill	21,701	Enon	224	Summit	4,772	Summersville	1,019	Willow Tree	5,055	Crab Orchard	1,000	Philippi	1,000	New Martinsville First	8,197		
Williamson First	19,528	Rockcastle	222	Grafton First	4,605	Rainelle First	1,018	Ravenswood First	4,948	Cook Memorial	980	Mannington First	980	Beulah Ann	8,150		
New Martinsville First	19,377	Ravenswood First	220	Sunrise	4,424	Gilboa	1,000	Elizabeth	4,945	Parkersburg Baptist Temple	973	Weirton Heights Memorial	973	Beulah	7,969		
Milton	17,375	Charleston Baptist Temple	218	Hurricane First	4,399	Jordan Run	1,000	Sunrise	4,903	Dorcas	970	Pine Grove, Parkersburg	970	Beulah	7,860		
Bethesda	17,316	Sunrise	215	Elkins First	4,396	Rockcastle	1,000	Summersville	4,808	Romney First	970	Glenville First	970	Romney First	7,860		
Beulah Ann	16,700	Williamson First	215	Petersburg First	4,376	Holly River	1,000	Goshen	4,808	Hopewell, Mount Alto	960	Parkersburg First	2,290	Genesis Fellowship	7,668		
Spencer First	16,387	Union, Fairview	214	Enon, Grantsville	4,319	Little Capon	950	Racine First	4,784	Lubeck Community	942	Crab Orchard	2,202	Sistersville First	7,403		
Mill Creek, Leroy	16,295	Vienna	209	Nitro First	4,316	Buckhannon First	937	Leon	4,759	Williamson First	936	Sunrise	2,200	Grass Lick	7,279		
Judson, Belle	16,158	Highlawn	203	Diamond	3,922	South Fork	927	Kingwood	4,293	Ravenswood First	906	Williamstown First	2,124	Logan First	7,250		
Romney First	15,787	Judson, Belle	202	Meadow Grove	3,900	Sunrise	895	Breckenridge	4,000	Williamstown First	906	Sistersville First	2,100	Highlawn	7,094		
Fairmont Baptist Temple	15,714	Crab Orchard	201	Philippi	3,800	Fayetteville	888	Gilboa	3,900	Beulah Ann	900	Beulah Ann	2,060	Page	6,665		
Highlawn	15,621	Emmanuel, Parkersburg	199	Vienna	3,705	Parchment Valley	879	Hepzibah, Bridgeport	3,834	Rainelle First	890	Rainelle First	2,000	Petersburg First	6,563		
Hopewell, Mount Alto	15,607	Logan First	195	Victory	3,562	Forks of Coal	860	Philippi	3,680	Calvary, Oak Hill	864	Spencer First	1,750	Shuck Memorial	6,473		
Racine First	14,915	Romney First	195	Big Tygart	3,426	Harrisville	800	Rainelle First	3,604	Saint Paul, Fairview	856	Mannington First	1,745	Mill Creek, Leroy	6,458		
Shuck Memorial	14,867	Madison	194	Rockcastle	3,331	Salem	775	Nitro First	3,600	Goshen	838	Crab Orchard	1,675	Salem	6,331		
Gilboa	14,594	Mount Hope Temple	185	Saint Paul, Fairview	3,257	Weirton Heights Memorial	774	Fifth Avenue	3,557	Parchment Valley	827	Romney First	1,660	Shinnston First	6,030		
Genesis Fellowship	14,569	Saulsville	182	Old Greenbrier	3,092	Mannington First	700	Shinnston First	3,555	Fifth Avenue	800	Sutton	1,500	Reynoldsville	5,964		
Oakwood	14,140	Elkins First	175	Olive	3,055	Mount Vernon, Hurricane	669	Little Capon	3,504	Ten Mile, Tallmansville	780	Wilsonburg	1,500	Fairmont Baptist Temple	5,871		
Salem	13,827	Parkersburg Baptist Temple	173	Gauley Bridge	3,050	Cowen First	654	Goshen	3,500	Hopewell, Mount Alto	762	Willow Tree	1,400	Judson, Winfield	5,751		
Hepzibah, Bridgeport	13,690	Enon, Grantsville	173	Harrisville	2,982	Starcher	635	Old Greenbrier	3,483	Broad Run	752	Broad Run	1,330	Saulsville	5,543		
Barboursville	13,452	Spencer First	171	Harmony, Maysville	2,823	Calvary, Oak Hill	629	Mannington First	3,345	Salem	663	Parkersburg Baptist Temple	1,313	Harmony, Southside	5,404		
Dunbar First	13,170	Mill Creek, Leroy	168	Mount Pisgah	2,789	Fairmont Baptist Temple	626	Main Street	3,290	Hamlin First	640	Sago	1,200	Clarksburg	5,288		
Dorcas	13,017	Racine First	168	Mount Union	2,663	Elizabeth	609	Mount Vernon, Hurricane	3,264	Fayetteville	609	Page	1,200	Fayetteville	5,035		
								Weston First	3,230	Union Valley, Parkersburg	575	Helen	1,200	Gilboa	5,026		

**The West Virginia Baptist Convention Ranking in ABC-USA.*

2018 Top 50 Mission Giving Churches of the West Virginia Baptist Convention

Doing Christ's Work Together!

Committed to reaching all generations for Christ!

Love Gift

Love Gift Top 50 for 2018



#1*	Fifth Avenue	6,739
	Hurricane First	4,399
	Vienna	3,705
	South Parkersburg	2,299
	Everson	2,229
	Racine First	2,200
	Charleston Baptist Temple	2,012
	Milton	1,945
	Diamond	1,922
	Summersville	1,859
	Main Street	1,856
	Fayetteville	1,792
	Dorcas	1,779
	Sabraton	1,507
	Oak Hill	1,489
	Bethel, Rio	1,454
	Auburn	1,384
	Judson, Belle	1,379
	Beulah Ann	1,370
	Concord	1,365
	Calvary, Oak Hill	1,278
	Glenville First	1,234
	Fairmont Baptist Temple	1,213
	Bridgeport	1,150
	Goshen	1,146
	Beulah	1,142
	Wilsonburg	1,120
	Crab Orchard	1,092
	Starcher	1,021
	Weirton Heights Memorial	928
	Emmanuel, War	899
	Parchment Valley	893
	Boothsville	892
	Petersburg First	857
	Lubeck Community	831
	New Martinsville First	831
	Nutter Fort First	817
	Philippi	800
	Mount Vernon, Hurricane	796
	Danville First	795
	Willow Tree	774
	Coons Run	749
	Forks of Coal	703
	Sistersville First	697
	Mount Pisgah	689
	Baileysville	660
	Saint Albans First	647
	Salem	646
	Bethel, Morgantown	636
	Emmanuel, Parkersburg	610

Love Gift is a financial contribution over and above our regular giving. It is given out of a sense of LOVE, FAITH and GRATITUDE to God for all of His blessings, and in recognition of our need to share these blessings with others. One way to express our faith is by giving. We give of our time, talent, money and ourselves. As our faith grows, we realize our God, in whom we trust, really loves and cares for us. As a result, our desire to give grows, too. **Love Gift** is one of the ways we express our faith and love. It is an offering to God.

Take time to assess what you offer to God. How do you love God? Count the ways. Let your Love Gift offering reflect your love for God and Christ's Church and its ministries.

Less than 50% of American Baptist churches currently participate in **Love Gift**. Does your church support **Love Gift**? American Baptist mission needs your support!

Love Gift has great potential to empower American Baptist mission in this century. If your church does not have organized women's ministries, you can still participate in **Love Gift!** Meet with your region's minister of Mission Support, to discuss and plan your **Love Gift** promotion.

Text taken from http://www.abcusa.org/what_we_believe/mission/mission-giving/funding-the-mission/united-mission/love-gift/

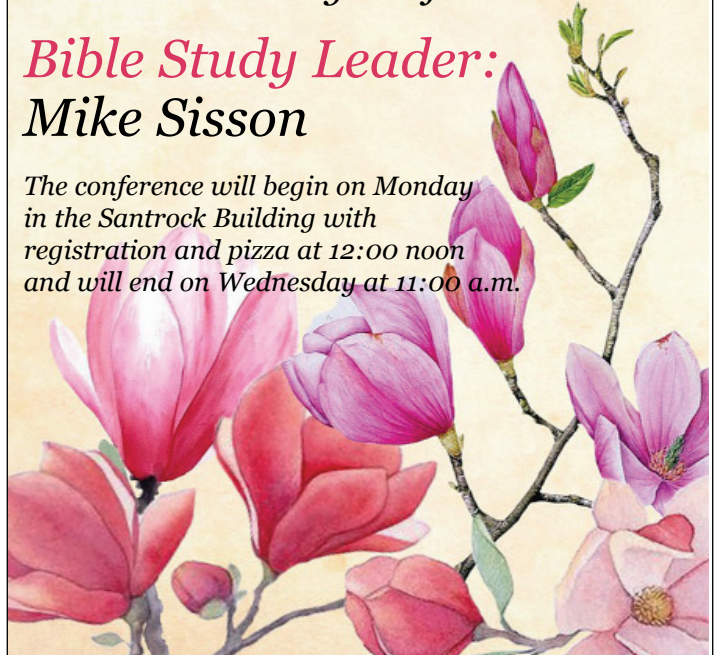
Spring Golden'eers Conference

May 6-8, 2019

Parchment Valley Conference Center

Bible Study Leader:
Mike Sisson

The conference will begin on Monday in the Santrock Building with registration and pizza at 12:00 noon and will end on Wednesday at 11:00 a.m.



ROCK THE BOAT

West Virginia
American Baptist Women's Conference



June 1, 2019

Parchment Valley Conference Center

Keynote Speaker:
Lisa Simmons

"May He equip you with all you need for doing His will" Hebrews 13:21

Registration begins at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 1. Program begins at 7:00 p.m.



Workshops Available: Technology, Restructuring, Social Media and Women's Ministries

Evan Arkell, Southwest Area Minister

Reflection and Preparation

It has been a blessed couple of months in Southwest West Virginia as churches across the area are gearing up and planning for upcoming events and mission trips.

We have had association executive board meetings for almost all of the six associations I work with as the associations work toward our mission of "Doing Christ's Work Together."

We had a great day at Parchment Valley Conference Center on February 2, 2019 as many of the Southwest Area churches, along with every other area in the state, were well represented at the Annual Training Event, formerly know as Church Officers' Training.

The Teays Valley Association is planning a training event on various topics to begin the day of the Teays Valley Association meeting at the end of summer.

The Twelve Pole Association continues to meet to schedule their annual church camp held at Parchment Valley Conference Center this summer.

Northwest Area News

Mark McCloy, Northwest Area Minister

The Planning for the Kingdom Club (A Mentoring Story)

*by William Cottrell
pastor, Newark Baptist Church*

When I was first approached about being a pilot church for the internship program, I wasn't sure I would be up to the task. I asked myself, "What could I offer to an intern? Could I teach them something about leadership?" But very quickly, God dealt with me about the church needing to be multi-generational.

My intern turned out to be Rebekah McCloy, which I thought was interesting because we are both the children of preachers. Again, God began to deal with me about the church and especially the ministry of the church being multi-generational. That is when the idea of the PFK (Planning for The Kingdom) Club came to me because what we needed was for the next generation to be ready to successfully take over leadership in the church. Rebekah, my wife, Devonna and I began with replacing the traditional Sunday School class, middle through high school, with the PFK Club. We would no longer use a classroom format. Instead, we would use



Rebekah McCloy,
*intern at Newark
Baptist Church*

The Coal River Association has their calendar filled out for several association events through the year including their annual meeting, association picnic, combined World Communion Sunday evening service, etc. We have had a couple of other meetings get snowed out, but I look forward to making those up soon.

And like all the other areas across the country, our

American Baptist Men gathered around the table to celebrate a nice, high cardiac breakfast with one another. The food and fellowship were a blessing, but the devotions and time of prayer allow us to realize, as Jesus told Satan following His 40 days of fasting and Satan's temptation: "Man shall not live on bread alone." Luke 4:4 (ESV)



Max Hill spoke at the American Baptist Men's Prayer Breakfast at Racine First Baptist Church (Coal River).

a club format. This wouldn't do away with learning about Christ, but augment it with actually doing Christianity in real-world situations. Besides the normal learning element, we would be planning events together, doing those events and adding in random acts of kindness. This accomplished a number of things. First, it taught our intern about leadership and change management in a real church situation, where change is sometimes hard. Second, it gave the club members a sense of ownership of their club, their church time and church in general. Third, it provided a new generation the opportunity to do activities together, learn how to get along as Christians and to be the church. After all, if they learn these things now, it will benefit both them and the church in general in the future as they are already trained and have leadership experience.

Now the PFK Club has grown and they are learning to conduct church services. I cannot say enough about how instrumental the intern program was in the growth of Newark Baptist Church (Parkersburg) this past year. It truly was a tremendous blessing to the church and me, personally. We can't wait to participate again this year and look forward to the plans God has in store.

Portals of Glory

Back in the day as a bivocational pastor, an outreach emphasis was to have many ministries, called portals of entry, to draw new people into our church, and later through friendship evangelism see them saved, baptized and active in our ministries. When I left to become an area minister, we had 17.



Gary Cook raises his hands in victory as he is baptized by Charlie Drake.

Athens Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh), under the leadership of Charlie and Judy Drake, carries on that emphasis. Several years ago, they started a Tuesday morning men's prayer breakfast, where men were asked to bring a friend to share in the food and fellowship. This led to Gary Cook, who described himself as an Easter and Christmas churchgoer, being invited and through that ministry begin attending church, along with his wife, Audrey.

James Anderson, Jr., Southeast Area Minister

Late last fall, Athens Baptist Church completed installing their new baptistry, and after accepting Christ into their lives, both Gary and Audrey asked to be baptized and join the fellowship of the church. On the first Sunday of 2019, both followed their Lord in obedience and the pictures just begin to exhibit their happiness and excitement with their new lives in Christ, becoming active members of Athens Baptist Church.



Audrey Cook celebrates as she is baptized by Charlie Drake.

We as the staff of the West Virginia Baptist Convention remain ready to assist you in any way possible to work together to explore and begin new "portals of entry" for your church as we seek to bring people into the saving grace and wonderful fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Northeast Area News

David Hulme, Northeast Area Minister

Broad Run and Eastern Associations Announce Summer Camps

The Broad Run Association will hold its annual summer camp at Fisher Camp in Lewis County. The Older Camp will be June 23 - June 28, 2019 and the Younger Camp will be July 7 - July 11, 2019. Early Bird registration discounts are offered through May 29, 2019. For more information, contact Suella Taylor at 304.884.7094.

The Eastern Association will hold its annual week-long summer camp for children and youth, beginning June 16, 2019.



Camp Echo in Grant County

The camp is held at Camp Echo in Grant County. For more information, contact John Vetter, pastor Bethel Baptist Church (Eastern) and Comunidad Luz Y Vida (Eastern) at 304.257.4596.

Northeast Area Churches Plan Trips to Israel

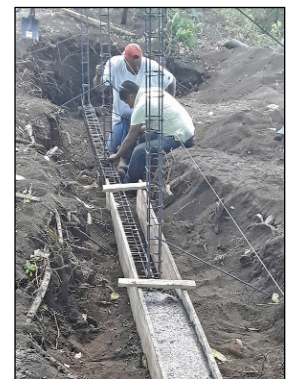
Simpson Creek Baptist Church (Union) and Little Capon Baptist Church (Eastern) have trips to Israel planned for 2019.

Mike Hopkins, pastor of Simpson Creek Baptist Church, will lead his group on May 14-23, 2019. This will be his ninth trip to Israel.

Tony Baker, pastor of Little Capon Baptist Church, and his wife, Chris, will lead the group from Little Capon December 3-13, 2019. The trip is open to any interested persons throughout our West Virginia Baptist Convention family. The cost of the all-inclusive trip is \$3,299. The registration deadline is August 16, 2019. For more information please call Tony or Chris at 304.496.8288, or by e-mail at tochnomafarms@hotmail.com.

Petersburg First Takes Mission Group to Nicaragua

A group of seven members and friends of Petersburg First Baptist Church (Eastern), led by Dennis Rogers, traveled to Nicaragua in January 2019 to work alongside International Ministries' (IM) Global Servants David and Laura Parajon. The group worked on two projects: building a storage facility at the back of the clinic and extending a security wall.



Members of Petersburg First work to extend a security wall.



Dash for the 'Stache 5k Fun Run/Walk for the Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center

**April 13, 2019
McDonough Park, Vienna**

**Registration begins at 1:30 p.m.
The race begins at 2:30 p.m.**

Come join us for the **2019 Dash for the 'Stache 5k fundraiser race!** All proceeds from this race will go toward the Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center at the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen. This facility includes a fully equipped gymnasium and classrooms where campers and camp renters can play and learn throughout the year, regardless of the weather!

The race course will be mostly trail, and parking for the race will be located across Rosemar Road from McDonough Park at the Vienna Recreational Ballfields. Awards will be given to the first male and female to cross the finish line and for costumes and ones wearing the most Camp Cowen gear. *The race day afternoon will also include a chance to shave or save the famous Rob Ely mustache.* All race registrants will have their name included in the shave or save drawing. Additionally, for each \$100 donation given and postmarked by April 6, 2019 or given at the race, that donor will have their name added into the drawing.

To download a registration form, please go to www.wobc.org.

2019 Camp Cowen Schedule

WOMEN'S CAMP: April 5-7
MEN'S WORK PARTY: April 26-27
YOUTH WORK PARTY: May 10-11
YOUNGER MIDLER: June 7-9
JUNIOR 1: June 9-15
JUNIOR HIGH 1: June 16-22
JUNIOR 2: June 23-29
HIGH SCHOOL 1: June 30-July 6



JUNIOR HIGH 2: July 7-13
SENIOR DAY: July 13
HIGH SCHOOL 2: July 14-20
FAMILY CAMP: July 26-29
OLDER MIDLER: July 30-August 2
AMERICAN BAPTIST MEN AND BOYS' CAMP: August 2-4
CAMP GLOBAL: August 9-11

*Registration and health forms are available online
at www.campcowen.org or
by calling Jennifer at 304.422.6449.*



November 2018 - February 2019

FREDERICK W. "UNCLE" ASHCRAFT, 88, of Sun Valley, died January 25, 2019. He was a member of Enon Baptist Church (Broad Run), where he was a Sunday School superintendent for 32 years as well as a trustee.

LAWANA FAYE BROWN BETHELL, 86, of California, died November 1, 2018. She was an International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Thailand.

REBA LOUISE BLEVINS, 81, died January 8, 2019. She was the mother of Greg Blevins, pastor, Wilsonburg Baptist Church (Judson).

JOHN P. "SONNY" COX, 88, of Charleston, died January 12, 2019. He was a lifetime member of Calvary Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley), where he served on the deacon board.

W. JOYCE DORNON, 58, of Parkersburg, died January 10, 2019. She was a member of Belleville Baptist Church (Parkersburg). She was the wife of Randy L. Dornon, pastor, Belleville Baptist Church.

DELBERT CLAYTON "BUD" DYE, 77, of Belpre, Ohio, died January 23, 2019. He was a member of Vienna Baptist Church (Parkersburg), where he sang in the choir.

MARILYN JEAN EFAW, 92, formerly of Mannington, died February 12, 2019. She was a nearly 50-year member of Mannington First Baptist Church (Fairmont), where she sang in the choir until the age of 80. Until recently, she was in charge of the Sunday School class card ministry.

ROBERT C. ELLIS, of Saint Albans, died January 15, 2019. He was a member of Saint Albans First Baptist Church (Teays Valley), where he served as a deacon and trustee.

VERNETTE (VERN) FRANCES FULOP, 90, of Florida, died January 23, 2019. She was an International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Japan.

WILLIAM MICHAEL GUSTINSKI, died January 12, 2019. He was a member of Summersville Baptist Church (Hopewell), where he led the Celebrate Recovery Program for five-plus years.

GLENN A. HARRINGTON, 86, of Weirton, died December 17, 2018. He was a member of Weirton Heights Memorial Baptist Church (Panhandle).

DORIS MARJORIE KNOLL, 94, of Canada, died January 26, 2019. She was an International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to India.

LELAND "DOC" LEMON, 82, of Williamstown, died February 17, 2019. He was a member of Williamstown First Baptist Church (Parkersburg) for many years. He was involved in many church activities including the senior adult ministries, operated the sound system for the 8:30 service for years and served on the Welcoming Committee. He had a servant's heart and collected donations for the food pantry.

WILLIAM J. "BILL" LINVILLE, 88, of Madison, died January 21, 2019. He was a member of Madison Baptist Church (Coal River) for 56 years, where he served as a deacon, trustee and on other boards and committees.

EARL RAYMOND LUCAS, 79, of Parkersburg, died January 8, 2019. He was a member of South Parkersburg Baptist Church (Parkersburg), where he served as a deacon and taught the Good Samaritan Sunday School class.

HAROLD EVERETTE MADDOX, 90, of Scott Depot, died February 1, 2019. He was a member of Saint Albans First Baptist Church (Teays Valley), where he served as a trustee.

GLORIA A. MARSHALL, 85, of California, died December 20, 2018. She was an International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

MARY ELIZABETH MCLAUGHLIN, 88, of Arnoldsburg, died on January 9, 2019. She was a member of Little Laurel Missionary Baptist Church (Elk Valley). She was the mother of David McLaughlin, pastor, Little Laurel Baptist Church.

FOREST LEE PARSONS, 98, of Rhode Island, died November 9, 2018. He was an International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Burma.

DOROTHY "DOTTIE" (FOLEY) SANDERS, 90, of Charleston, formerly of Kingwood, died, January 27, 2019. She was a member of Kingwood Baptist Church (Goshen), where she played piano for many years.

OTHA "OT" THEAROLD SIZEMORE, 97, of Dixie, died, January 13, 2019. He was a longtime member of Dixie First Baptist Church (Hopewell).

Going Beyond Simulcast at Saint Albans First

Saint Albans First Baptist Church (Teays Valley) excitedly announces the *Going Beyond Simulcast with Priscilla Shirer* on Saturday, April 6, 2019. Along with Priscilla Shirer, one of today's top Bible teachers, Christian recording artist Anthony Evans will lead worship via simulcast.

Presented by the Nashville-based publishing company, Lifeway Christian Resources, the *Going Beyond Simulcast* brings people together from all walks of life across the globe in their churches for a day of biblical teaching, prayer and worship.

Saint Albans First Baptist Church is sponsoring the *Priscilla Shirer Going Beyond Simulcast*, Saturday, April 6, 2019. Doors will open at 8:30 a.m. The program begins at 9:50 a.m. and ends at 5:30 p.m. Lunch from Chick-fil-A is available when you register by March 24, 2019. Light refreshments will be provided throughout the day and there will be several prize drawings. There will also be some items for sale.

The ladies of Saint Albans First Baptist Church would like to invite women of all ages to join them on this special day of worship and Bible study. Please feel free to contact the church office at 304.727.4661 or go to www.firstbaptiststalbans.com for more information and a registration form.

Local restaurants are available for those who opt out of the Chick-fil-A lunch.

Leadership Updates

REV. ALLEN L. BURNSWORTH to Broad Run Baptist Church (Broad Run) as pastor on March 3, 2019

REV. J. KEITH COOK to Rainelle First Baptist Church (Hopewell) as senior pastor on March 1, 2019

REV. SAMUEL P. MYERS to Long Run Fellowship (Union) as pastor on October 28, 2018

REV. JONATHAN M. HUNT to Panther Missionary Baptist Church (Rockcastle) as pastor on May 21, 2017

REV. JOHN H. STILES to Sunday Road Baptist Church (Hopewell) as senior pastor on February 1, 2019

April 2019

APRIL 1 - The ministry of Fort Spring Baptist Church; Joseph Morgan, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)
APRIL 2 - The ministry of Williamson First Baptist Church; Jarrod Belcher, pastor (Logan-Mingo)
APRIL 3 - The ministry of Fairmont Baptist Temple; Allan Copenhaver, pastor (Fairmont)
APRIL 4 - Krista Rogers, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission
APRIL 5 - Women's Camp happens this weekend at Camp Cowen
APRIL 6 - Rebecca Stanton, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Hungary
APRIL 7 - Grace Reed, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to Bolivia
APRIL 8 - Susan Hegarty, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Costa Rica
APRIL 9 - Matt Mann, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Thailand
APRIL 10 - The ministry of Cyclone Missionary Baptist Church; Stephen Walls, pastor (Rockcastle)
APRIL 11 - Stephen James, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Haiti
APRIL 12 - The ministry of Page Baptist Church; Ronald Moore, Jr., pastor (Fayette)
APRIL 13 - Omega happens today at Vienna Baptist Church (Parkersburg)
APRIL 14 - Brandy Stanton, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to Hungary
APRIL 15 - Ginny Prunty, administrative assistant to the Executive Minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention
APRIL 16 - Casey Dawson, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
APRIL 17 - The ministry of Milhoan Ridge Baptist Church; Dee Rhodes, pastor (Good Hope)
APRIL 18 - Mary Ann Postlewait, trustee and member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
APRIL 19 - Pray a prayer of thankfulness for a Savior who died to save us from our sins.
APRIL 20 - The ministry of Dents Run Baptist Church; Doug Cyphers, pastor (Judson)
APRIL 21 - Celebrate the risen Christ!
APRIL 22 - Michael Skurka, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
APRIL 23 - The ministry of Dorcas Baptist Church; Steve Davis, pastor (Eastern)
APRIL 24 - Corene Smith, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Brazil
APRIL 25 - Elijah Williams, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
APRIL 26 - The American Baptist Men's Work Party happens this weekend at Camp Cowen
APRIL 27 - Laura Parajon, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Nicaragua
APRIL 28 - Thelma Nambu, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to the Philippines
APRIL 29 - Joyce Reed, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Iberoamerica and the Caribbean
APRIL 30 - Valerie Osterbrock, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Malaysia

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

May 2019

MAY 1 - Cathy Fisher, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission,
MAY 2 - The ministry of Philippi Baptist Church; Jonathan Villers, pastor (Union)
MAY 3 - The ministry of Vienna Baptist Church; Bill Brown, pastor (Parkersburg)
MAY 4 - The West Virginia Baptist Convention Executive Board meeting happens today at Parchment Valley Conference Center
MAY 5 - Tom Myers, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Bulgaria
MAY 6 - The Spring Golden'eers retreat begins today at Parchment Valley Conference Center
MAY 7 - Nora Kalkman, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Europe, the Middle East and Liberia
MAY 8 - The ministry of Providence Baptist Church; Roland Ramsey, pastor (Elk Valley)
MAY 9 - The ministry of Highlawn Baptist Church; Jason Robbins, pastor (Teays Valley)
MAY 10 - The Youth Work Party happens this weekend at Camp Cowen
MAY 11 - The ministry of Big Chimney Baptist Church; Gary Walker, pastor (Kanawha Valley)
MAY 12 - Nzunga Madudiga, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Haiti
MAY 13 - Frank Miller, director of Operations, Parchment Valley Conference Center
MAY 14 - Baptist Campus Ministries' Beach Week happens this week at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
MAY 15 - Anastasia Osterbrock, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to Malaysia
MAY 16 - Scott Whetzel, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
MAY 17 - Joshua Barnes, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to Mexico
MAY 18 - Laura Freeman, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Turkey
MAY 19 - The ministry of Hurricane Baptist Church (Good Hope)
MAY 20 - Micah James, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to Haiti
MAY 21 - Lee Ann Hwang, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Japan
MAY 22 - Doris Toothman, president, West Virginia Baptist Convention and member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
MAY 23 - The ministry of Millbrook Baptist Church; Steve Martin, pastor (Hopewell)
MAY 24 - The ministry of Fort Gay Baptist Church; Timothy Preston, pastor (Twelve Pole)
MAY 25 - Robert Haught, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission,
MAY 26 - Wayne Niles, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
MAY 27 - Remember those who have gone on before us as we celebrate Memorial Day
MAY 28 - Lynette Smith, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Haiti
MAY 29 - Abie Reed, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to Bolivia
MAY 30 - The ministry of Liberty Baptist Church; Adam Cheeseman, pastor (Broad Run)
MAY 31 - The American Baptist Women's Annual Conference happens this weekend at Parchment Valley Conference Center

Coming Events

APRIL 2019

April 5-7
Women's Camp
Camp Cowen

April 7
Cowen Sunday
Your Church

April 13
Omega
Vienna Baptist Church
Registration at 9:00 a.m.

April 13
Dash for the 'Stache Sunny Day
Leadership and Activity Center
Fundraiser
McDonough Park, Vienna
Registration at 1:30 p.m.

April 19
Good Friday Holiday
West Virginia Baptist Convention
Office CLOSED

April 26-27
American Baptist Men's Work Party
Camp Cowen

April 27
School of Christian Studies Worship
and Music (E-03) One-day Class

Parchment Valley Conference Center
and Elkins First Baptist Church
Registration at 8:30 a.m.
Class Begins at 9:00 a.m.

MAY 2019

May 3
West Virginia Baptist Convention
Executive Committee Meeting
Parchment Valley Conference Center in
the Santrock Education Center
Begins at 6:30 p.m.

May 4
West Virginia Baptist Convention
Board and Commission Meetings
Parchment Valley Conference Center in
the Santrock Education Center
Begins at 9:00 a.m.

May 6-8
Spring Golden'eers' Retreat
Parchment Valley Conference Center in
the Santrock Education Center
Begins at 12:00 noon

May 7
School of Christian Studies Church
History (H-01) Six-Week Classes Begin
in Most Locations
Various Locations and Start Times

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.

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Parkersburg, WV 26102-1019

WELCOME Women's Camp 2019

April 5-7, 2019
West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen

Cost: \$50.00, fees include all meals.

*Please join us for a wonderful weekend
uniting generations of women as we focus on
living life as a Christian woman in this world!*

*Registration begins on Friday, April 5 at 6:30 p.m.
Camp will conclude on Sunday, April 7 around noon.*

*For more information and a registration form,
please go to www.campcowen.org, click on register,
scroll down and click on Women's Camp.*

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