

## Doing Christ's Work Together

### Women's Camp



*Women joining together in worship at the 2019 Women's Camp.*

Women's Camp 2019 welcomed 250 women from all across West Virginia into the gates of the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen to worship our great God and find rest, sisterhood and hope. We sang, we danced, we cried and loved on each other. The fitting theme of "Welcome" reminds us of God's great love

for us through Christ that compels us to welcome and love one another. If you were not able to attend this year, we hope you can join us next April for Women's Camp 2020.

### Children's Rally

Here's what people are saying about the 2019 Spring Children's Rally:

*"Children's Rally has always been a highlight of my year. I loved being able to bring a group of kids from my church. They learned so much and really enjoyed the glow theme!"*

Jennifer Weyandt -  
Philippi Baptist Church  
(Union)

*"I loved the Children's Spring Rally. So many interactive things for the children to enjoy. The young adult teachers got the kids excited about the Bible stories. We bring our children every year - they love the Children's Rally."*

Brenda Meadows -  
Beulah Ann Baptist Church (Guyandotte)

*"The children of Calvary Baptist (Fayette) always enjoy the Children's Rally at Parchment Valley. They have a lot of fun and even learn some things in the process. As the pastor, I appreciate the hard work involved in preparing games and lessons, and appreciate the enthusiasm, creativity and effort each presenter delivers in the sessions."*

Greg Swisher - Calvary Baptist Church



*Spending time together in prayer at the 2019 Children's Rally.*

### American Baptist Men's Work Party



*Volunteers worked together to complete a concrete walkway and covered bridge to Hylbert Hall.*

Those at Cowen are incredibly thankful for the countless hours of work volunteers put in at Camp Cowen on Saturday, April 27, 2019 (and all week long). This couldn't have been done without your sacrificial service. Your work makes a difference for thousands of campers every year. Here are some of the many projects: concrete was poured for access to the Bob/Gloria/Crouch Retreat, along with the Eber Bowles Pavilion and Hylbert Hall; a new bridge was built by the KVA (Kanawha Valley Association) cabin; trees were trimmed and chainsaw work was done; the floor was refinished in the Cunningham Staff House; new lights were upgraded to better bulbs/technology for the boys' and girls' bathhouses and the Alice Randall Dining Hall interior and exterior; jackhammer work was done in the outdoor campfire area; lighting work was completed on the new bridge; and more work to be sure. What a blessing indeed!

### Golden'eers' Annual Spring Retreat

On May 6, 2019 men and women from across the state arrived for the three-day Golden'eers' Annual Spring Retreat at Parchment Valley Conference Center. This is an excellent opportunity for people over the age of 55 to come together to grow spiritually, pray together, rest, experience rich fellowship, make new friends, enjoy recreation and crafts, all while studying God's word. Dr. Mike Sisson commented, "What a wonderful time spent with some remarkable people! Our convention family is so blessed to have such dedicated followers of Jesus Christ that provide us with examples of what it means for Christians to live their lives well to the glory of God! I really appreciate Rev. Jerry Losh for his vision and leadership in making this retreat possible."




*A group of Golden'eers gather together in the Santrock Education Center.*

*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.*

**Doing Christ's Work Together**



## There's an App for That!

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

Vol. LXXXVI, Issue 04 June - July 2019

## Table of Contents

Commentary: Watching God at Work **2**

Student Ministries: Youth Events Recap, YMPT 2019-2020 Team Announced and YLC Opportunity/Dash for the 'Stache - Save or Shave? **3**

Doing Christ's Work Together Around the Globe **4**

The Task Remaining: A New Day in Missions/Camp Global 2019 **5**

Palmer Seminary's West Virginia Program Holds Annual Graduation/Frank and Teresa Miller Receive Matherly Award **6**

Adult Discipleship: Journey Alongside/2019 Discipleship Conference: Bearers of Hope **7**

Meet the Interns **8-9**

Southeast and Southwest Area News **10**

Northwest and Northeast Area News **11**

Mission Partnership Updates: Russia and Cuba **12**

Blessed to Be a Blessing: Mulneix Celebrates 20 Years with American Baptist Churches, International Ministries/ God is Moving in Mexico **13**

Obituaries: January-April 2019/ Reducing the Risk/Leadership Updates/Trading Post **14**

Prayer Calendars: June and July 2019 **15**

Coming Events/ Communications Relaunch **16**



## Watching God at Work



*Dr. Michael Sisson*

I love to see God's hand at work! When our area ministers send their weekly field reports, I ask them to share where they saw God's hand at work over the past week. Scripture reminds us that we find God when we seek for Him (cf. Deuteronomy 4:29; Proverbs 8:17; Jeremiah 29:13; Matthew 7:7; Luke 11:9; Acts 17:24-28). I think this is especially important today when we are bombarded with so much negativity. The witness of God's presence brings hope in the midst of despair.

I see God's hand at work all around me. I see it in creation and the beauty of spring. There are so many images to catch our attention: waterfalls, sunrises, sunsets, remarkable skies, majestic mountains, green grass, beautiful flowers, budding trees, colorful birds, my how the list goes on and on. You can sense the Creator's hand in each of these - just as He intended! Dorothy Sayers points out that you can, "know something of the artist by their work." The psalmist agrees. "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands" (Psalm 19:1). The apostle Paul explains God left us a witness of Himself, "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities -- His eternal power and divine nature -- have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse" (Romans 1:20).

I see God's hand at work in the many wonderful things He is doing in and through our convention family of churches. There is such a positive spirit in so many churches, churches where God's word is taught faithfully and He is worshipped in spirit and truth. On Easter Sunday, several churches celebrated the life changing power of Christ's death and resurrection through the witness of the many baptisms that took place this year. His hand is clearly at work in many churches of all sizes around the state that are providing outreach through creative ministries and partnerships which are aimed at meeting the needs of people of all ages. I could name so many more.

I especially see the hand of God at work in the lives of the countless number of people in our West Virginia Baptist family who are using their time, talents and treasure to serve Jesus Christ and advance His kingdom. Many of them are serving on the various boards and commissions of the convention, ministering in local churches, as teachers in the School of Christian Studies, volunteering with Baptist Campus Ministries, Camp Cowen, Parchment Valley Conference Center and Brothers' Keeper. They are American Baptist Women and Men of West Virginia. They are the pastors, teachers, leaders, officers and volunteers of local churches. They are people of all ages stepping out in faith as interns, externs, mentors and short-term missionaries. They are the officers and staff of the West Virginia Baptist Convention.

Max Lucado asks the question, "How have we grown so immune to awesomeness? Perhaps the frequency of miracles makes us blind to the beauty of them." Truly God is active and His hand can be seen at work all around us. Do you see it?

*Blessings,  
Mike*



by Jill Narraway,  
Associate Director of Camping and Youth

## Youth Events Recap, YMPT 2019-2020 Team Announced and YLC Opportunity

This year's theme for the Youth Ministry Planning Team (YMPT) events has really challenged, encouraged and equipped us to live lives with *Jesus Incorporated* to our every day living. "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17

We ended the year with almost 100 at Omega. This great event brought to a close our theme of *Jesus Incorporated* with solid teaching from DaVontae Edwards, on letting Jesus fill every area of our lives; Jonathan Delgado, on studying the word with intention; Jake Bradley, on life on a mission as we share the gospel with others; Bryson Morlan, encouraging us to be fully incorporating God in our lives; and Marshall University Baptist Campus Ministries (BCM) leading us in worship. Thank you to Vienna Baptist Church (Parkersburg) for being a gracious host.

Thank you to those YMPT members who completed their service on the team: Jensen Bird, Eric Brown, Kelli Campbell, Sara Chambers, Ellie James, Grace Moore, Bryce Ward and Savannah Williams. We continue to pray for you as God leads you into this next season of your lives.

To the new YMPT: Welcome to the team! I can't wait to see what God has in store for us. Our new team of students was

announced for the 2019-2020 planning team: Andruue Bolen, Judson Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley); Maloree Bolen, Judson Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley); Samantha Karle, Clarksburg Baptist Church (Union); Abby Marano, Oakwood Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley); Joseph Mitchem, Beckley First Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh); Logan Ragland, Crab Orchard Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh); Elijah Ross, Mill Creek Baptist Church (Good Hope); Riley Skeens, Gassaway Baptist Church (Elk Valley); Casch Somerville, City Soul Ministries (Parkersburg); and Malik Withrow, Oakwood Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley).

Are you familiar with YLC? Youth Leader Core is an amazing opportunity for the youth and churches within the West Virginia Baptist Convention. This is more than just another program we do together. This five-weekend discipleship and leadership development experience is open to students who will be entering either 10th or 11th grades next school year. Students will embark on a training, equipping and commissioning process to grow in their understanding of themselves, God, leadership and their unique role in the church. Applications are due July 29, 2019 and are available on our webpage at: <https://www.wvbc.org/ministries/youth/>.

## Dash for the 'Stache - Save or Shave?

Since 1981, one mustache has reigned supreme. But on April 13, 2019 the famous 'stache met its match. With "shave or save" on the line, the votes were tallied: more than 2-1 in favor of shaving. Rob Ely's mustache bit the dust! Maci Villers had the privilege of shaving the historic mustache. You can see Rob's new look! He was such

a good sport. For all who were worried, the mustache has already made it's comeback!

We can't thank you enough for all the support for the Sunny Day Capital Campaign to build a multipurpose building at the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen with a gym and classroom space. Since February 1, 2019 we have raised an additional \$27,000 towards the project.

The *Dash for the 'Stache* was an amazing afternoon! With 115 runners/walkers and a crowd of volunteers and supporters, it was a wonderful afternoon of Cowen supporters gathered for this fun race and fundraiser. A big thank you to our sponsors: BelaStar Creative, Crown Florals and PDQ Print Shop.

Here were our race winners:

Men - 1. Brandon Canaday 24:49.06, 2. Sam Click 26:44.68, 3. Andrew Ely 29:22.47

Women - 1. Beth Ely 33:14, 2. Aven Tacy 36:12, 3. Jess Gherke 36:58

Thank you for your continued support and sacrificial giving to see this project come to fruition. Every gift makes a difference and we are grateful for the gifts of change given in the Sunny Day wooden banks, donations of time, talents and financial support for the Cowen quilts; donations for the Dash for the 'Stache, one-time financial donations and monthly givers.

A million dollars sounds like a lot of money to raise, yet when we look at approaching the \$400,000 mark, we celebrate all those who have partnered to give.

We ask you this: can you become one of the 1,000? What does that mean? Let's look at the math. One thousand people giving \$1,000 equals \$1,000,000. Does \$1,000 sound like more than you can give? If you commit to giving just \$84 per month for one year, that will add up to \$1,000. A gift of \$42 per month for two years equals \$1,000. Please prayerfully consider becoming one of the \$1,000. Contact Jennifer at 304.422.6449 to set up your pledged giving to join in.



Shave!

## Doing Christ's Work Together Around the Globe

Since the start of the year, our West Virginia Baptist family has commissioned more than 75 people on short-term mission trips. We also have around 50 more we are commissioning in the next few weeks. Read some of their updates below.

### MEXICO

#### Lubeck Community Baptist Church (Parkersburg)



Tommy and Cecily Thompson were blessed to have the opportunity to travel to Chiapas, Mexico to be part of God's mission. They learned so much about missionary life, Chiapas, indigenous communities and themselves. God opened their hearts and eyes to see His work and His people as He works through Juan, Denise, Juancito and Ziba Aragon.

#### Fairmont State University Baptist Campus Ministries

Fairmont State University Baptist Campus Ministries sent four students and three adult leaders on a Mexico mission trip over spring break March 9-16, 2019 to partner with Keith and Deborah Myers.



The group provided vacation bible school lessons, games, songs and snacks to over 50 children and led a women's workshop. This group is thankful for the prayers and support from West Virginia Baptist Convention churches and looks forward to future mission trips.

### NORWALK, OHIO

#### West Virginia University Baptist Campus Ministries

Baptist Campus Ministries (BCM) at West Virginia University (WVU) had the opportunity to partner with Norwalk, Ohio First Baptist Church (ABC-USA) during the college's spring semester break, March 10-15, 2019. The mission/service focus during the week was a labor of love for their afterschool program building, The Haven, where they helped prepare rooms to be used by a community ministry teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) and for building relationships. They were also able to help lead worship on Sunday morning and offer a BCM service (worship and Bible study) on Wednesday evening. Being able to witness ten students experience the greater community of American Baptist churches partnering together was amazing.



Being able to witness ten students experience the greater community of American Baptist churches partnering together was amazing.

### HAITI

#### Clarksburg Baptist Church, Union Baptist Church, Grafton First Baptist Church and Oakwood Baptist Church

The first Haiti mission team, consisting of 29 members, ministered in Fort Liberté, Haiti April 1-11, 2019. The medical group ministered to over 900 patients, while those in the food distribution group provided ten pound bags of food to 1,200 families. Participants included Michael Yost, Clarksburg Baptist Church (Union); Christina Moore, Union Baptist Church (Union); and Brenda Rosier, Grafton First Baptist Church (Union).



Brenda Rosier (r) of Grafton First Baptist Church ministers to one of the Haitian people.

A second Haiti team, with 25 members, ministered at Fort Liberté April 11-18, 2019. The medical group saw over 600 patients and food was provided to 500 families with additional food given to several villages. Participants included Mark and Lora Rohrbough, Jonah Fowler, Livy McFee and Paige Humble, all of Clarksburg Baptist Church; Anette Crislip, Oakwood Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley); and Brooke Davis and Brenda Rosier, Grafton First Baptist Church.

#### New Baptist Church

A group from New Baptist Church (Guyandotte) also visited Fort Liberté, Haiti. While there, they checked in on the children sponsored by families in the United States to make sure they were doing well in school and also measured them to get their clothing sizes. They also brought a medical team to run the clinic and provide medical care for anyone who came to them. The group also set up tables in some of the outposts for a day and provided medical care and food.



### BOLIVIA

#### Marshall University Baptist Campus Ministries

Sandra Clay of Hurricane First Baptist Church (Teays Valley) was greatly impacted by the Marshall University Baptist Campus Ministries' trip to Bolivia during their spring break. Having served alongside J.D. and Rhonda Reed, she wrote: "Bolivia was a trip that humbled me beyond belief. All too often, we take for granted our daily blessings and look at the world through a glass screen. By experiencing other communities' troubles first-hand, a fire was set in me that is spurring me to spread the gospel with those who need to hear it. Not only can I serve in other countries, but I was able to learn how to serve in my own community."





## A New Day in Missions

A few years ago, I was driving back from Senior Day at Camp Cowen and, for some reason, was overcome with a burden to pray for the nations. As I drove along Birch River Road, I remember praying for all the nations that came to mind, praying specifically for those that were closed or hostile to the gospel. Continuing to pray as I turned on to Interstate 79, making my way back to Charleston, I noticed a car stranded alongside the road with a man standing in front, frantically waving for assistance. A storm was quickly brewing and he was hoping to hitch a ride for himself and his two sons before the weather got any worse. Agreeing to pick them up, I asked where he was from and he quickly responded, "Pakistan." I had literally just finished praying for Pakistan!

They needed a ride to Institute to meet their extended family, which meant I had an hour to engage this family in gospel conversation. I quickly learned he had never heard of Jesus, nor had he ever seen a Bible. After confirming he could read English, I gave him mine.

When we arrived at the destination, the man thanked me for the ride and invited me to join his extended family for dinner. With no other plans that evening, I quickly accepted and followed him inside. Meeting me at the door were his cousins and their in-laws, all from Saudi Arabia. I had also prayed specifically for Saudi Arabia! Sitting around the dinner table, I was also able to share the gospel with them.

Is God not creative!? Combined, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan have over 200 million people, and more than 90% of them have never heard the gospel. Some sources suggest they are two of the most closed-off groups to Christianity. However, 2,000 years ago, we were commissioned to go and make disciples among them (Matthew 28:18-20), but history shows we have neglected that call. It is estimated that 88% of the people in that region of the world will live their entire lives without

ever meeting a Christian. Paul asks the questions in Romans 10:13-15 (in reverse order):

*And how are they to preach unless they are sent?*

*And how are they to hear without someone preaching?*

*And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?*

*How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed?*

*For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*

We see that salvation is dependent on calling, and calling is dependent on believing, and believing is dependent on hearing, and hearing is dependent on preaching, and preaching is dependent on being sent. After neglecting Christ's commission to go to all nations, could it be He is now sending the nations to us? Is God creative enough to do that?

Since that time, God has opened my eyes to the nations all around us. My neighbor is from Egypt, several local restaurant owners are from Syria and at the University of Charleston, where my wife and I have helped lead Baptist Campus Ministries for the last eight years, there are nearly 50 countries represented. God is literally bringing the nations to us. Could missions ever be so easy?

This generation is bringing with it a new day of missions. William Carey had to get on a boat to take the gospel to India. For many of us, we can just walk across the street. Countries that have historically been hard-to-reach or closed off to the gospel are enrolling in our universities, or working at our hospitals or moving in next door. The call to "go" is still essential, but we now also have a call to "welcome." This is a new day in missions.



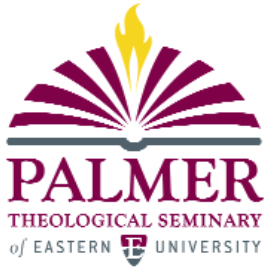
August 9-11 at Camp Cowen  
**Camp Global 2019**  
Immigration, Emigration and the Gospel  
*Stories on how the movement of people is opening doors to the gospel like never before*



**Missionaries:**  
**Dan and Sarah Chetti**

Register online at [www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org)

## ***Palmer Seminary's West Virginia Program Holds Annual Graduation***



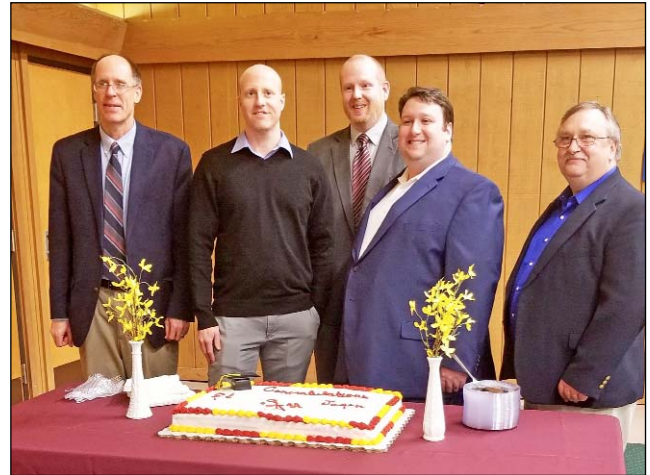
Palmer Seminary's West Virginia Program held its annual graduation banquet at Parchment Valley Conference Center on March 26, 2019. The event recognizes the accomplishments of the upcoming graduates and celebrates the partnership between the seminary and the West Virginia Baptist Convention.

This year's graduates included Rev. (Charles) Ed Rogers and Rev. Seth Fallon, both recipients of the Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) degree. Rev. Jason Robbins was honored for completing his Master of Divinity (M.Div.) degree.

Other participants in the program included Dr. Allan Copenhaver, program director; Dr. Mike Sisson, Executive Minister of the West Virginia Baptist Convention; Dr. David Bronkema, seminary dean; and Dr. Lloyd Hamblin, administrator of the Bowen Charitable Trust.

Those interested in receiving more information about the program should contact program director, Allan Copenhaver

at 304.763.8564 or [allancopenhaver@yahoo.com](mailto:allancopenhaver@yahoo.com). A new Doctor of Ministry cohort is scheduled to begin this fall. Applicant deadline is July 1, 2019.



*David Brokema (l), Allan Copenhaver (m) and Mike Sisson (r) join Seth Fallon (second from left) and Jason Robbins to celebrate their graduation from the Palmer Seminary West Virginia Program.*

## ***Frank and Teresa Miller Receive Matherly Award***

Another important part of Palmer Seminary's West Virginia annual graduation banquet is the presentation of the Robert E. Matherly Award. The award is given in memory of Matherly whose vision made the West Virginia program possible. Matherly, a native of southern West Virginia, attended what was then Eastern Baptist Seminary before pastoring churches in the greater Philadelphia area. He and his wife, Gaye, then returned to finish his ministry career in West Virginia. It was during this time he shared his plan for bringing seminary education to West Virginia. Past winners of the award are listed on a plaque in the Matherly classroom in



*Allan Copenhaver (l) presents the Robert E. Matherly to Teresa and Frank Miller, co directors of Parchment Valley Conference Center.*

the Santrock Education Building at Parchment Valley.

This year's recipients were Rev. Frank and Teresa Miller. As director and assistant director of Parchment Valley Conference Center, they work in direct contact with seminary staff and students. Their commitment to excellence ensures the seminary has a long-term future in West Virginia and at Parchment Valley. The seminary leadership is so appreciative of Frank and Teresa's investment in the program.

## ***Adult Discipleship: Journey Alongside***

What is discipleship? How can I help someone become more Christ-like? How does your church “do” discipleship? What are the barriers to participation in discipleship activities? Have you asked these questions or heard someone in your church ask these questions? The West Virginia Baptist Convention Discipleship Commission invites you to a daylong Discipleship Event on Saturday, August 24, 2019 at Parchment Valley Conference Center. Our goal is to help answer these questions and more.

The theme is *Bearers of Hope: Journey Alongside*. The event won't give you a ready-to-use curriculum or a one size-fits-all approach. Instead, you will discover relational principles applicable to your life's diverse set of relationships. Dane Allphin, Navigators Regional Leader, will be the guest speaker. The theme is inspired by Bill Mowry's book, [The Ways of the Alongsider-Growing Disciples Life to Life](#). Dane will share with us the four words of discipleship: disciple, discipleship,

discipling and disciple making. He will then unpack the concept of R + 2D + 3A: Relationships (with God and Others) + Discovery and Discussion (2D) around the Bible + Application, Accountability and Affirmation (3A). He will finish the afternoon with an invitation to engage in the scriptures.

One of the key passages to explore will be Jesus' last words to His disciples: “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20

I pray God will raise up an ever-growing movement of alongsiders who are living the Great Commission right where they live, work, play or worship. These alongsiders are committed to relational strategies - making disciples one conversation and one relationship at a time. Welcome to the adventure of the alongsider.

*How do we make disciples in the local church?*

# **BEARERS OF HOPE: Journey Alongside**

*A one-day Discipleship Event*

**Saturday, August 24, 2019  
Parchment Valley Conference Center**

*9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.*

***Fee: \$20.00, if postmarked by August 12, 2019***

***After August 12 or at the door: \$30.00***



**Speaker: Dane Allphin,  
Navigators Regional Leader**

*Visit [www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org) to register.*



# Meet the Interns

## BRADLEY CHENAULT

Bradley is graduating with a Regents Bachelor of Arts degree from Marshall University in August of 2019. He enjoys playing guitar, hiking, spending time with friends, reading and studying. He feels a call to vocational ministry, but is still exploring the specifics of his calling. He also plans to become a substitute teacher in the near future. Bradley comes to us from New Baptist Church (Guyandotte). He will be serving this summer as a children's ministry intern at Mount Vernon Baptist Church (Teays Valley).



## ALEX BOCK

Alex will be graduating from Marshall University with a bachelor's degree in Accounting. After graduation, he plans on relocating to Ripley to continue at Parchment Valley Baptist Church (Good Hope), where he is currently a youth ministry intern. He also plans to attend seminary. Alex enjoys playing soccer, board games and reading. He participated as a Youth Leader Core leader in 2018-2019, and has been a counselor at Camp Cowen.



## SAWYER SCHULTZ

Sawyer is a sophomore political science major at Berea College. His home church is Hurricane First Baptist Church (Teays Valley). He plays in the Berea College Jazz Band, has worked and counseled at Camp Cowen and is the emcee for CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ). He is interested in youth ministry, but is also interested in exploring work in teaching and government. He is interning this summer as a youth ministry intern at Oakwood Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley).



## DANIEL MCGUIRE

Daniel is a graduating senior from Notre Dame High School in Clarksburg. He is the yearbook editor, Key club secretary, basketball team manager and a member of the track team. His home church is Philippi Baptist Church (Union). He is in the National Honor Society and will be attending West Virginia University in the fall with a major in Environmental and Energy Resources management. He is interested in becoming a professor at a research university, teaching middle or high school aged kids and would like to own a bakery. He will be an intern in youth ministry this summer at New Hope Baptist Church (Parkersburg).



## BREELLEN FLEMING

Breellen Fleming will be serving at Oakwood Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) working in cross-cultural ministry, and also helping the West Virginia Baptist Convention on a special project for the School of Christian Studies. She is a native of Elizabeth and her home church is Glenville First Baptist Church (Little Kanawha). She attends West Virginia University (WVU) as a Photography and Intermedia major and plans a career as an Environmental Documentarian. She is active in the WVU Baptist Campus Ministries and the Conversation Club. She enjoys drawing and guitar. Bree is a returning intern, and served last summer in graphic design and journalism.



## JORDAN LALLEMONT

Jordan comes to us from Emmanuel Baptist Church (Parkersburg). She is a graduating English major receiving a bachelor's from Marshall University this May. She has been on several overseas mission trips and has a passion for missions. About this summer, she says, "I'm excited to work with the youth group at my home church this summer and I'm not sure what I will be doing in the fall, but I'm excited to see what God has in store."



## MANDI SMITH

Mandi is an upcoming junior at West Virginia University where her major is Religious Studies. Her career plan involves youth ministry. Her hobbies and activities include playing music, the West Virginia University Baptist Campus Worship team and hiking. She attends New Hill Church in Morgantown.



## SARAH MCCLOY

Sarah is a graduate student at Gardner-Webb University in North Carolina studying for a Master of Divinity with a concentration in Pastoral Care and Counseling. In addition to her studies, she works with the university's Housing and Residence Education staff as a Graduate Resident Director. Her hobbies include reading, hiking, playing board games, dancing, traveling and cooking. Her favorite way to relax at the end of a long day is to have friends over to cook dinner and watch Korean television. She graduated from Houghton College with a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Theology and International Development and has interned with International Missions. She is passionate about cross-cultural ministry and plans to be a missionary. Her internship is with Milton Baptist Church (Guyandotte) in youth ministry.



## ELIZABETH PALMER

Elizabeth will start this fall as an early childhood education major at Cedarville University. She is a member at Worthington Baptist Church (Fairmont), and is active in women's groups at both the association and state level. She will be interning this summer at Parchment Valley Baptist Church (Good Hope) and working in their youth department.



## ROBERT VILLERS

Robert is a senior youth ministry major at Alderson Broaddus University. He comes to us from Philippi Baptist Church (Union), where he has been a youth ministry intern. He will be serving this summer at Salem Baptist Church (Broad Run). He is a part of Baptist Campus Ministries at Alderson Broaddus University and was president of the organization last year. He also leads the Celebrate Recovery youth at his home church. He plans on a career in youth ministry.



## REBEKAH MCCLOY

Rebekah will be a Junior English Education major at Marshall University. She plans on becoming a teacher or a librarian following graduation, while also serving in youth/children's ministry. She is a member at Lifespring Community Church (Good Hope), and attends New Baptist Church (Guyandotte) when at school. This year, she will be on the Leadership Team with Marshall University's Baptist Campus Ministries. She loves Star Trek, reading and collecting books. She is returning to Newark Baptist Church (Parkersburg) as a youth and children's ministry intern.



## JOHN PARSONS

John comes to us from Pine Grove Baptist Church (Parkersburg). He is a graduate of Parkersburg High School, and has worked with the youth and children at his home church. He has been a leader in the church's Awana program. He is planning on attending Liberty University in the fall with a major in either youth ministry or pastoral care.



## ELI WILLIAMS

Eli comes to us from Clarksburg Baptist Church (Union). He is a graduating high school senior and is headed to West Virginia University in the fall. His major is undecided, but he desires to minor in music. He is interested in being a studio and gig musician/music producer. He has a passion for children's ministry, and will be interning with his home church.



## JACOB MCGUIRE

Jacob McGuire is a resident of Philippi and a May 2019 graduate of Notre Dame High School. During high school, he attended the American Legion Mountaineer Boys State at Jackson's Mill, participated in the swim, track and soccer teams. He is a West Virginia PROMISE scholar and will attend West Virginia University in the fall. He is a member of Philippi Baptist Church (Union). During his free time, he enjoys playing guitar, spending time with friends, family and his cats and all things outdoors. He will be interning with Philippi Baptist Church in worship and communications.





# Southeast Area News

**Jim Anderson**, Southeast Area Minister

## CSX Conservation Fund Awards Grant to Crab Orchard Baptist Church

The N.O.W. (Neighbors on Wheels) Mission Outreach Team from Crab Orchard Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh) has been awarded a matching grant of \$10,000 from the CSX Conservation Fund for transporting healthy food. This grant will allow for purchasing of refrigerated transportation to serve those with hunger challenges in the local community with meat, dairy products and produce. The Crab Orchard Baptist Church N.O.W. team is an agent of



Crab Orchard Baptist Church pastor, Scott Dameron (r), with grant writer Becky Rector (l) and N.O.W. Team Member Sue Swepton, celebrate news of the grant.

Mountaineer Food Bank and works with local businesses to secure food for transport.

Neighbors on Wheels serves with the mission of meeting needs in the community, building relationships and sharing the love of Jesus with their neighbors. This mobile food ministry operates year-round, going weekly to locations in the community and offering a “mini food pantry.” Recipes are shared, taste testing is provided and information is given on food items.

This grant will allow N.O.W. to provide the required refrigeration and allow the team to move further out to different locations serving additional neighbors.

Going into the community with “physical food” allows N.O.W. to offer “spiritual food” by sharing scriptures, prayers and personal testimonies. Neighbors on Wheels looks forward to the new opportunities this grant will afford.

## Southwest Area News

**Evan Arkell**, Southwest Area Minister

### Spring in the Southwest Area

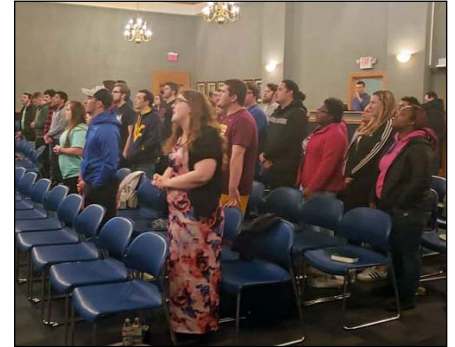
Spring has sprung in the Mountain State and outdoor activities are keeping many groups busy. I had the pleasure of participating in the Annual Shepherd’s Cup Golf Scramble at Sugarwood Golf Course in Lavalette. Ron McClung, pastor of Mount Vernon Baptist Church (Teays Valley) has organized this event for quite a few years to raise money for different mission projects. My golf was bad, but a good time was had by all.

I was blessed to participate in the installation service of Josh Clay, pastor of Olive Baptist Church (Coal River). This is Josh’s first pastorate and he comes from Danville First Baptist Church (Coal River), where he served as a deacon. We are excited to see what God has in store for Olive Baptist Church and welcome the opportunity to continue to work with Josh through the Coal River Association.

10 *The West Virginia Baptist*/June-July

## Christian Student Union and Baptist Campus Ministry at WVU-Tech Celebrate Jesus Week

The spring semester at West Virginia University Institute of Technology (WVU-Tech) has been exciting as the Christian Student Union and the Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM) at Tech sponsored *Jesus Week* for the first time on its new Beckley Campus, uniting all five ministry groups together under one roof. *Jesus Week* consisted of worship, message, fellowship and food. This event was student led with over 65 students joining the event throughout the week. The Christian Student Union is celebrating its 41st year of ministry on the Tech campus this year! The BCM Associate at WVU-Tech is Anthony Pratt.



West Virginia University Institute of Technology students worship the Lord during *Jesus Week* services.

## West Point Baptist Church Celebrates 160th Anniversary

Since 1859, the West Point Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh) has had an active ministry in the Asbury Community. On June 23, 2019, West Point Baptist Church will be celebrating their 160th anniversary with a special two-hour service. Lunch will be served and musical guests will be included in the afternoon service.

The Logan-Mingo men continue to gather regularly for prayer breakfasts, where we pray, have a devotion and seek God’s will for what He wants this group to be and what He wants this group to do to advance His kingdom.

I was also blessed to speak at the Coal River Association American Baptist Women’s Ministries’ rally at Forks of Coal Missionary Baptist Church (Coal River), where the ladies were working on creating their own prayer journals.

Blessings were shared by all of our churches in the gatherings that led up to and on Resurrection Sunday as we celebrated our risen Savior, Lord Jesus. May we all continually be reminded not to seek the living among the dead, “*He is not here: for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.*” Matthew 28:6 (KJV)

## Northwest Area News

**Mark McCloy**, Northwest Area Minister

### **The Good Hope Association Roving Revival**

There are some events that just seem to work - and to work well - regularly. One I am very fond of is the Good Hope Association Roving Revival. Even though "experts" tell us the age of revivals is over, and for many places, that seems to be the case, this event just seems to get better every year. I have written about it before, but anything that gets over 200 people out on a Wednesday night is worth revisiting. So, once again, let me share the "secret" recipe, just in case



*Rev. George Chandler*

you think this might work in your association. First, there is food. A different church hosts the meeting each night, and that church provides dinner an hour before the service. This means there is also fellowship - as people have opportunity each night to sit at the table and talk, catch up and build relationships. There is good preaching, with a different preacher each night from one of the association churches. There is special music -

usually a choir from one church and a small group or solo from another. There is shared responsibility - the work each night is thus divided between three or more churches. There is community. And there is time awareness, as the service is usually only a little over an hour long. I wonder where such a wonderful recipe could be found? *"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer (Acts 2:42, NIV)."* Sometimes the old recipes are the best.



*The choir of Ravenswood First Baptist Church (Good Hope).*

## Northeast Area News

**David Hulme**, Northeast Area Minister

### **Middleville Presents Dramatic Portrayal of The Last Supper**



*Allen Rosenberger (center) portrays Jesus in the presentation of The Last Supper.*

Members and friends of Middleville Baptist Church (Union) presented a dramatic portrayal of The Last Supper, April 7, 2019 as part of the Union Association Lenten Worship series. A service of communion followed the presentation. This moving portrayal has become an annual event at the church. Rev. Paul Boyles is pastor at Middleville Baptist Church.

### **Gerald Nuzum Honored on His Retirement**

Rev. Gerald Nuzum was honored, April 28, 2019 by Boothsville Baptist Church (Fairmont) on the occasion of his retirement. Gerald, and his wife Dorthey, began serving the church in May 2010. Following the morning worship service, he was honored with a luau in the church's fellowship hall.



*Pastor Gerald Nuzum*

### **Union Association Hosts Revival Services**

The Union Association will host its annual revival, June 6-8, 2019 at the Barbour County Fairgrounds. Services begin at 7:00 p.m. each evening. Speakers include Rev. Mark Davis, Faith Baptist Church; Rev. Paul Byrd, Mount Vernon Baptist Church (Union); and Rev. Chuck McDonald, Beulah Baptist Church (Union). Special music will include Josh Oldaker, Dustin Lambert and the Denton King and Friends Band.



# Mission Partnership Updates

## RUSSIA

by David Bess, pastor, Beulah Baptist Church (Union)

The present ministry of the West Virginia Baptist



Campers enjoying the new campground facility

Convention Russia Mission Partnership is three-fold. First, there is an economic development program. Because of a grant from One Great Hour of Sharing, a pool of funds is available to provide micro-loans to start Christian businesses. These businesses agree to repay the loans over a period of three years, and to tithe to the Ryazan Baptist Church, of which the owners must be a member. Second, there is

financial support provided through gifts from West Virginia Baptist Convention churches. This support can be designated to aid the ministry of a partner church in Ryazan or to benefit the partnership as a whole. Individual Ryazan Baptist Churches have several projects to support, such as halfway houses, building programs and various children's ministries including camps and orphanages. The Ryazan Baptist Union has also started a campground facility very similar to the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen. Third, and most importantly, there are the many mutually inspiring relationships that exist between West

Virginia Baptists and Ryazan Baptists. Witnessing how God is at work in the lives of believers from both countries never ceases to be a catalyst for awe and worship.



Campers spent time playing soccer.

The West Virginia Baptist

Convention/Russia Mission Partnership is now transitioning into a second, younger generation. Other regions of the Russia Baptist Union, in addition to Ryazan, are being considered for missionary outreach and support. Although the standard of living has risen since the fall of communism, it is still far below the standard of living in America. Ministry resources in Russia are scarce, but Russian believers are amazing in their extremely efficient use of money and materials. With gifts and encouragement from West Virginia Baptists, much more can be done to share the gospel and to make disciples throughout the vast, expansive land of Russia.

Russian Baptists have a heritage of severe persecution for their devotion to Christ. Their predecessors were arrested and removed from their families for leading church services. Russian Baptists are very Biblical in their worldview and very conservative in their theology and are deeply devoted to missions.

## CUBA

by Max Hill, interim pastor, Danville First Baptist Church (Coal River)

When I return to Cuba later this year (2019), it will mark



Jordan Baptist Church in Havana, Cuba

the 29th consecutive year I have visited that island nation. That sentence fills me with surprise, joy, wonder and gratitude to the Lord God! It was never supposed to be like this. When I began this journey in 1991, it was to be a once in a lifetime

visit to a closed, Communist country. An ongoing, life-changing partnership had never crossed my mind.

The ministry has grown and changed over the years - many of the mission activities that mission groups often do are not feasible, and in some cases not needed in Cuba. For example, Cubans have cradle to grave medical care. While they often lack many of the technologies and drugs we take for granted, they educate a surplus of medical providers. Every neighborhood has a doctor.

What kind of ministry is this, then? At its best, it is a ministry of presence and relationship. We visit and encourage

churches and pastors of the Fraternity of Cuban Baptist Churches. Their highest priority is for us to be with them. Out of our relationships, we have grown a vibrant ministry of assistance and development. Through the generosity of our friends, we have been instrumental in helping them to procure and develop their national camp. We have been able to help churches secure property and build buildings. Pastors have been educated and their salaries subsidized. We even held a pastor's family retreat for all the pastors of the fraternity.

Of course, any partnership benefits both partners. The association with the Cuban church has been of great value to me, personally, and to those who have traveled with me. For instance, Cuban Baptists have taught us how to be a church in a hostile society that seeks to marginalize the church - that is a great lesson for the American church.

The depth of their faith and the beauty of their witness has been transformative for many of us. This event expresses it well. One of our Cuban brothers gave a shirt to a non-Christian man in his community. When asked why, he answered simply, "I had two shirts (literally) and he didn't have one. Such actions glorify God and move us to greater obedience and faithfulness.



Cubans in worship at Faithful Remnant Baptist Church in Zulueta

## ***Blessed to Be a Blessing: Mulneix Celebrates 20 Years with American Baptist Churches, International Ministries***

by *Debbie Mulneix*



*Debbie Mulneix*

I don't know about you, but anniversaries and birthdays make my mind wander to the past, and to the future. July 1, 2019 will mark my 20th anniversary with American Baptist Churches, International Ministries, and I have been reflecting on the changes I have witnessed in our international and local partners as well as myself.

On the international front, one of the major transformations is in the field of discipleship and missions. More and more of our partners around the world are developing their own mission departments. They are sending out missionaries to surrounding countries on a regular basis. This might make it seem that our partnership with them should be coming to an end. However, our relationships have progressed past the "big-brother-with-all-the-right-answers" to "neighbor/friend-who-has-lots-of-tools-and-wants-to-help-the-neighborhood-to-be-the-best-possible." Short-term and long-term missionaries are more intent on allowing the people to set their own goals and plan their own programs. This is the model of Christ and His followers.

Working with short-term mission teams and individuals has allowed me to see more and more of them sharing their experiences with their home churches as well as at regional gatherings and organizational meetings. Our West Virginia Baptists have become adept at sharing their observations as well as their feelings concerning missions. They are willing to speak and show pictures of these experiences. Just ask them.

It is an honor to be an American Baptist Missionary from West Virginia. I thank you for allowing me to work with you, represent you and give you glimpses of the way God has called our entire state into partnership around the world. If I can ever be of service to you or your church or if you are interested in finding out how you can serve God overseas, please contact me at [dmulneix@aol.com](mailto:dmulneix@aol.com).

Thank you for the many ways you support the ministry of Christ to Asia and to our Asian partners. Your support is not something that is taken lightly.

Blessings to West Virginia Baptist churches and their work around the world, in the United States and in cities and towns in West Virginia. We are truly "blessed to be a blessing."

## ***God is Moving in Mexico***

by *Keith and Debbie Myers*

Greetings from the Myers in Puebla, Mexico! Many times we wonder why God has blessed us with the ministry and relationships we have, and He always answers with "Obedience." We are trying to be obedient in all He asks us to do and be, and sometimes we succeed and other times we fail. There is no failure unless we stop moving forward and trying. So we keep our heads up and keep trusting Him.



Several exciting things are happening in Mexico as we write this message. We are thankful for your partnering with us in each of these items, both in the past and in the future. God is moving in Mexico! Thank you for partnering with Him.

Earlier this year we requested support, both financial and prayer, as we began the process of providing Vacation Bible School to over 30 churches in five states with multiple languages and hundreds of children. We are very thankful to report we have received almost \$7,000 in funding for this work, and God is beginning to open our eyes to even more opportunities on how to provide the Vacation Bible School curriculum to each church. We want to thank each one who has contributed to that effort. The funding raised will allow us to provide Bible class stories, games, snacks and music, all in Spanish and in culture-specific teaching.

As part of the call God has laid on our hearts, we have created a stewardship class for the Mexican indigenous communities that we work in and serve. We have thus far taught this three-week course to eight different communities, and it has been well-received. We ask for your continued prayers for this course as well as for the communities we will be teaching it to in the future. We look forward to working with the groups and communities we get to serve in and with, and ask you to consider serving with us as well. We are always happy to have teams come to serve and nurture the relationships God intends us to have with ourselves, our fellow man, our Creator and His creation.

Boyden and Baillie are both doing well at Biola, with Boyden finishing his junior year and Baillie completing her sophomore year. Boyden presented a research project he and his chemistry team have worked on over the past year and the team won multiple awards. Baillie is continuing her studies and considering missions after school finishes for her. They both excelled in their classes, finished their exams and are looking forward to summer and the opportunities they have coming with it. Keith and I are both doing well physically, mentally and emotionally, and our Spirits are high with God's flame upon us. We are thankful for each of you as you pray for our family and want you to know we pray for you and yours as well. As we say in our churches when we enter and exit, Dios le bendiga! (God bless you!)



**JIMMIE LEE BROWNING**, 79, of Racine, died April 13, 2019. He was a member of Racine First Baptist Church (Coal River), where he served as a deacon and Sunday School teacher.

**MARGARET JEANNE DYE**, 83, of Mineral Wells, died March 12, 2019. She was an active member of Mount Zion Baptist Church (Parkersburg), where she played the piano and accordion. She has now joined her husband of 65 years, Paul Dye on the golden streets of heaven.

**JAMES ARLIE HARKER**, 77, of Fairview, died April 1, 2019. He was a member of Saint Paul Baptist Church (Fairmont), serving as a deacon, Sunday School teacher and presenter of children's sermons.

**DENTON LOTZ**, 80, of Forestdale, Massachusetts, died April 23, 2019. He was an International Ministries' (IM) alumnus.

**TOMMY J. LUZADER**, 93, died January 11, 2019. He was a member of Glenville First Baptist Church (Little Kanawha).

**FRANCES JUNE DAVIS MASON**, 97, of Nutter Fort, died May 1, 2019. She was the oldest member of Nutter Fort First Baptist Church (Judson), where she attended for 81 years. She was a member of American Baptist Women's Ministries, where she held an office.

**VIRGINIA MATHENY MINOR**, 88, of Shinnston, died April 20, 2019. She was a lifelong member of North Shinnston Baptist Church (Judson), where she served as clerk, Bible study teacher as well as other positions in the church. She was past president of Baptist Youth Fellowship and American Baptist Women's Ministries.

**NYLA POOLE**, 82, died February 14, 2019, exactly 60 years after joining Glenville First Baptist Church (Little Kanawha). She served on many boards and committees.

**SANDRA LYNNE SKEENES**, 77, died March 15, 2019. She was a member of Forks of Coal Missionary Baptist Church (Coal River), where she served as music director and accompanist.

**DAVID HAMILTON STEPHENS**, 74, formerly of Parkersburg, died in Fort Worth, Texas, May 1, 2019. He was a long-time member of New England Baptist Church (Parkersburg). Throughout his high school and college years he was very active in Baptist Youth Fellowship and West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen.

**EVA STOUT**, 74, died March 9, 2019. She was a member of Glenville First Baptist Church (Little Kanawha).

**DEAN STRICKLAND**, 80, died February 26, 2019. He was a faithful member of Glenville First Baptist Church (Little Kanawha), where he served on many boards and committees. He was a mentor to children and youth. He had a passion for mission work, especially the Friends of Fort Liberté Orphanage in Haiti and his own community.

**BOBBY LEE WOOD**, of Greenbelt, Maryland, formerly of West Virginia, died March 15, 2019. He was licensed to preach in 1963 by Dunbar First Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) under the ministry of George R. Pauley. He was ordained into the gospel ministry in 1966 at Chesapeake First Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) and served as pastor to churches in Chesapeake; Huntington; Montgomery; Sistersville; Raleigh, North Carolina; and Lynchburg, Virginia. He also served as an area minister for the West Virginia Baptist Convention from 1988-1997. While in this position, he founded the School of Christian Studies and served as mentor to many pastors in the state. In his retirement, he taught many Bible studies and workshops throughout West Virginia, Virginia and Maryland.

## Reducing the Risk

Is your ministry doing everything reasonably possible to ensure the safety of the children and youth entrusted to your care?

Today, it's more important than ever for churches to develop screening and supervision programs that include policies, forms, procedures and training for all who work with children and youth - paid staff and volunteers alike.

The West Virginia Baptist Convention would like to assist churches with reducing the risk in your ministries. Koreen Villers, director of Discipleship, is available to assist any West Virginia Baptist Convention church with their policies, forms, procedures and/or training. Koreen uses materials provided by Church Law and Tax and Brotherhood Mutual Insurance. If you are interested in scheduling a training or a meeting to discuss your church policies, please reach out to Koreen at [villers@wvbc.org](mailto:villers@wvbc.org).

## Leadership Updates

**MR. JOSHUA E. CLAY** to Olive Baptist Church (Coal River) as pastor on March 1, 2019

**REV. MICHAEL S. COOL** to Holly River Baptist Church (Elk Valley) as interim pastor on April 10, 2019

**REV. LARRY KINCELL** to Mannington First Baptist Church (Fairmont) as interim pastor on February 17, 2019

## Trading Post

**FREE SUNDAY SCHOOL CURRICULUM** - Vienna Baptist Church (Parkersburg) is offering their recently completed Sunday School series *The Gospel Project* to any church fellowship that would like to have it. The materials include teacher's manuals and student workbooks. If interested, please call the church office at 304.295.4578 or e-mail [dwight@viennabaptist.com](mailto:dwight@viennabaptist.com).

## June 2019

**JUNE 1** - Kurt Smalley, International Ministries' Global Servant to Hungary  
**JUNE 2** - The ministry of Coon's Run Baptist Church; Sonny Palmer, pastor (Judson)  
**JUNE 3** - The ministry of Faith Baptist Tabernacle; Timothy Skaggs, pastor (Elk Valley)  
**JUNE 4** - Patricia Magal, International Ministries' Global Servant to Thailand  
**JUNE 5** - David Bush, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission  
**JUNE 6** - The ministry of Reedy Baptist Church; Bill Stewart, pastor (Good Hope)  
**JUNE 7** - Younger Midler Camp begins today at Camp Cowen  
**JUNE 8** - Phil Smith, International Ministries' Global Servant to Brazil  
**JUNE 9** - Junior 1 Camp begins today at Camp Cowen  
**JUNE 10** - The ministry of Union Baptist Church; Rick Watson, pastor (Guyandotte)  
**JUNE 11** - Nathaniel McCurdy, International Ministries' Global Servant (youth) to Costa Rica  
**JUNE 12** - The ministry of Dixie First Baptist Church (Hopewell)  
**JUNE 13** - The ministry of Scott Street Baptist Church; Garry Moore, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)  
**JUNE 14** - Sarah McCurdy, International Ministries' Global Servant to Costa Rica  
**JUNE 15** - Vital Pierre, International Ministries' Global Servant to the Dominican Republic  
**JUNE 16** - Junior High 1 Camp begins today at Camp Cowen  
**JUNE 17** - The ministry of Mount Vernon Baptist Church; Roger Fontaine, pastor (Broad Run)  
**JUNE 18** - Jeff Dieselberg, International Ministries' Global Servant to Thailand  
**JUNE 19** - Daniela Bonilla, International Ministries' Global Servant (youth) to Colombia  
**JUNE 20** - Elizabeth Good, International Ministries' Global Servant (youth) to Hungary  
**JUNE 21** - The American Baptist Churches' Biennial begins today at Virginia Beach, Virginia  
**JUNE 22** - Brooke Estep, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission  
**JUNE 23** - Brothers' Keeper begins today at Parchment Valley Conference Center  
**JUNE 24** - Junior 2 Camp happens this week at Camp Cowen  
**JUNE 25** - Valma Adams, office manager and administrative assistant for Discipleship Ministries, West Virginia Baptist Convention  
**JUNE 26** - Katrinka Nambu, International Ministries' Global Servant (youth) to the Philippines  
**JUNE 27** - Peter McCurdy, International Ministries' Global Servant to Costa Rica  
**JUNE 28** - Celestyna Hoefle, International Ministries' Global Servant (youth) to Thailand  
**JUNE 29** - The ministry of Hebron Baptist Church (Fairmont)  
**JUNE 30** - High School 1 Camp begins today at Camp Cowen

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

## July 2019

**JULY 1** - The ministry of Gilboa Baptist Church; Larry Greathouse, pastor (Good Hope)  
**JULY 2** - Shannon Earle, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission  
**JULY 3** - The ministry of Highland Avenue Baptist Church (Rockcastle)  
**JULY 4** - Hefziba Aragon, International Ministries' Global Servant (youth) to Mexico  
**JULY 5** - The ministry of Bethel Baptist Church; John Vetter, pastor (Eastern)  
**JULY 6** - The ministry of Kingwood Baptist Church (Goshen)  
**JULY 7** - Junior High 2 Camp begins today at Camp Cowen  
**JULY 8** - Tim Rice, International Ministries' Global Servant to the Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**JULY 9** - The ministry of Peterstown Missionary Baptist Church; Bryan Pruett, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)  
**JULY 10** - The ministry of Newton Memorial Baptist Church; Curtis Harris, pastor (Hopewell)  
**JULY 11** - Madeline Flores-Lopez, International Ministries' Global Servant to the Dominican Republic  
**JULY 12** - The ministry of Sand Fork Baptist Church; Donald Dague, pastor (Little Kanawha)  
**JULY 13** - The ministry of Racine First Baptist Church; Anthony Pratt, pastor (Coal River)  
**JULY 14** - High School 2 Camp begins today at Camp Cowen  
**JULY 15** - Elianna McCurdy, International Ministries' Global Servant (youth) to Costa Rica  
**JULY 16** - Catherine Longkumer, International Ministries' Global Servant to India  
**JULY 17** - The ministry of Huntington Baptist Temple; Andy Magnusson, pastor (Guyandotte)  
**JULY 18** - The ministry of Mount Hope Baptist Temple; Jim Ash, pastor (Fayette)  
**JULY 19** - Katrina Williams, International Ministries' Global Servant to the Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**JULY 20** - The ministry of Sunrise Baptist Church; Casey Dawson, pastor (Parkersburg)  
**JULY 21** - Larry Stanton, International Ministries' Global Servant to Hungary  
**JULY 22** - The ministry of Agape Baptist Church (Panhandle)  
**JULY 23** - The ministry of Harmony Baptist Church; David Radcliff, pastor (Teays Valley)  
**JULY 24** - The ministry of Grafton First Baptist Church; Orville Wright, pastor (Union)  
**JULY 25** - Rockcastle Association as they celebrate their annual meeting  
**JULY 26** - Family Camp begins today at Camp Cowen  
**JULY 27** - Dan Meadows, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission  
**JULY 28** - The ministry of Calvary Baptist Church; Archie Snedegar, interim pastor (Kanawha Valley)  
**JULY 29** - The ministry of Big Hurricane Baptist Church; Anthony Perry, pastor (Twelve Pole)  
**JULY 30** - Rob Ely, director, Student Ministries, West Virginia Baptist Convention  
**JULY 31** - Older Midler Camp happens this week at Camp Cowen



# Coming Events

## JUNE 2019

**June 7-9**  
*Younger Midler Camp (grades 2-4)*  
Camp Cowen  
Registration begins at 3:00 p.m.

**June 9-15**  
*Junior 1 Camp (grades 5-6)*  
Camp Cowen  
Registration begins at 3:00 p.m.

**June 16-22**  
*Junior High 1 Camp (grades 7-9)*  
Camp Cowen  
Registration begins at 3:00 p.m.

**June 21-23**  
*ABCUSA Biennial*  
Virginia Beach Convention Center,  
Virginia

**June 23-28**  
*Brothers' Keeper*  
Parchment Valley Conference Center

**June 23-29**  
*Junior 2 Camp (grades 5-6)*  
Camp Cowen  
Registration begins at 3:00 p.m.

**June 29**  
*School of Christian Studies Baptist Polity (E-01) One-Day Class*  
Parchment Valley Conference Center in the Santrock Education Center or Elkins First Baptist Church  
Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Classes begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 2:15 p.m.

**June 30-July 6**  
*High School 1 Camp (grades 9-12)*  
Camp Cowen  
Registration begins at 3:00 p.m.

## JULY 2019

**July 4**  
*Independence Day Holiday*  
West Virginia Baptist Convention  
Office CLOSED

**July 7-13**  
*Junior High 2 Camp (grades 7-9)*  
Camp Cowen  
Registration begins at 3:00 p.m.

**July 13**  
*Senior Day (for high school grads)*  
Camp Cowen

**July 14-20**  
*High School 2 Camp (grades 9-12)*  
Camp Cowen  
Registration begins at 3:00 p.m.

**July 25**  
*Rockcastle Association Meeting*  
Rockcastle Baptist Church  
Registration begins at 4:30 p.m.

**July 26-29**  
*Family Camp*  
Camp Cowen  
Registration begins at 3:00 p.m.

**July 30-August 2**  
*Older Midler Camp (grades 3-4)*  
Camp Cowen  
Registration begins at 3:00 p.m.

## AUGUST 2019

**August 1**  
*Little Kanawha Association Annual Meeting*  
Mount Pisgah Baptist Church  
Registration begins at 4:30 p.m.

**August 2-4**  
*American Baptist Men and Boys' Camp*  
Camp Cowen  
Registration begins at 3:00 p.m.

# West Virginia Baptist Newsletter Submissions

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

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

The **West Virginia Baptist** is a newsletter of the West Virginia Baptist Convention, associated with the American Baptist Churches, USA, PO Box 1019, Parkersburg WV 26102; 304.422.6449. US Postage Paid at Parkersburg, West Virginia.  
**Executive Minister:** Dr. Michael Sisson  
**Editor:** Mr. Todd McClure  
**Assistant Editor:** Mrs. Valma Adams  
**Layout:** Mrs. Donna Snyder

West Virginia Baptist Convention  
P.O. Box 1019  
Parkersburg, WV 26102-1019

# Communications Relaunch

- New, improved email communications
- Get only the news that you want
- The best way to stay up-to-date with your WVBC family

Sign up now at  
[www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org)

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 36  
Parkersburg, WV