

WVBC Family Virtual Celebration

Begins October 13th

2020 ... It was supposed to be the year of perfect vision - the year we planted new churches, the year we started new ministries, the year we finally balanced the budget.

It was supposed to be the year **Camp Cowen** reached more youth, the year that **Parchment Valley's Brothers' Keeper** program completed more projects and the year more global mission partnerships were formed.

2020 didn't go like we had planned. But that doesn't mean God didn't speak. **In fact, in many ways God spoke louder this year than ever before!**

Though in-person camps were cancelled, **God spoke** through more than 1,500 kids who received **Camp-in-a-Box** this summer.

Celebrating their 20th year of ministry, **God spoke** through a special virtual **Brothers' Keeper**, which had more than 1,000 participants all over the world!

God spoke through the college students of **Baptist Campus Ministries**, many of whom began posting their testimonies online.

God spoke through the **Mentoring for Pastoral Excellence** program, where mentors and leaders navigated these uncharted waters together.

God spoke through more than 20 young adults who served our churches across the state through the **Ministry Internship Program**.

God spoke through the **Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies**, which was able to continue training through digital classes thanks to recent grants from the **Bowen Charitable Trust** and the **West Virginia Baptist Education Society**.

God spoke through the **women who helped make more than 10,000 masks** to secure a grant for the Fundación Proyecto de Esperanza.

God spoke through the men who continued to do **American Baptist Men Disaster Relief**.

God spoke through the **hundreds of individuals and churches** who have financially held the rope.

God spoke through the **legacy gifts and the ongoing legacies of those who have gone before us**.

God spoke through the nearly **400 churches** that make up the West Virginia Baptist Convention. **He spoke** through the **online sermons**. **He spoke** through the **parking lot services**. **He spoke** through **Zoom meetings, community outreaches, communion services and baptisms**. **God spoke** through the **men and women, boys and girls** who gave their lives to Christ.

2020 was very different than previous years, but in many ways **God has spoken louder than ever before!**

And that, my friends, deserves a celebration!

Join us later this month for a four-evening family celebration, as we celebrate the many ways we are *Doing Christ's Work Together*.

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



West Virginia Baptist Convention

There's an App for That!



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

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Come Let us Celebrate

Welcome to this special West Virginia Baptist Convention (WVBC) Family Celebration edition of the *West Virginia Baptist* newsletter! To say that these last six months have been unusual would be an understatement. In years past, this edition of the *WV Baptist* would announce the dates, location and events of the Annual Meeting of our Convention family, however the concerns and restrictions surrounding the COVID-19 virus have caused us to do things differently this year.

I would like to invite you to join with your Baptist brothers and sisters from around the state in a special time of celebration, beginning with this newsletter and culminating with a four-part WVBC Family Virtual Celebration, which will premiere October 13, 2020.

It would be easy to think that ministry during this pandemic has been paused, however as you will read in the stories found in this issue, God has been very active working in and through His people who together make up the WVBC family of churches! Now is the perfect time to celebrate God's goodness and guidance as we as a Convention family strive in this unusual season to find new and creative ways to **"Do Christ's Work Together!"** As the words of the great hymn of the faith written by Fanny Crosby proclaim, "To God be the glory, great things He hath done!"

Richest of Blessings,
Mike Sisson

WVBC Family Virtual Celebration Schedule

Each session will last approximately 30 minutes and will be full of highlights and updates. Sessions will be streamed to both our Facebook page and our YouTube channel, and the link will also be e-mailed out on the evening of the session.

Some of the highlights of each session are listed below:

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Celebration of 2020

Update/Vision for 2021 by Mike Sisson, Executive Minister

Ward Hibbs' Award

Thursday, October 15, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Parchment Valley Conference Center Update

Brothers' Keeper Recap

Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies' Graduation

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

6:00 p.m.

West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen Celebration

Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM) Update

Multigenerational Discipleship

Thursday, October 22

6:00 p.m.

Global Missions Update

Commissioning Service

Guided Time of Prayer

Conference Recap: Boots on the Ground

*Written by Sandy Foster Currey, conference coordinator,
American Baptist Women's Ministries of West Virginia*

The American Baptist Women's Ministries (ABWM) of West Virginia held their first virtual conference on Saturday, August 15, 2020, presenting "Boots on the Ground." What a journey the the ABWM board took to arrive at the decision to host a virtual conference! How could we do this? We had the information and willing participants, but we were lacking in technology skills. Well God, through the West Virginia Baptist Convention (WVBC), provided two "angels" - Chloe Cook and Kayla Starcher - to help us out. Chloe and Kayla were part of the WVBC Ministry Internship Program this summer. A very special thank you to these two talented young ladies!



WVBC Interns, Chloe Cook and Kayla Starcher (left) assist with filming for the ABWM Virtual Conference

We wondered how we could reach the hundred or so women who have participated in our conference in the past. Could a virtual conference provide that? The answer turned out to be YES! Latest count for the virtual conference: more than 1,000 individuals watched!

There were numerous updates given:

- Rhonda Reed, *International Ministries' (IM) global servant*, gave a heart-felt report on how the pandemic was affecting Bolivia.
- Dee Lallemond provided an update on *Camp Alpha, our Mission Outreach Project (MOP) for 2020*.
- We heard a *WV Hope* update from Debbie Bush (Fayette) and Jacquie Cecil (Star Club).
- Judy Staats gave an update on *Love Gift*.
- Frank and Teresa Miller gave us a tour of the new handicap restroom, which is the the ABWM special project for this year, coordinated by Margaret Pratt.

We also heard from each of our 2020-21 scholarship girls, followed by a stirring devotion led by Sami Wagoner Lawson, a former scholarship girl.

Overall, it was an incredible conference that closed with the back drop of Winter's Lake as Kim Pickerell posed the question to the women, "Do you have your boots on? Come join us!"

With a vision of seeing women around our state grow in their relationship with God, better serve His church and further engage in serving His world, we invite all women to join us for future events!

Join us for our fourth session on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. to learn more about the American Baptist Women's Ministries of West Virginia.

Ward Hibbs' Award to be Presented October 13

Every year since 1980, we are reminded of the ongoing legacy of the Rev. Ward Wayne Hibbs. It was Hibbs who was responsible for developing the in-service collegiate training program for ministers at Alderson-Broaddus College in 1952. This was done in cooperation with the West Virginia Baptist Convention (WVBC), where Hibbs served as the director of Town and Country for more than a decade. During its existence, this program trained more than several hundred individuals for ministry, including many who still serve within our WVBC family of churches.

Born in 1897, Hibbs served churches in all parts of West Virginia, including churches in Fairview, Barrackville, South Charleston, Kenova and Romney. A graduate of West Virginia University (Bachelor of Arts/A.B. degree) and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Master of Theology/ThM), he would later go on to receive an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Alderson-Broaddus College in 1961. He also served our country, fighting in World War I.

Each year, the president of Alderson Broaddus University presents a WVBC minister with the Ward W. Hibbs Award, recognizing their outstanding contribution to the ministry of town and country. Recent recipients include Richard Bergdoll



Pictured above is the 2019 presentation of the Ward Hibbs' Award.

(2019), Don Biram (2018) and John Vannoy (2017). This award is traditionally presented during the WVBC's Annual Meeting. However, this year it will be presented as part of our virtual Family Celebration. Alderson Broaddus president, Tim Barry, will present the award.

Join us for our first session on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. to watch Alderson Broaddus president, Tim Barry, present this year's award.

by **Frank Miller**, Director of Operations

The Work Continues at Parchment Valley

While on a recent family trip to Washington D.C., I was very impressed by the memorials built in honor of our country's leaders. One particular statue of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. portrays only his frontal view, chiseled out of granite. When I inquired why his life-size image was not of his entire stature, the park ranger softly replied, "Because the work isn't finished."

We at the Parchment Valley Conference Center can relate to that! We are absolutely astonished by the generosity of our West Virginia Baptist Convention (WVBC) family, especially during the pandemic. As we continue to look for ways to better serve our people, one of the most important upgrades we needed to make was to add a handicap restroom to the administration building, "the barn."

Following last year's Rockcastle Association meeting, the Toned Baptist Church (Rockcastle) congregation made a substantial donation to the handicap restroom project. When the American Baptist Women's Ministries (ABWM) learned about the idea, they chose to make it one of their special projects for this year. While donations are still needed, the construction is complete. Many of our Parchment Valley friends have expressed their appreciation that we listened to their concerns.

One extremely special note came from Mrs. Jan Stoner, a long-time member of the ABWM. She said, "Prior to the handicap build, I always needed assistance on my walker to get into the restroom. I had a fear of falling and always depended on someone else to assist me. I am so grateful for this wonderful project! The quality, materials and construction are state of the art."

It isn't often you celebrate a new restroom being built, but here at Parchment Valley we frequently praise the Lord for the support He continually provides through our dedicated donors and volunteers. Our work of being a place "**where lives are changed**" isn't finished. Upgrades like this help continue our rich legacy.

Join us for our second session on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. to hear more updates on Parchment Valley.



Jan Stoner

A Word of Thanks to the AB Men

Written by Dr. Jim Hewitt, pastor
Charleston Baptist Temple (Kanawha Valley)

Let me begin with a word from the psalmist who said, "I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds" (Psalm 9:1). Here is another one, "let them give



Jason Stover (l), homeowner; Brian Conley (c), IBC roofing owner; and Frank Miller (r), director, Parchment Valley Conference Center

thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love and His wonderful deeds for mankind, for He satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things" (Psalm 107:8-9). I love the words we read in these verses for the psalmist understood the source of his blessings. I marvel at the way God moves in our lives and God's ability to orchestrate things in such a way that blessings fall like rain upon us. Such was the recent experience of Jason Stover, our church custodian, at Charleston Baptist Temple. I asked Jason

for his permission to share the following story with you.

It came to my attention Jason was having issues with his

roof leaking. He had tried several small repairs to trace the water that was leaking into his home to no avail. To make a long story short, I contacted Frank Miller, director of Operations at Parchment Valley Conference Center, to see if perhaps we could qualify Jason's home for a Brothers' Keeper project. As it turned out, Frank made the American Baptist Men (AB Men) of West Virginia aware of Jason's plight and they decided to take on the project.

Given that it was a small home, the AB Men were able to cover the cost of the building materials. Through the generosity of a local roofing contractor, the roof was replaced at no charge. Isn't this wonderful news? God be praised! While the roofers worked outside, the AB Men repaired the ceiling to a room inside. The repairs that were made were beyond the ability of the family to repair themselves. Needless to say, the Stover family was overjoyed and deeply touched by the kindness and generosity of our AB Men and the contractor. On that day, we saw God in the hands and faces of some beautiful people who willingly gave of themselves and their time to make a difference in the lives of others.

I, too, am also appreciative of the ministry hours invested in this project. Indeed, it stands as a testament to the love of Christ and the joy of serving others in His name. "Rejoice with those who rejoice," we read in Romans 12:15. Needless to say, the Stover's were overjoyed with the blessings they received that day. This is one of those praise moments I was talking about moments ago, God orchestrating, pulling together the right people, connecting the dots in order to bring about a blessing. "... I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds." To God be the glory!

Join us for our second session on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. to learn more about the American Baptist

Frank Bowen: Continuing to Invest in People

Written by Todd Godby, West Virginia Baptist Historical Society

Franklin Wilson Bowen was born in Clendenin, West Virginia, on November 24, 1913, and he died on January 21, 2001. His fondness for giving began early in his life, and many of his gifts continue to support churches and students to this day.

Frank's original dream was to become a journalist, and he began studies toward that end at West Virginia University. Journalism, however, was not to be. At 19 years old, with only about a year of college completed, Frank needed to go to work in order to support his sisters. After a short stint at Union Carbide, he eventually ended up in the insurance industry.

Soon after marrying Helen Scott (Bowen) on July 7, 1937, Frank was drafted into the United States Army, participating in the D-Day invasion on Utah Beach to liberate France. As Frank lost many of his fellow soldiers in that invasion, he often wondered why his life was spared. One has to imagine that this question formed his desire to give. After the war, Frank returned to the insurance business, and he and his wife, Helen, ultimately moved to Pittsburgh around 1960. Due to Helen's health, they were never able to have children, so they used their resources to help their nieces and nephews. As Frank established several charitable trusts, he used Helen's name as a symbol of his affection for her.

Frank and Helen made many private donations to their church and to other organizations. They also assisted many with personal bills and rents. Frank's sister, Dr. Violet Bowen-Hugh, was blessed to have Frank pay for her medical school. Later, when she was financially able, she desired to pay Frank back for his investment in her education, yet he insisted that she simply "pay it forward." As a result, Dr. Bowen-Hugh also put her nephew through medical school.

When the Bowen Charitable Trust Scholarship program was established after Frank's death, former West Virginia Baptist Convention (WVBC) Executive Minister, Lloyd Hamblin, admitted that it came as a "complete shock." Lloyd recalls he had served with Frank on the Board of Governors at Alderson Broaddus University, but Frank had given no advanced indication he would be leaving such a grand gift at his passing. Established to assist ministry students with their education, a priority was given to those related to the WVBC and to those attending schools affiliated with American Baptist Churches-USA. Lloyd also added that Frank "desired no praise or a building with his name on it. He simply wanted to give in such a way that the left hand did not know what his right hand was doing." In agreement with Lloyd, David Brenneman, a nephew of Frank and Helen, noted that Frank "had no desire to invest in buildings. He chose, rather, to invest in people."

Since 2001, the Bowen Charitable Trust Scholarship has invested in the education of thousands of individuals. In 2019 alone, the trust invested over \$250,000 directly to the strength-



Helen and Frank Bowen

ening of vocational ministry, primarily in West Virginia. Included in that investment are:

- *Forty-eight students as they pursued Masters of Divinity degrees, 29 of which were part of the Palmer Seminary program at Parchment Valley Conference Center.*
- *Eleven students as they pursued their Doctor of Ministry degrees, eight of which were part of the Palmer Seminary program at Parchment Valley Conference Center.*
- *Seven students as they pursued undergraduate degrees.*

The Bowen Trust also granted numerous individual grants for continuing education as well as organizational grants to the Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies, Pastor4Pastors, etc. Those latter grants impact a countless number of people that becomes hard to calculate.

In addition to this gift of the Bowen Charitable Trust, Frank created trusts for the Mount Lebanon Baptist Church of Pennsylvania, for the Clendenin First Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley), for Calvary Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) and for Alderson Broaddus University. His philanthropic activities filled his life and has continued for these 19 years after his death.

We are eternally grateful for the impact of Frank and Helen Bowen. Their legacy continues through the countless number of individuals who have been supported through this program. To learn more about the Bowen Charitable Trust, visit: <http://bowentrust.org/>.

Join us for our third session on Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. to hear more of the story of Frank Bowen.

Continuing to Reach Students with the Gospel

A new semester begins on nine different campuses ... nine different ways to “*change lives that change the world!*” Each Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM) around West Virginia is making adjustments to reach college students with the gospel. The plan is to be consistent and faithful to the calling of making disciples. The methods include virtual and in-person meetings, which include gathering in coffee shops, ice cream parlors, house churches in dorms and one-on-one disciple meetings.

Marshall University is allowed to meet in-person with 25 students in the chapel, 25 in the fellowship hall and 10 in the lobby. Technology has provided a challenge, but God is good and we continue to reach students. Marshall University BCM is studying the book of James this semester. In these times of uncertainty, the Bible speaks hope: “Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds,

because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” James 1:2-4

A few words from our campuses:

Lance Linden of Glenville State College: For us it has been foggy but fruitful! Our students seem to have a stronger desire to reach out to their peers, though our future is uncertain. We have had a better year, thus far, at reaching freshman than in years past. It seems like our students are taking more ownership of the ministry. All glory to God!

Jon Villers of Alderson Broaddus University: We have moved meeting places to allow for more social distancing, and we have started four house churches, meeting in four different residence halls. We are going through the book of Acts this semester. Our leadership team is rotating the teaching on Tuesday nights as we move forward in these very unique times. We are so blessed to have student leadership that wants to reach more for Jesus!

Kevin Sions of West Virginia University: We are encouraging students to build community with their one-on-one relationships. Building each relationship with the grace, truth and love of Christ creates a community of believers.

Karla Carr of Fairmont State University: We are struggling to reach students since many professors are moving to online formats and a large portion of the student body is commuting. However, we did have a new recruit Tuesday night! Our Facebook and Instagram live videos have been viewed over 200 times, so we are praying that those seeing are hearing God’s voice too.

Please continue praying for BCM as we continue our mission of “*Changing Lives that Change the World!*”

Join us for our third session on Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. to learn of more ways the BCM is “*Changing Lives that Change the World.*”



Left to right: Stefanie Casto, Kayleigh Coleman and Beth Perry working the check-in table for the weekly BCM gathering at Marshall University.

Interested in Interning in One of our WVBC Churches?

The **Ministry Internship Program** provides individuals with the opportunity to explore their long-term calling to ministry by giving them an opportunity to serve within our family of churches and placing them under the guidance of a mentor for a summer-long internship. Internship opportunities are customizable to the interests of the applicant, but include pastoral ministry, youth ministry, worship ministry, technology or intercultural ministry. Several of our previous interns now serve on staff at churches around our state.

For individuals who are interested in interning next summer, or for churches that are interested in hosting an intern, contact Mark McCloy at mccloy@wvbc.org.

Application Deadline: December 31, 2020



Zach Carder (r), intern at Philippi Baptist Church (Union), assists Joe Bowen (l), pastor at Valley Bend Baptist Church (Union), in baptizing Robert.

2020 James Anderson Sr. Bivocational Pastor Award

On Sunday morning, August 16, 2020 at Big Cub Missionary Baptist Church (Rockcastle), Southeast Area Minister, Rev. Jim Anderson, presented his father's 8th annual James



Rev. Glenn Hatfield

Anderson, Sr. Bivocational Pastor Award to Rev. Glenn Hatfield, pastor at Big Cub Missionary Baptist Church as well as Turkey Creek Baptist Church (Rockcastle).

Glenn, who was born and raised in Coal Mountain, graduated from Baileysville High School and then from Concord College, where he received his BA (Bachelor of Arts) teaching degree in Science. After that he received his Master's degree from West Virginia University in

Communications. He returned to Wyoming County and married his high school sweetheart and love of his life, Linda, and then taught science at Baileysville Grade School for 30 years, retiring in 2005.

Upon his return to Wyoming County after his educational experiences, he became pastor at Turkey Creek Baptist Church in 1972. He then became a yoked pastor in 1974 at Big Cub Missionary Baptist Church, where he remains pastor in both churches to this date. Glenn has the distinction of being the longest serving pastor in one location, two actually, in our West Virginia Baptist Convention, serving 48 years at Turkey Creek Baptist Church and 46 years at Big Cub Missionary Baptist Church. Glenn has also faithfully served the Rockcastle Baptist Association over the years and is currently moderator.

Glenn and Linda are the proud parents of one daughter, Carla. Carla's husband, Jason, is a Methodist minister in Wyoming County. They have two grandsons, Conner and Carson, who light up their lives.

Join us for our second session on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. to see Glenn receive the James Anderson Sr. Bivocational Pastor Award.

West Virginia Baptist Convention **MINISTERS' WIVES' FELLOWSHIP**

The Ministers' Wives' Fellowship exists to create a place for community, encouragement and shared wisdom for women serving in the ministry with their husbands. It is a beautiful and welcoming multi-generational group that brings love, support and friendship when gathering in-person or connecting while apart.

**Saturday, October 17, 2020
2-3 p.m.**

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Welcome from our leaders
- Devotion led by our speaker
- Ministry testimony highlight
- Breakout time into smaller chat rooms to get to know each other and for discussion questions
- Zoom meeting will be recorded and e-mailed to you if you can't join us live.

RSVP

- Please RSVP with your name, e-mail or cell number so we can send you the link to the Zoom meetings.
- Reply to Nikalee Turner by texting 304.646.7285 or by e-mailing amybethbush@outlook.com to RSVP.

Do you have a question about serving in ministry or would you like advice from a fellow minister's wife?

Send us your questions when you RSVP and we will ask our speakers to answer during our sessions.

Our prayer is that this ministry will fulfill the encouragement from Galatians 6:10 to "bear one another's burdens."

You are not alone in joys or struggles. We are here for you!

**Say
Whaaat?**

**Children's Fall
Rally**

Saturday, November 7, 2020

Registration form and information:
www.wvbc.org

Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies

Graduating Class of 2020



William M. Cottrell
 Pastoral Ministry Program
 Elizabeth, WV
 Pastor of Newark Baptist Church (Parkersburg)
 Married to Devonna for 25 years with two children: Caitlin and Meredith



Connie L. Harbaugh
 Advanced Level of Study General Studies Program
 Bridgeport, WV
 Involved in various ministries at Clarksburg Baptist Church (Union) for over 30 years
 Married to Dan for 30 years with two children: Brett and Julia



Andrew Russell Kiddle
 Pastoral Ministry Program
 Beckley, WV
 Sunday School teacher, property maintenance and member of the N.O.W. Community Outreach Team at Crab Orchard Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh)
 Married to Jackie for 16 years with three children: Adrianna, Drew and Ace



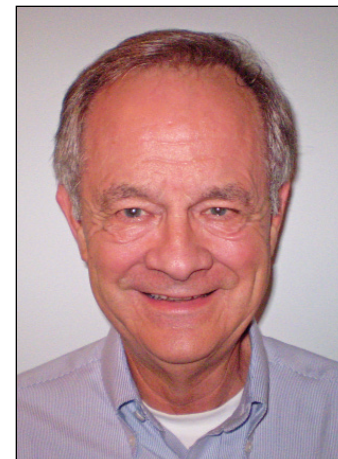
Jerry L. Kuhens, Jr.
 Pastoral Ministry Program
 Smithfield, WV
 Pastor at Pine Grove Baptist Church (Panhandle)
 Married to Tina for 25 years, with two children: Brittany and Lee



Thomas Mark Leasure
 Pastoral Ministry Program
 Belpre, Ohio
 Associate Pastor of Lubeck Community Baptist Church (Parkersburg)
 Married to Lisa for 29 years with two children: Tyler and Ryan



Jason C. Marshall
 Pastoral Ministry Program
 Williamson, WV
 Head of Evangelism at Williamson First Baptist Church (Logan-Mingo)
 Married to Deidre for ten years with two children: Rachel and Elon



Joseph D. McClung
 Advanced Level of Study Congregational Transformation Program
 Cross Lanes, WV
 Pastor at Ohley Baptist Church, Eskdale
 Married to Wanda for 49 years



Chad Edward Raines
 Pastoral Ministry Program
 Barrackville, WV
 Pastor at Welcome Baptist Church (Judson)
 Married to Heather for 24 years with three children: Austin, Dustin and Maria



Gregory Scott Smith
 General Studies Program
 Charleston, WV
 Producer and Engineer of Audio Presentations during services at Oakwood Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley)
 Married to Anita with three children: Justin, Christina and Amanda



Jonathan Cedric Stokes
 Pastoral Ministry Program
 Avella, Pennsylvania
 Pastor at Dallas Pike Baptist Church (Panhandle) and Co-Moderator of the Panhandle Association
 Married to Joy Wagner Stokes for one year with eight children between them: Jonathan Jr., Jade, Dejuan, Hunter, Isaiah, Silas, Paityn and Roman

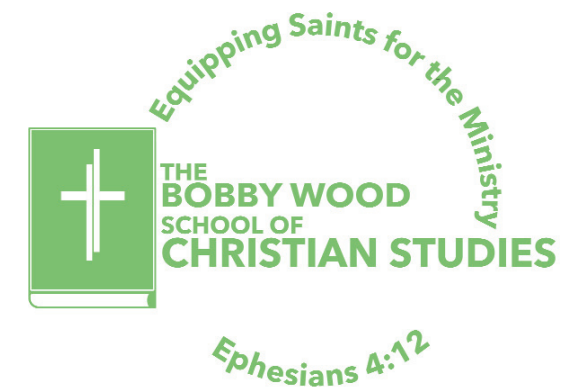
Upcoming Classes:

Ministerial Ethics (Mod-02) One-Day Class on October 24, 2020 with Allan Copenhaver via Zoom Online Web Conferencing

Digital Learning Initiative: Discipleship Essentials (M-02) 12-Hour Class Begins November 15, 2020 with Mary Beth McCloy

Digital Learning Initiative: Spiritual Formation (Mod-01) Six-Hour Class Begins November 15, 2020

Join us for our second session on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. to watch the graduation of the 2020 class.



The Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies is a ministry training program made to bring honor and glory to God by developing quality church leaders, through training that will help them grow in spiritual maturity, Biblical knowledge and ministry skills.

by *Jillene Narraway*, Associate Director of Camping and Youth

God is Greater!



Cowen faced unimaginable hardships when the pandemic shut down our facilities to most normal usage.

Our theme for this year was: *Greater*. And we have truly seen how God is greater than anything we may face! As they say, hindsight is 20/20, and looking back over 2020 we see the legacy of Camp Cowen continue as Camp-in-a-Box brought hope, community and discipleship to thousands across West Virginia, the United States and even Mexico!

Without campers onsite, Camp Cowen faced an enormous budget deficit, yet people stepped up and continue to step up to meet the need and help keep camp funded in 2020! Now as families and churches are adopting cabins and working to prepare camp for the future, we see even more of the hope God has given us through the West Virginia Baptist Convention family to make Camp Cowen a place **where people meet Jesus and grow as His disciples in a community of faith!**

Join us for our third session on Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. as celebrate how God continued to use Camp Cowen this summer to help people meet Jesus.

Our eyes are magnificently designed to perceive light. Our eyes are so keen that scientists say we can perceive the glow of a single candle from miles away. While darkness may change our perception and diminish our ability to see, even the smallest amount of light is visible to our eyes.

John 1:4-5 says, "In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." This year has brought dark times most of us never imagined as the West Virginia Baptist Camp at

Looking for a way to serve at Camp Cowen?

Consider the new Adopt-a-Cabin program!



In this unique time when we do not have campers at camp, God has provided us the perfect opportunity to improve areas of camp to prepare for the return of camping onsite. Adopt-A-Cabin or any area of camp for your family or church group to take care of.

How does it work?

1. Along with your group, church or family, select a cabin that you would like to work on.
2. Contact the camp to let them know which area you are interested in working on and schedule your work party.
3. Use the list of items at right needed for the projects and purchase to bring with you.
4. Bring the supplies to camp and be a blessing!

There is a lot of work to accomplish at camp. We appreciate all the teams who will come alongside us to make camp a better place for campers by donating supplies, money or time.

Items to be purchased for cabin work:

- Three gallons Zinzer white semi-gloss paint
- Smoke detector
- Two ceiling lights
- One porch light
- One double switch cover
- Two outlet covers
- Six curtain rods
- Plastic drop cloths to cover beds

Jobs to be completed:

Sweeping, mopping, cleaning, vacuuming, painting, installing lights and smoke detectors, sanding, power washing, etc.

If you are interested in adopting a cabin, please go to www.campcowen.org to register. For more information, contact Jill Narraway at 304.210.7030 or jill@wvbc.org.

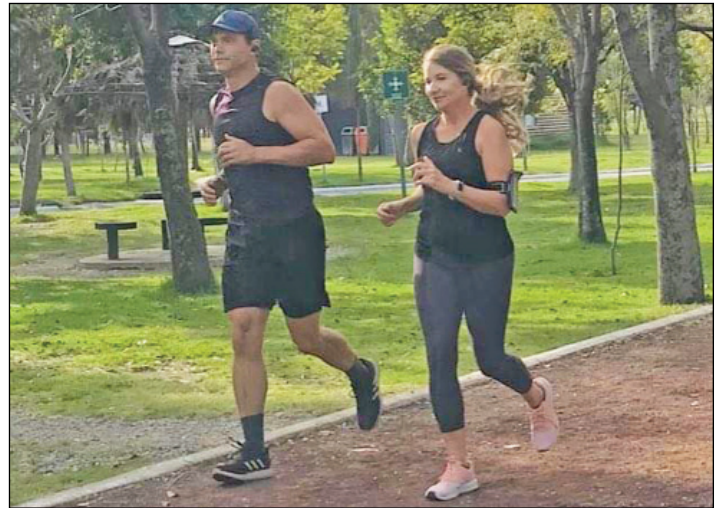
by *Todd McClure*, Minister of Missions and Finance

Family Gardens 5K

On the week of September 7-13, 2020, more than 40 individuals from across our West Virginia Baptist Convention (WVBC) family participated in a virtual 5K race to benefit families from indigenous communities in Mexico. Organized by Keith and Debbie Myers, global servants with International Ministries (IM), the Family Gardens 5K raised enough money to provide 110 families with a garden starter kit. Each kit contained enough seeds for ten different vegetable plants.

The garden project is part of the ministry of CICEM, Consejo Indígena Campesino Evangélico de México, A.R. (Council of Rural Indigenous Evangelicals of Mexico, A.R.). Keith and Debbie work with CICEM to provide pastoral accompaniment to 34 indigenous churches across four states in Mexico. This consists of training pastors, church leaders, youth leaders and teachers for the children.

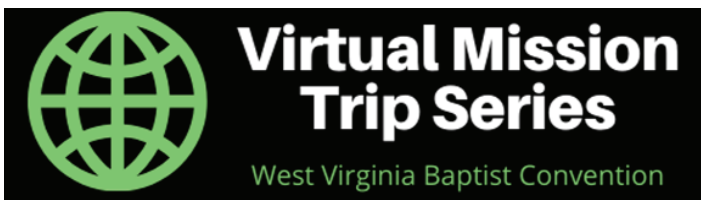
COVID-19 has brought about some challenging hurdles to their ministry, as many of the churches they work with have limited or no internet access. Looking for ways to continue doing ministry while promoting the benefits of physical health, the idea of doing a 5K race became a fun way to continue meeting community needs. Whether individuals ran, walked or just simply donated money, the Family Gardens 5K was a major success and impacted numerous lives.



Pictured above are Keith and Debbie Myers

If you would still like to donate to this project, you can do so by sending a check to the WVBC office designated “Family Gardens.” If you would like to learn more, join us on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 as we interview Keith and Debbie as part of our Virtual Mission Trip Series.

Join us for our fourth session on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. for more updates from various mission partners.



Last spring, as a result of the pandemic, we launched a Virtual Mission Trip Series as a way of connecting with our missionaries and learning of ways we can continue praying for them. These Zoom sessions turned out to be a major success and saw an average of 60-70 participants for each “trip.”

With the cancellation of an in-person Annual Meeting this fall (another great place to connect with our missionaries), we have opted to host another set of virtual mission trips for you to hear how COVID-19 has impacted ministries in other parts of the world. These interactive updates are around an hour in length and provide you with a great opportunity to ask questions and learn how God is working through their ministries. Church groups or mission boards are encouraged to watch sessions together so we do not exceed our 100-person capacity.

The schedule for the Fall Virtual Mission Trip Series includes:

**Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. -
Keith and Deborah Myers**

**Thursday, October 29, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. -
J.D. and Rhonda Reed**

**Thursday, November 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. -
Juan and Denise Aragon**

For a full list of upcoming Virtual Mission Trips or to request recordings of previous trips, visit:
<https://www.wvbc.org/missions/virtual-mission-trip-series/>.



Are you a young adult, interested in exploring a long-term calling to missions?

The **Missionary Internship Program** is a three-six week, customizable internship that allows you to come alongside one of our global mission partners.

In addition to international experience, you will also participate in several training events on the topics of mission theology, culture, conflict resolution and much, much more.

Registration Deadline: December 31, 2020

Learn more at: www.wvbc.org.

Evan Arkell, Southwest Area Minister

How do you Respond?

Well ... It's fall y'all! Usually, this time of year is packed with attending football games, playing in freshly fallen leaves, going to chili fests and other community events. This year, things have looked very different through the spring and summer, and I have to assume the great majority of us never dreamed we would still be in the midst of all of the COVID-19 related chaos at this point. In a sermon I recently preached from Nehemiah 1, I asked the question, "When we find our lives in a mess and filled with chaos we have a couple of options in how we respond: we can complain and pout or we can give our mess to God and follow Him!" The question is, "Which have you chosen as your response to the COVID-19 chaos and the mess it has brought into our lives?"

If I am honest with you, I ask the question above because I find myself in tension between the two answers. I have the desire to do the hard things God is trying to teach me through these times to further His kingdom and fulfill His Great Commission and I also sometimes catch myself complaining and pouting. I have witnessed many of our churches battling the

same struggles of longing for what we used to have and desiring to reach our communities with the Good News of Jesus in new ways in our new reality. Many of our churches are being creative and having success making new disciples by simply looking for and following God's plan for them. Where is God leading you?



Oakwood Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) holds a back to school parking lot prayer walk.

Southeast Area News

Jim Anderson, Southeast Area Minister

Renewed for the Journey Still Ahead

In an age of extreme anger and angst in our country and sadly, in our churches, let us turn to the holy scriptures and hear the words and advice of Paul in Ephesians 4:25-27, "Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. In your anger do not sin: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold."



Gatewood Baptist Church

Then from James 1:19-20, "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires."

This should lead us to try to emulate how our God reacts to us as we read from Psalm 30:4-5, "Sing the praises of the Lord, you His faithful people, praise His holy name. For His anger lasts only a moment, but His favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning."

As area ministers, we see the best and worst of attitudes, emotions and behaviors in the churches we are blessed to serve. We are there to let pastors and church leaders share their frustrations as well as joys therein. In late August 2020, after a tough week of listening to several pastors who had experienced anger over their leadership decisions, I prayed for a sanctuary Sunday morning of worship, fellowship and folk who hungered for the Word. God answered my prayer with a morning of that at Gatewood Baptist Church (Fayette). No one was angry at wearing a mask. I heard not one complaint about wearing them or about social distancing. This church, under the leadership of Pastor Harry Fuller, always has a time of prayer where anyone who desires can share. During that time, people poured out their hearts to God for their families, each other and for our country. During my sermon, people were literally responding back to me and the sweet Spirit of our Lord was truly present during the entire morning!

Make no mistake, this is not the only church where I have seen this, but on that Sunday as I left Gatewood Baptist Church my spirit was lifted and renewed for the journey still ahead. That should always be the goal and response through the Holy Spirit of worship to our great God and for the wonderful gift of his Son, Christ Jesus!

A Time to Change

*To everything there is a season,
and a time for every purpose under heaven ...*
Ecclesiastes 3:1

It's okay to be different. It's okay to change. Ever notice that your house does not effortlessly get cleaner? Your garage does not accidentally get more organized? Your grass does not naturally get shorter? Ever wonder why? Well, at least one of the reasons is entropy. That is a word we don't use much, but we experience its effect all the time. Entropy is a "gradual decline into disorder" or "a lack of order or predictability." In physics, it is closely associated with thermodynamics. One of the properties of entropy, is that it doesn't go away without effort. In a closed system, it never decreases. It surely seems like 2020 has been the year of entropy. Our plans and systems have been disrupted, our churches face uncertainty and challenges. But another word for "challenge" is "opportunity."

If ever there was a time to make positive change, it is now. Not only is change now a possibility, it has become a necessity. For there to be positive change, it requires us to adapt - to bring something new to the equation. Someone must do something to overcome entropy. It reminds me of a quote from Dr. Seuss, in the story of the Lorax: "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." Many of our churches have made positive use of this difficult time, and one of those is Parkersburg First Baptist Church (Parkersburg). I would like to highlight two of their ministries that have been adapted to meet current challenges.

One is the church choir. In a time when choirs have been generally disbanded, they have taken opportunity to have a social-distancing choir. They both practice and perform (video only) while social distancing in their sanctuary. And the results have been exciting. Thousands have tuned in to their prerecorded anthems.



A socially distanced ensemble from the Parkersburg First Baptist Church choir (Photo by Brian McClure)

In the picture above, an ensemble from the choir remained after worship to go through a few familiar anthems before recording. The recorded songs are then interspersed in subsequent online worship services and then posted individually on the church's Facebook page. Though the church is not using singing in worship, choir members are sharing their gifts and message online to thousands of viewers.

Another challenge during this time has been visiting shut-ins. For this challenge, Parkersburg First Baptist Church has introduced the drive-by caravan. Three Sunday evenings resulted in visits to 11 home bound members of the church.

Northeast Area News

David Hulme, Northeast Area Minister

The Goodness of God

What will you remember most about 2020? Things like the pandemic, quarantine or social distancing might come to mind.

What will be the number one thing about 2020 you will want to share with your grandchildren? Maybe captivating stories about masks, hand sanitizer and toilet paper shortages would be on your list.

Those have certainly been some of the more memorable (or forgettable) things about 2020. So much has happened, and we've still got time to go before the end of the year.

However, for many in our West Virginia Baptist family, what they remember about 2020 will have nothing to do with pandemics or toilet paper. What they will remember about 2020 and what they will tell their grandchildren is, "In 2020, I gave my heart to Jesus!"

I would hope that, as we look back on a year that has challenged all of us, we might bring to mind images like the smile of joy on the face of a little girl as she comes up from the waters of baptism, the hugs from a mom and any number of other images included here.

In the midst of it all, take time to reflect on and rejoice in the goodness of God.



Baptism scenes from: Middleville Baptist Church (Union) - center, Vermont Baptist Church (Judson) - top left and right, Freeman's Creek Baptist Church (Broad Run) - bottom right and Little Capon Baptist Church (Eastern) - bottom left

DONALD ANDREWS, of Saint Albans, died September 1, 2020. He was an active and devoted member of Saint Albans First Baptist Church (Teays Valley), where he served in many capacities for more than 50 years. He taught Sunday School for decades and served at various times as a deacon, moderator and parliamentarian of the church.

ROSETTA BALLARD, 100, formerly of Nitro, died August 7, 2020. She was a member of Nitro First Baptist Church (Teays Valley), where she served as a deaconess.

ELAINE M. BROWN BELL, 71, of Mineral Wells, died July 25, 2020. She was a member of Sam's Creek First Baptist Church (Parkersburg). She also provided janitorial services for the West Virginia Baptist Convention.

EDNA MAE (STONE) COMBS, 91, died August 3, 2020. She was an International Ministries' (IM) alumna who served in Myanmar.

BILLY J. FOLWELL, 87, of Parkersburg, died August 31, 2020. He was a charter member of New Hope Baptist Church (Parkersburg) and served for several years as a deacon.

LOIS FURR, 78, of Glenville, died February 12, 2020. She was a member of Glenville First Baptist Church (Little Kanawha), where she served on various committees and was a volunteer for Vacation Bible School.

RALPH THOMAS "TOM" GEORGE, 90, of Cross Lanes, died August 10, 2020. He was a licensed minister, a deacon, Sunday School teacher and served on the Executive Board for the West Virginia Baptist Convention. Tom loved spending time serving as a counselor at the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen, where he twice served as interim caretaker.

CLARENCE GEORGE GODBY, died July 31, 2020. He was a member of Union Baptist Church (Guyandotte) for over 63 years, where he served as deacon, choir director and Sunday School teacher. He was also active in men's activities and served as a delegate to the West Virginia Baptist Convention at the association and state level.

LORENE HARDMAN, 99, of Buckhannon, formerly of Glenville, died August 16, 2020. She was a longtime member of Glenville First Baptist Church (Little Kanawha).

DOROTHY "JEAN" JONES, 77, of Big Springs, died August 20, 2020. She was an active member of Prosperity Baptist Church (Little Kanawha). Jean and her sisters, Shirley and Janet, had a gospel group known as the Burrows Sisters. She was also part of the Prosperity Baptist Church quartet.

LESTER LENORD JONES, 75, of Big Springs, died August 23, 2020. He was a member of Prosperity Baptist Church (Little Kanawha).

JACK W. KIRSCH, 82, of Parkersburg, died August 1, 2020. He was a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church (Parkersburg), where he served as a deacon and was on the finance committee.

KATHLEEN VIRGINIA (MALLORY) LOUDERMILK, 90, of Charleston, died July 9, 2020. She was a member of Charleston Baptist Temple (Kanawha Valley). She was the wife of Donald Loudermilk, former West Virginia Baptist Convention staff member.

EDITH EARNESTINE NELSON, 76, of Ravenswood, died August 2, 2020. She was a charter member of Milhoan Ridge Baptist Church (Good Hope).

WILLIAM "BILL" PACKARD, 78, of Washington, died August 22, 2020. He was a member of Lubeck Community Baptist

Church (Parkersburg), where he enjoyed working for the church and driving.

WILLIAM LEE "BILL" PARKER, 85, of Mount Hope, died July 9, 2020. He was the pastor of four churches: Hepzibah Baptist Church (Judson), Enon Baptist Church (Broad Run), Mount Vernon Baptist Church (Broad Run) and Calloway Heights Baptist Church, in Beckley. The first two were started as bivocational ministries. He led Enon into a full-time ministry and oversaw a new building project. At Calloway, he served 26 years, tripling the size of the congregation over the course of his ministry. He also served as an interim pastor after retirement. He was at Fellowship Memorial Baptist Church in Oak Hill for more than three years and also served at Mount Hope Baptist Church for a time.

Bill's areas of service and ministry extended beyond the pastorate and included: Ministers' Advisory Council of Alderson-Broadus College, president of the West Virginia Baptist Historical Society, West Virginia Baptist Convention Executive Board, area vice-president for the West Virginia Baptist Ministers' Council, moderator of the Raleigh Association, the West Virginia Baptist Convention Committee on Ministerial Standing, chaplain at Raleigh General Hospital for 37 years, chaplain at Beckley Appalachian Regional Healthcare (BARH) for 20 years and director of Chaplains at Raleigh General Hospital.

ROBERT (BOB) LOWELL PEARSON, 94, of Oregon, died July 16, 2020. He was an International Ministries' (IM) alumnus, who served in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

ROSALEE "ROSE" ROBERTS, 80, of Glenville, died May 19, 2020. She was a member of Glenville First Baptist Church (Little Kanawha), where she volunteered many hours for church activities, especially youth.

WILLIAM K. "BILL" STALNAKER, 64, of Glenville, died July 7, 2020. He was a longtime member of Glenville First Baptist Church (Little Kanawha), where he served as a deacon.

DANNIE DUANE TAYLOR, 68, of Clay, died July 28, 2020. He was a member of Stump Chapel Baptist Church (Elk Valley), where he was also pastor. He served as pastor to many churches in the area.

BEVERLY ANN HUDDLESTON WALKUP, 83, of Parkersburg, died July 24, 2020. She was a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church (Parkersburg) and had served as choir director, pianist and organist in Baptist churches. She taught ladies' Bible studies and Sunday School and had gone on several mission trips.

Retired Ministers' and Mates' Luncheon

The Retired Ministers' and Mates' luncheon scheduled for October 6, 2020 has been cancelled. If you have questions about your retirement account, please contact Miriam Chacon-Peralta at 407.217.2920.

Leadership Updates

REV. PATRICK L. VINCENT to Willow Tree Baptist Church (Fairmont) as pastor on August 2, 2020

October 2020

OCTOBER 1 - Tracie Emerick, Outreach and Discipleship administrative assistant, West Virginia Baptist Convention
OCTOBER 2 - Juan Aragon, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Mexico
OCTOBER 3 - Debbie Myers, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Mexico
OCTOBER 4 - The ministry of Olive Baptist Church; Joshua Clay, pastor (Coal River)
OCTOBER 5 - The ministry of Minden Baptist Church; Ronald Richards, pastor (Fayette)
OCTOBER 6 - The ministry of Athens Baptist Church; Charles Drake, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)
OCTOBER 7 - The ministry of Orlando Baptist Church; Christopher Tatman, pastor (Elk Valley)
OCTOBER 8 - Patti Long, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Mexico
OCTOBER 9 - Robert Haught, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
OCTOBER 10 - The ministry of Anchor Bible Church; Lance Linden, pastor (Little Kanawha)
OCTOBER 11 - Matthew Mann, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Thailand
OCTOBER 12 - Hannah Witmer, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to Thailand
OCTOBER 13 - Kihomi Ngwemi, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Haiti
OCTOBER 14 - The ministry of Charleston First Baptist Church; Paul Dunn, pastor (Kanawha Valley)
OCTOBER 15 - Jon Good, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Hungary
OCTOBER 16 - The ministry of Sistersville First Baptist Church; Darrell Mayfield, pastor (Panhandle)
OCTOBER 17 - Cathy Fisher, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission
OCTOBER 18 - Scott Parajon, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to Nicaragua
OCTOBER 19 - The ministry of Central Big Creek Baptist Church (Guyandotte)
OCTOBER 20 - Carson Egnor, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
OCTOBER 21 - Will Bolick, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to Chile
OCTOBER 22 - The ministry of Reedy Baptist Church; Bill Stewart, pastor (Good Hope)
OCTOBER 23 - The ministry of Millbrook Baptist Church; Steve Martin, pastor (Hopewell)
OCTOBER 24 - The ministry of North Mill Creek Baptist Church; Steve Zywicki, pastor (Eastern)
OCTOBER 25 - Rachel Good, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to Hungary
OCTOBER 26 - Michael McCoy, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
OCTOBER 27 - The ministry of Tallmansville Baptist Church; Timothy Lewis, pastor (Broad Run)
OCTOBER 28 - The ministry of Fairmont Baptist Temple; Allan Copenhaver, pastor (Fairmont)
OCTOBER 29 - Glen Chapman, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
OCTOBER 30 - Nathan Myers, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to Bulgaria
OCTOBER 31 - The ministry of Glen Falls Baptist Church; Bryant Bailey, pastor (Judson)

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

November 2020

NOVEMBER 1 - The ministry of Spruce Grove Baptist Church (Rockcastle)
NOVEMBER 2 - Jeni Pedzinski, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Thailand
NOVEMBER 3 - Kim Brown, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Thailand
NOVEMBER 4 - Marijane Kiley, chair, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
NOVEMBER 5 - Nancy Rice, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
NOVEMBER 6 - The ministry of Starcher Baptist Church; David Workman, pastor (Kanawha Valley)
NOVEMBER 7 - Ric Morrone, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
NOVEMBER 8 - The ministry of Welcome Baptist Church; Chad Raines, pastor (Judson)
NOVEMBER 9 - The ministry of Big Hurricane Missionary Baptist Church; Anthony Perry, pastor (Twelve Pole)
NOVEMBER 10 - The ministry of Williamson First Baptist Church; Jarrod Belcher, pastor (Logan-Mingo)
NOVEMBER 11 - Remember our veterans who have served our country so faithfully
NOVEMBER 12 - Jennifer Huber, Student Ministries and Mission Support administrative assistant, West Virginia Baptist Convention
NOVEMBER 13 - The ministry of Ten Mile Baptist Church; Bradley Tenney, pastor (Broad Run)
NOVEMBER 14 - The ministry of Zoar Baptist Church; Chris Venoy, pastor (Guyandotte Association)
NOVEMBER 15 - The ministry of Zion Baptist Church; Lisa Grays, pastor (Parkersburg)
NOVEMBER 16 - Stan Slade, International Ministries' (IM) Global Consultant
NOVEMBER 17 - Lea Lindero, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Thailand
NOVEMBER 18 - David Parajon, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to Nicaragua
NOVEMBER 19 - David Bush, chair, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission
NOVEMBER 20 - The ministry of West Point Baptist Church; Ron Miller, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)
NOVEMBER 21 - The ministry of Middleville Baptist Church; Paul Boyles, pastor (Union)
NOVEMBER 22 - Jillene Narraway, associate director of Youth and Camping, West Virginia Baptist Convention
NOVEMBER 23 - The ministry of Wheeling First Baptist Church; Darrin Wright, pastor (Panhandle)
NOVEMBER 24 - Joel Hoefle, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Thailand
NOVEMBER 25 - Darrin Bird, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
NOVEMBER 26 - Count your blessings ... name them one by one!
NOVEMBER 27 - The ministry of Webster Springs First Baptist Church; Edward Lay, pastor (Hopewell)
NOVEMBER 28 - The ministry of Leon Baptist Church; Fredrick Sparks, pastor (Teays Valley)
NOVEMBER 29 - The ministry of Providence Baptist Church; Roland Ramsey, pastor (Elk Valley)
NOVEMBER 30 - Teresa Miller, assistant director of Operations, Parchment Valley Conference Center and Office Manager, West Virginia Baptist Convention

Coming Events

OCTOBER

October 2

West Virginia Baptist Convention Virtual Executive Committee
Online

October 3

West Virginia Baptist Convention Virtual Executive Board and Commission Meetings
Online

October 10

American Baptist Women's Ministries' Virtual Spiritual Growth Retreat
Online

October 13

West Virginia Baptist Convention Family Virtual Celebration Session One
Online
6:00 p.m.

October 15

West Virginia Baptist Convention Family Virtual Celebration Session Two
Online
6:00 p.m.

October 20

West Virginia Baptist Convention Family Virtual Celebration Session Three
Online
6:00 p.m.

October 22

West Virginia Baptist Convention Family Virtual Celebration Session Four
Online
6:00 p.m.

October 24

Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies Ministerial Ethics (Mod-02) One-Day Class
Online Via Zoom Web Conferencing
9:00 a.m.

October 27

Virtual Mission Trip Series: Keith and Debbie Myers
Online
7:00 p.m.

October 29

Virtual Mission Trip Series: J.D. and Rhonda Reed
Online
7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER

November 5

Virtual Mission Trip Series: Juan and Denise Aragon
Online
7:00 p.m.

November 7

Fall Children's Rally
To Be Announced

November 11

Veteran's Day Holiday
West Virginia Baptist Convention Office
CLOSED

November 13-14

American Baptist Women's Ministries' Executive Board Meeting
Parchment Valley Conference Center

West Virginia Baptist Newsletter Submissions

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

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

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

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How to Watch Our Family Celebration:



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