

A Legacy of Great Investments

CHANGING LIVES THAT

BCM
Invest

CHANGE THE WORLD

When it comes to Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM), one of the most important words to describe this ministry is the word **invest**. Ever since its formation in 1967, men and women have been investing in the next generation of leaders.

In 1974, BCM hired Frank “Buzz” Harrison to be its first executive director. He began his work at Fairmont State College and had a ministry on nine different campuses across the state. Fresh off a tour in Vietnam, where he had served as an Army doctor, Buzz was now excited to invest in students. He said his goal was to “encourage students to grow in their faith, apply it in real life and ensure every decision included Jesus.” He also placed a high priority on relationships, understanding that investment took time.

Another person who understood the importance of investing was Robin Crouch, who was hired to be Buzz’s replacement in 1984. With an office at Alderson Broaddus College, Robin served in this role for five years. It was under Robin’s leadership that Roger Adams was hired the following year to serve on staff at Marshall University. Both men invested well, together recalling more than 60 individuals who had gone into full-time ministry. Robin still claims “BCM is one of the most strategic missions we have!” With more than 60,000 college students, from more than 100 different countries, these campuses truly are a fertile field for “**changing lives that change the world.**”

Phil Smith followed as the next director and was extremely influential in starting BCM at many of the smaller campuses. He and his wife, Pam, recall, “BCM was the best time of our lives! We loved being there when students were making critical decisions in life. We also enjoyed being their family and investing in them during their college years.”

Jerry Losh, who succeeded Phil and served as the director for 13 years, also indicated investing was crucial to his ministry philosophy. One of the leaders he invested in was Adam Goodwin, who became Jerry’s replacement in 2008. Adam fondly recalls:

“Deuteronomy 6:11 speaks of drinking from wells you did not dig. Whether it was my time as an associate at the University of Charleston (UC) or my time as director at Marshall University, I remember drinking from wells I did not dig.

At UC, Debbie Harpold introduced me to four amazing sophomores who all were influential in our time in Charleston. The Lord used those four students to grow that ministry in amazing ways.

The same is true for Marshall. Jerry Losh had invested in the lives of so many students. He had built Marshall’s BCM into a vibrant ministry. When we got to Huntington, the cupboard was far from bare. We inherited many amazing young men and women who had a deep love for Jesus. I feel like my time with BCM was simply holding the line. I was extremely fortunate to hold the rope long enough to pass it off to other incredible leaders like Ron McClung (UC) and Rob Ely (Marshall), who continued the legacy.”

BCM is continuing to invest in students on the campuses of Alderson Broaddus, Charleston, Concord, Fairmont State, Glenville State, Marshall, Potomac State, West Virginia University (WVU) and WVU Tech. We are grateful for the dozens of directors and associates who have invested and continue to invest on each of these campuses.

BCM celebrates a legacy of great investments. However, investing is not done by these staff alone. It is also done by individuals, churches and BCM alumni who continue to pray for and support this ministry. With the ever-changing landscape, we are always exploring different strategies and new opportunities to better reach and disciple students around our state. Though staff have changed over the last 54 years, the mission has not. We are still “**changing lives that change the world.**” **BCM Invest** is an opportunity for you to be part of this legacy. A financial gift as small as \$5 can have an eternal impact. A commitment of \$200 per month could fund an entire campus! Consider giving to **BCM Invest** and leaving a legacy that will reap rewards for years to come.

Calling all alumni! Did BCM have an impact on your life? Share your story with us and help us connect with more alumni by visiting: www.wvbcm.com/alumni.

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!

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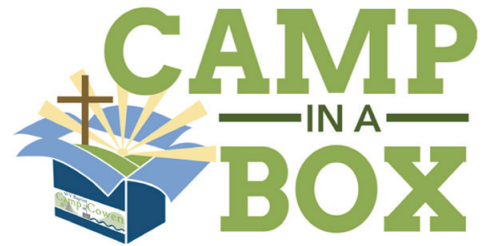
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Camp-in-a-Box

Join in this summer and have our Camp-in-a-Box mailed to your home! You may be wondering, "Why do I need this if camp is open this summer?" That is a great question and here are some reasons:



- Supports camp
- Connects with the Camp Cowen community
- Provides for someone who can't attend camp.

Purchase this Camp-in-a-Box and join Camp Cowen from wherever you are in a summer of connection in growing in the Lord as a Camp Cowen community.

Want to share some great camp gear, reach someone with the hope of the gospel or bring camp to someone who has never been to camp? This Camp-in-a-Box can be mailed right to their door as your gift to them!

Already signed up for the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen? Get this box mailed right to your home or pick it up when you arrive at camp to add-on additional fun summer features, and continue connecting with the Camp Cowen community all summer long.

What is Camp-in-a-Box?

This box contains Camp Cowen gear, a summer devotion, scripture memory verses, activities, a summer serve challenge, access to online community groups and more!

How Much Does It Cost?

The box is \$35, with the option to add-on additional items to customize your box.

When Will They Be Available?

Boxes will begin shipping in June.

How Do I get a Box?

Order online at www.campcowen.org or call 304.226.3522.

Camp Cowen 2021 Schedule:

Younger Midler (grades 2-4)
June 4-5

Junior 1 (grades 5-6)
June 6-11

Junior High 1 (grades 7-9)
June 13-18

Junior 2 (grades 5-6)
June 20-25

High School 1 (grades 9-12)
June 27-July 2

Junior High 2 (grades 7-9)
July 4-9

Senior Day (high school grads)
July 10

High School 2 (grades 9-12)
July 11-16

Family Camp
July 23-25

Older Midler (grades 3-5)
July 26-29

Camp Global
July 30-August 1

AB Men and Boys' Camp
August 6-8

Women's Camp (18 and up)
October 1-3

The camping program is sponsored by the West Virginia Baptist Convention and is conducted at: West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen, 276 Baptist Camp Road, Cowen, WV 26206.

If you have any questions about the camping program, please contact Jill Narraway at 304.210.7030 or jill@wvbc.org.



ABMen Work Party Recap

The love for Jesus and the passion to make the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen shine was evident during the American Baptist Men and friends work party weekend. More than 40 volunteers rolled up their sleeves and worked together to complete an assigned list of tasks. As always, Camp Cowen cooks prepared the men's favorite meal: soup beans, fried potatoes, ham, cornbread, home baked goodies, a pot of freshly brewed sweet tea and Larry Dales' favorite springtime side dish, ramps.

The following projects were completed:

- Repairs to the dining hall kitchen
- Electrical rewiring in the Broad Run and Fairmont cabins
- Cleaning and painting of the pool by members of Crab Orchard Baptist Church (Greenbrier - Raleigh)
- Refreshing of vespers and campfire signs
- Ceiling repair below the dining hall bathrooms
- Ceiling vents cleaned
- Refinished dining hall floor
- Repainted rocking chairs on dining hall porch
- Other general maintenance and cleaning.



Everyone thought the experience was so incredible that plans are being made for another American Baptist Men Work Party at Camp Cowen, minus the ramps of course!

Will you continue to be the reason *why people will come to Cowen and meet Jesus?*

Please contact Jill Narraway at 304.210.7030 or jill@wvbc.org for more information on how your group can serve together at Camp Cowen.

Volunteers at Parchment Valley

Recently, Parchment Valley Conference Center (PV) submitted a request for a federal grant for major upgrades to our facility's security and improved cellular phone signal. One of the first steps in the grant process was to have an active law enforcement officer provide a detailed security and vulnerability assessment. Lieutenant (Lt.) Tony Hazelett, of the Charleston Police Department, graciously offered his assistance in preparing the report. When I asked him how he had time to compile this assessment in the midst of his busy schedule, he replied, "Frank, I'm invested in Parchment Valley."

For 85 years, God has used thousands of volunteers like Lt. Hazelett to do a greater work at PV! COVID-19 may have changed the way we do camps and conferences, but it didn't change the hearts of our faithful volunteers!

Multitudes of volunteers have come this past spring to help prepare PV for our busy summer of ministry and we want to thank you! The following is just a small sample of the work done:

- *Many have used their organizational skills to help provide for a better work place for our staff.*
- *The American Baptist Women's Ministries of West Virginia continue to raise funds for our new handicap restroom.*
- *The American Baptist Men have given countless hours to repair major water leaks, install French drains around the mission house and rebuild roads to the Grapevine Chapel that were damaged by a recent storm.*

- *Volunteers from the Twelve Pole Association worked several weekends to cut brush and remove trees from the Grapevine Chapel. They also helped restore the prayer labyrinth after not having hosted visitors in more than a year.*

Much can be accomplished when we do Christ's work together. In addition to all of the time spent volunteering, others have given their time in prayer. Soon after getting a note from a friend saying they were praying for our ministry, I received an update from one of our camps telling me two individuals had given their hearts to Jesus! What a blessing!

Will you continue to help us through your prayers and financial support? Without you, we could not carry out our mission of being a place **"where lives are changed."**



Tom Dale and Terry Mayfield working around the Mission House.

Sowing, Watering and Reaping ... God Gives the Increase

Missions, evangelism, and discipleship are three words that have defined the heart of West Virginia Baptists for many years. And I think we could all agree now is a time when we as the West Virginia Baptist Convention family of churches need to sharpen our focus on these three areas of ministry more than ever. Allow me to share why these ministry emphases are so important and introduce a few ways we, as a convention family, might minister more effectively in each of them.

Missionary-like Focus

As a convention of Baptist churches, we have a strong track record of faithfulness in overseas missions. We have been actively supporting mission work prayerfully, financially and with our ongoing encouragement. We have sent out missionaries to different people groups, formed strong partnerships with Baptists in other countries and participated in short-term mission encounters. Now there is a need for us to bring the same level of commitment to the sending, supporting and partnering with “home” missionaries - sending out people from our local congregations to engage the people living in our communities with the good news of Jesus Christ.

Microchurch Planting Mentality

Microchurches, for lack of a better word, are one way we can take the missionary mentality of going where the people are to intentionally build relationships that will allow us to reach them for Jesus Christ. This method of outreach removes barriers and prejudices to develop faith communities focused on evangelism and discipleship. Much like missionaries enter a different culture where the people speak a different language, they must meet the people where they are. Microchurches are sending people into the many different cultures, age groups and nationalities that live in the neighborhoods around us. As Jesus said, “Open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest” (John 4:35b).

There are more people staying outside the church than are coming inside.

The Association of Religion Data Archives shows that out of the approximately 1.7 million people in West Virginia, 1.1 million are unclaimed by any religious organization or church. While some of these may attend untracked community churches, overall, it agrees with other statistics which show the unchurched population to be between 75 - 87 percent. In other words, there is a very large mission field just outside of the church’s door. These numbers have not changed in the last 30 years.

Sadly, those inside the church are drifting outside as well.

The Barna Group’s research on the “Most Post-Christian Cities in America in 2019” concluded that in West Virginia, the Charleston-Huntington area was at 32% of the population based on their research criteria. To qualify as “post-Christian,” individuals had to meet nine or more of their 16 criteria, which identify a lack of Christian identity, belief and practice. For example, 37% of those surveyed had not attended a church service in the last six months.

Engagement Pathways for Intentional Discipleship

A discipleship pathway is simply an intentional plan or strategy to make sure people are being discipled (see Figure 1 at right). Think of a funnel. It has a wide end to catch all the liquid and a narrow end to focus where it ends up. In discipleship, the wide end is the way to make sure the followers of Christ enter the discipleship journey and the narrow is the way to ensure the journey leads to Christ-likeness.

Children need to be discipled and the church needs your help to do it.

Remarkably, scripture has always suggested the home is a key place where evangelism and discipleship need to take place. “These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” (Deuteronomy 6:6-7).

Biblical Grandparenting

According to the 2019 U.S. Census and the DHHR in West Virginia, 54.5% of grandparents, who live with grandchildren 18 years old or younger, are responsible for them. This makes West Virginia second in the nation, behind only South Dakota, for grandparents raising grandchildren (see Figure 2 at right).

Walter Brueggemann, in his book, *Biblical Perspectives on Evangelism*, points out that “young people need someone who is ‘crazy’ about them.” I have seen the pictures and heard the stories. Nobody is “more crazy” about young people than grandparents! Whether your grandchildren live with you or not, grandparents have a great opportunity to disciple their grandchildren.

This seems to be the emphasis of the psalmist when he wrote, “I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old, things we have heard and known, things our ancestors have told us. We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done” (Psalm 78:2-4).

The key word in all of these is “intentional.” Nothing meaningful and impactful for the kingdom of God happens by chance. It happens when God’s people partner with Him to fulfill His plan. His plan for missions, evangelism and discipleship continues to be! “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” (Matthew 28:19-20).

Please join us in seeking the Lord for the wisdom, guidance and courage to attempt new and effective ways of fulfilling His Great Commission in an ever-changing world that desperately needs it!

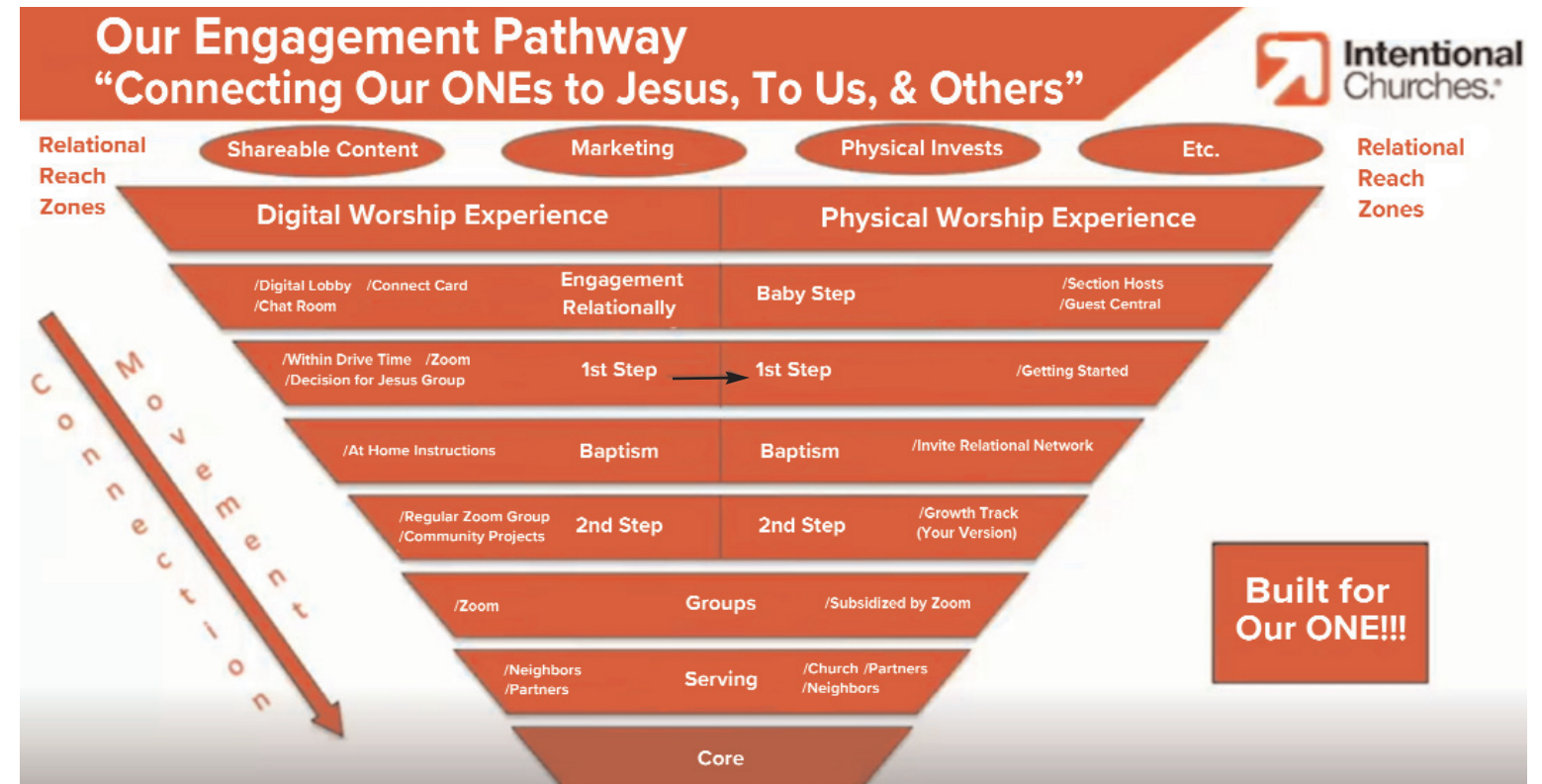
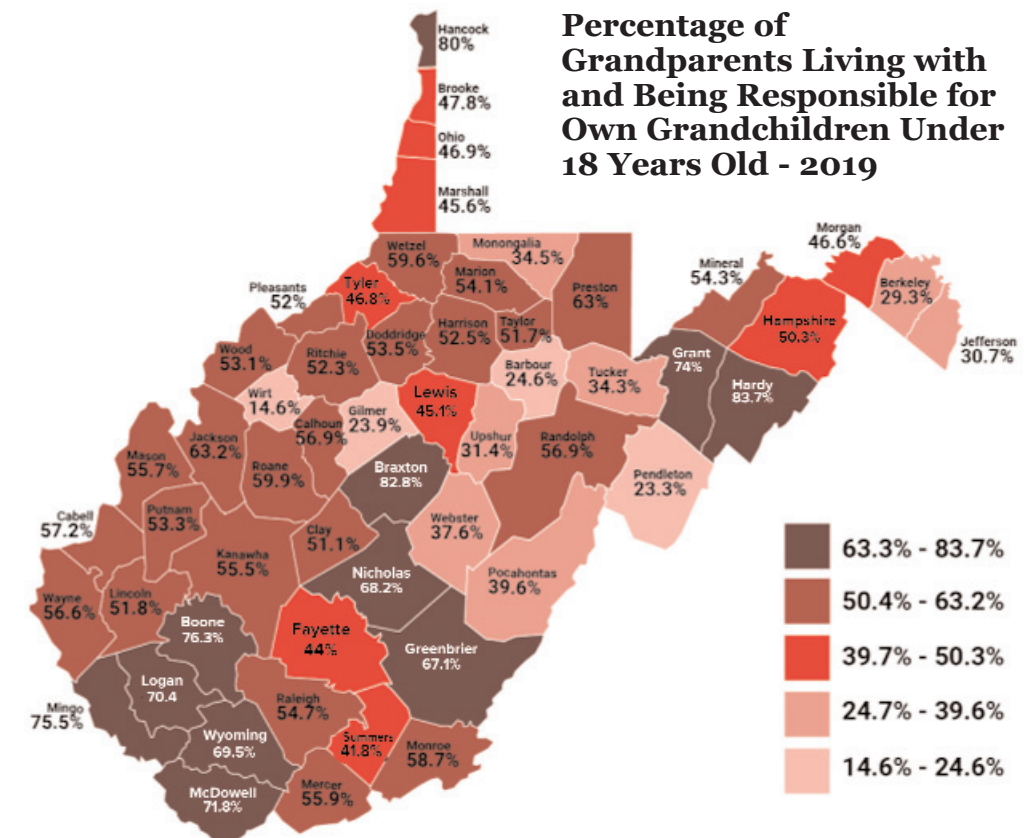


Figure 1



Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2019

Figure 2

Palmer Seminary: West Virginia Program

by Allan Copenhaver, West Virginia Program Director

Palmer Seminary's West Virginia Program Graduates Nine

One of the consequences of the pandemic was a quick shift to online residencies. Unfortunately, this also meant the cancellation of our annual graduation banquet. This was particularly challenging because the banquet is a time for alums, faculty and seminary supporters to fellowship together.

Fast forward to this spring, and we were thankful we could continue to have in-person residencies. It didn't seem likely we could have any recognition for our graduates this year either. Then, our dean, Dr. David Bronkema, suggested a virtual banquet during a meeting in March 2021.

This idea grew until we had pre-recorded videos from our graduates, pre-recorded videos from our faculty and a message from the Eastern University President, Dr. Ron Matthews. The online event, held on Monday, April 26, 2021 also featured words from Dr. Bronkema as well as a prayer of blessing from Executive Minister Dr. Mike Sisson.

All students who had either graduated last year, at some point over the course of this year or are set to graduate by this summer, were recognized. In total, this included nine students.



D.Min. (Doctor of Ministry)

- Matthew Ash

M.Div. (Master of Divinity)

- Shane Boggs
- Malva Carey
- Donald Dague
- Jonathan Delgado
- DaVontae Edwards
- Brent Hannah
- Adam Paff
- James Saunders
- Brian Shirak

During the event, Dr. Bronkema was presented with the Robert E. Matherly Award of Excellence, which is given each year to an individual who has contributed greatly to the work of Palmer Theological Seminary's West Virginia Program. Dr. Bronkema has been dean of the seminary for over 5 and a half years after being interim dean during a time of restructuring at Eastern. He is set to begin working with the university's Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) leadership program in the fall.

The Matherly Award is given in memory of Dr. Bob Matherly, who is the person responsible for bringing this program to West Virginia almost 30 years ago. Matherly attended then Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary before continuing his pastoral ministry in the greater Philadelphia area before returning to West Virginia as an area minister. A plaque listing each of the past recipients of the award is located in the Matherly classroom in the Santrock Education Building at Parchment Valley Conference Center.

Palmer Seminary's WV Program Fall Semester Announced



Preparations are well underway for Palmer Seminary's fall semester at Parchment Valley Conference Center. In total, five classes will be offered:

- INTG 510: A Guide to Seminary Writing - Dr. Mary Beth McCloy
- BIBL 616: The Gospel of Luke - Dr. Diane Chen
- BIBL 501: New Testament I - Dr. Jim Stinepring
- BIBL 504: Old Testament II - Dr. Trent Eastman
- THLE 520: Systematic Theology - Dr. Don Brash

Students desiring a seminary degree can complete the entire program without leaving West Virginia. Courses are offered in a hybrid format with most classes including a two and half day residency at Parchment Valley.

In total, the program requires the completion of 26 courses (78 hours). Palmer Seminary is accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS), meaning students can not only expect a high-level education, it also allows them to be eligible for chaplaincy endorsements through the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A.

While the typical completion time varies, students can expect to graduate in about four years. However, many recent graduates have completed the program in a quicker timeframe.

Students in West Virginia Baptist churches are generally eligible to apply for two generous scholarships. Both the Bowen Charitable Trust and the West Virginia Baptist Education Society scholarships cover a large portion of the program's costs, including the cost of staying at Parchment Valley. Many students supplement the difference through scholarships offered by their church or association.

While an undergraduate degree (bachelors) is often expected for a seminary education, ATS has recently made a provision for students with the demonstrated ability to succeed in seminary. This means most students who have completed the School of Christian Studies are eligible for admission. Furthermore, an individual with significant ministry experience may also be accepted without a completed undergraduate degree. (In both cases, students will have writing samples evaluated during their application.)

There are plans to hold an open house for prospective students some time during the fall residencies. However, there is still plenty of time to be admitted for the fall semester. Prospective students should reach out to Program Director Allan Copenhaver by e-mail at rcopenha@eastern.edu or by phone at 304.763.8564. Scholarship applications can be found on the West Virginia Baptist Convention website, www.wvbc.org.

Adopt an MTS Student

The phrase “unreached people group” was a term introduced at the International Congress on World Evangelization that was held in 1974 in Lausanne, Switzerland. The purpose of introducing the phrase was to unite all evangelistic efforts behind the mission of taking the gospel to those who had little to no access to it. Today, nearly 40% of the world is categorized as unreached.

However, another important term that should be considered is the phrase “undisciplined people group.” I would define this as being “a group of people who currently have access to the gospel, but unless they are trained to share the gospel with others, they will also be unreached within one generation.” A significantly larger percentage of the world falls into this category.

One area of the world that is worth drawing attention to is Latin and South America. While Christianity has existed in this part of the world for many centuries, the current political and economic situations in many of these countries make it hard for pastors to receive theological education. Recognizing this to be a critical need, International Ministries (IM) partnered with Palmer Theological Seminary to create a Masters in Theological Studies program focused solely on Latino/a Ministries. Offered entirely in Spanish and Portuguese, this program uses a cohort model and is offered in countries around the region. In total, there are more than 80 students currently participating.

Palmer also provides students with significant scholarship support to help them pay for their education. With the majority of students living far below the poverty level, students in this program are only required to pay \$150 per course. Theological

education would not be possible without this program. Several of our IM missionaries serve as professors, including J.D. Reed, who also serves as the IM Director of the program.

In order to provide this program, J.D. is responsible for helping raise \$200,000 per year to help provide scholarships for students in this program. This money is in addition to the amount he and his wife, Rhonda, raise for personal support and for the House of Hope. In a recent meeting involving J.D., David Moutz, pastor, Oakwood Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) and myself, we discussed the idea of

“Adopting a Seminary Student.” The cost would be \$200/month, with support needed for two years. Once the student graduated in that timeframe, churches or individuals could renew with another student after that. Recognizing that church budgets are sometimes hard to get into, what Oakwood Baptist Church is planning to do is ask Sunday School classes and small groups to sponsor a student. Their hope is to adopt four-five students.

That leaves around 75 more that need adopted. Are you interested in adopting a student?

Consider partnering with your Sunday School class, small group, men’s/women’s ministry or entire church to fund a student! A profile of your adopted student will be given to you at that time, including ways to pray for and contact your student.

To learn more about this program, contact Todd McClure at todd@wvbc.org or J.D. Reed at jd.reed@internationalministries.org.



These are the locations of current MTS students.



Camp Global 2021

July 30—August 1

Camp Cowen

Register online at www.wvbc.org

“The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.”

-Revelation 22:2

West Virginia Baptist Convention Mission Partnerships

Each of these mission partnerships were recently featured in our Spring Virtual Mission Trip Series. To watch a recap of those interviews, visit: www.wvbc.org/missions/virtual-mission-trip-series.

India Partnership

by Rob Ely, director, Student Ministries

In October of 1999, the Council of Baptist Churches in North East India (CBCNEI) hosted “Celebrate Christ ‘99.” The West Virginia Baptist Convention (WVBC) was invited to provide worship leaders and speakers for the event. Dr. Mike Williams, the WVBC Mission Support staff member at the time, invited me to lead the high school students. I was excited about my first overseas mission trip and working with the great people on that trip. More than 20 years later, we are still sending people to northeast India and have established a wonderful partnership!

However, our involvement in northeast India goes back much farther than just two decades. While writing the history of the Alice Randall Dining Hall, located at the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen, Lee Boso discovered Dr. Alice Randall was the Medical Superintendent of the Satribari Christian Hospital in Guwahati, Assam, India from 1929-1942. She was an American Baptist missionary from West Virginia and had connections to Charleston Baptist Temple (Kanawha). We were able to share this history with several of our friends from northeast India who traveled to Camp Global a couple of years ago. Dr. Randall’s legacy is still being experienced both in West Virginia and in India!

The most consistent ministry in this partnership has involved the Garo Baptist Convention (GBC). The GBC celebrated 150 years of ministry in 2017. Paul Morton, Steve Willis, a delegation of

International Ministries’ staff and I had the opportunity to celebrate that occasion. It was a joy to celebrate the legacy of Rev. Dr. Miles Bronson, who founded the first Garo Baptist Church as well as Omed and Ramke, the first converts to Jesus Christ. Imagine knowing the first people who recognized Jesus and proclaimed belief in Him! That is a legacy to celebrate!

This partnership has provided opportunities for the WVBC to expose many people to the foreign mission field and provide training for GBC leaders. Rev. Rettiar Momin, the missions’ director for the GBC and Rev. Samaresh Nayak, the executive director of the India Mission Coordination Committee, have visited several WVBC churches and continue to maintain and strengthen the partnerships with the WVBC. In a recent interview with Rev. Rettiar, shared as part of the Spring Virtual Mission Trip Series, we learned God has used our partnership to lead to more than 400 baptisms! An important partnership with the Garo Baptist Convention is Rev. Dr. Dana Gatewood and the ministry of Summersville Baptist Church (Hopewell). Dana has visited many times and teams from Summersville Baptist Church have gone to train

leaders in the GBC. What an incredible partnership!

To learn more about this partnership, you can contact me at ely@wvbc.org. I would love to tell you more of the history and how you can get involved in this partnership.



(l to r) Rev. Rettiar Momin and Rev. Samaresh Nayak.

Cuba Partnership

by David Hulme, Northeast Area Minister

In 1991, while pastoring a church in North Carolina, Max Hill was invited to visit Cuba with a group of pastors. He accepted, fully intending this to be a one-time trip to learn more about the churches in the Fraternity of Cuban Baptist Churches (FIBAC). As Max and the other pastors were preparing to return to the United States, Pastor Adalberto Cuellar, of Havana’s Iglesia Bautista El Jordan, took Max aside and told him, “The next time you come, bring some friends.” Max would often quote Pastor Cuellar, adding, “and I’ve been bringing friends ever since.”

Over the better part of three decades, Max made more trips and took more friends to Cuba than he could count. I was fortunate to be one of those friends. I first traveled to Cuba with Max in 2001 and would accompany him on 16 more trips before his death in 2019.

When Max returned to West Virginia in 2001, to become senior pastor at Clarksburg Baptist Church (Union), he developed a partnership between Clarksburg Baptist Church and the Cuba churches. When he became an area minister in 2004, he broadened that relationship to include churches throughout the West Virginia Baptist Convention. Both partnerships still exist today.



Max Hill (c) and two of his many Cuban friends.

The current partnership with the FIBAC involves many things. However, the primary focus is building relationships. Because of those strong relationships, we have been privileged to be involved in supporting a variety of ministries, including planting mission churches, leadership training, preaching and teaching, baptisms, community

ministry, children’s and youth ministry, financial and medical assistance, property acquisition for churches and FIBAC’s national camp and many more. However, the Cubans have blessed us more than we could have ever blessed them through the love they have shown and by how much they have taught us about what it means to truly be “the church.”

Currently, COVID-19 makes it impossible for us to travel to Cuba. Since we cannot travel to Cuba, it is also impossible for us to send assistance to them for basic necessities. We are praying those restrictions might ease up soon. However, the Cuban people are resilient, their faith is strong and the church continues to grow.

If you would like to know more about our ongoing partnership with FIBAC or how you might be personally involved, please contact me at hulme@wvbc.org.

Russia Partnership

by David Bess, chairman, WVBC Russia Mission Partnership Team

Youth Fellowship “Life in Christ”

On February 21-22, 2021, the youth of Hope Church met for a “Life in Christ” event. On February 21, the young people came together for a time of worship, then disbursed into the community to visit the elderly. These seniors have very few visitors, so they were touched and encouraged by the interaction with the youth.

On February 22, the young people received training on how to live in Christ, strive for holiness, seek first the kingdom of God and share the gospel with others. The youth had many questions of the pastors leading the training and much was learned about discipleship.

Ministers’ and Ministers’ Wives’ Retreat

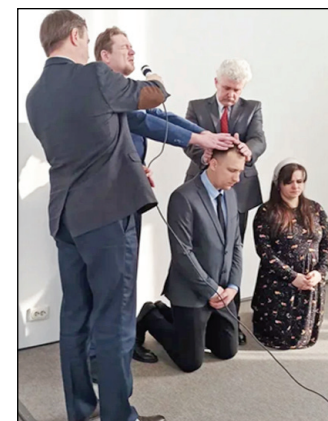
On February 25-27, 2021 a retreat was held for Ryazan Baptist pastors and their wives. Church elders and their wives were also invited. They enjoyed the time of fellowship and relaxation together. A romantic dinner was provided one evening and a separate program was offered for their children. They all returned to their churches rested and ready for continued ministry.

Your prayers and support for the West Virginia Baptist Convention/Russia Mission partnership are much appreciated. **To learn more, including how you or your church can get involved, please contact me at bessdr@wvusa.org.**

Pastor Andre Krylov, the Ryazan Baptist equivalent of our West Virginia Baptist Convention Executive Minister, sent me a report recently of just a few of the many activities that are taking place among the 20 plus Baptist churches in the Ryazan oblast. Below is a paraphrase of what he shared.

Deacons Ordained at Hope Church

On February 14, 2021, there was a deacon ordination service for two young men. Their wives stood by their sides, pledging to support them in their ministry. The men’s parents were also present and they rejoiced that their sons were being used by God in the church. Many people present shed tears of joy. The ordination was followed with a solemn tea party. It was an inspiring, uplifting event.



Middle East and North Africa Partnership

by Todd McClure, Minister of Missions and Finance

Equipping Arabs to Reach Arabs

Of the more than 575 million people who live in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), two-thirds of them have zero access to the gospel. Made up of predominately Muslim nations, many of them have historically been hostile to any Christian witness, especially from westerners. This is why there are so few western missionaries serving in this part of the world. (For reference, International Ministries has three full-time missionaries serving in this region - all located in Beirut, Lebanon).

One of those missionaries, Dan Chetti, saw this as an opportunity to mobilize Arabs to reach their own people. Serving as an adjunct professor at the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary, he proposed the idea of partnering with seminary graduates to send them back to their home countries as disciple-makers and church planters. The benefit of this sort of model is that they already know the language, they already know the culture and they already have community connections. They also cost only one-tenth of what it would cost to send a western missionary into the same context. Not only has this model proven to be ministry and cost effective, but it has also helped open doors for new partnerships in hard-to-reach countries.

Birthing in 2016, the vision of *Enduring Love* is to see an Arab world that seeks Jesus and embraces the good news of the

gospel. Their mission is to show Jesus to the people of the MENA region, to disciple them and to establish communities that will be



After being baptized, this 84-year-old removed her hijab to represent her newfound freedom in Christ.

rooted and sustained in Him. They accomplish this by partnering with 26 Arab missionaries who are involved in pastoring, discipleship ministries, Bible translation work and/or business as missions. These missionaries are located in the following seven countries: Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Sudan, Lebanon, Syria and Iraq.

In the most recent interview shared as part of the **Spring Virtual Mission Trip Series**, three of the *Enduring Love* missionaries shared how God has continued to be at work in Lebanon despite the pandemic. One shared stories of his conversion from a radical Islamic background, another shared about the continued growth of their church and the third shared about the

84-year-old Muslim woman who was just recently baptized. You can request a recording of this interview on our West Virginia Baptist Convention website under the Missions -> Virtual Mission Trip Series’ link.

Enduring Love is one of the most strategic ways we can reach the people in the MENA region. To learn more about how your church can get involved in this ministry, you can contact Todd McClure who serves as *Enduring Love*’s associate director. **Todd can be contacted via e-mail at todd@wvbc.org.**

West Virginia Flood Relief

*Written by Evan Arkell, Southwest Area Minister,
West Virginia Baptist Convention*

The beginning of March 2021 saw many communities in West Virginia experience significant flooding. Among these communities were churches and church properties ravaged by the flood waters. Olive Baptist Church (Coal River) had a few feet of water in their basement. Thankfully, there was no structural damage and everything was able to be taken care of by throwing away some items in the classrooms and storage areas. Pastor Josh Clay says now that everything is cleaned out they are looking to begin using this area again as COVID-19 related issues are lifted and they can get back to using this space for Sunday School classes.

Clendenin First Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) is praising God they were not hit nearly as bad as during the flood of 2016. In fact, the church received no flood water in it at all. Pastor Joe Seese says he and his wife had about 12-15 inches of water in the parsonage basement. Unfortunately, they did lose some papers and pictures, but this certainly could have been much more devastating. Everything is cleaned up now and Joe has built some shelving to get as much as possible out of harms way in case this happens again. There were several homes close to the church and parsonage that sit a bit lower and received much more water and damage. Thankfully, Mid-Ohio Valley Disaster Relief, along with Sunrise Baptist Church (Parkersburg)

were able to step in and assist these folks with their clean-up efforts and supplies.

Twelve Pole Baptist Church (Twelve Pole) also experienced flooding and water damage, and it is reported their clean-up and recovery are moving right along.

Fellowship Baptist Church in Barboursville had a few feet of water in their

entire church. While Fellowship Baptist Church is non-affiliated, they were blessed to receive help from many churches from many different denominations. Youth Pastor Jacob Eastman, Pastor Trent Eastman's son, was

glad to see several folks from the West Virginia Baptist Convention family there to help out. Those that came out to help included: West Virginia Baptist Men Disaster Relief team, Rob Ely and students from Marshall's Baptist Campus Ministry, Pastor Dan Londeree and others from Pea Ridge Baptist Church (Guyandotte), along with several others who were able to lend a helping hand and a strong back.



How far are you willing to let your love flow?

When you give to **One Great Hour of Sharing**, you deploy resources to people in need all around the world. Through sustainable development projects, our partners provide life-giving water and other critical resources that help communities reinvent and reimagine what is possible. When water comes to a village, people are safer, healthier and more free to pursue learning and growth opportunities. Let love flow and share more than just water.

*Nobody hungry, nobody thirsty,
shade from the sun, shelter from the wind,
For the Compassionate One guides them,
takes them to the best springs.*

— Isaiah 49:10

Photo by Craig Thompson

**One Great
HOUR
OF SHARING**

Youth Leader Core

Written by Jill Narraway, Associate Director of Camping and Youth, West Virginia Baptist Convention

“The purpose of YLC is to empower youth called and commissioned by their local church to learn about themselves, grow in their faith and discover ways to live out their beliefs and ministries.”

As a staple of West Virginia Baptist Convention Life since 1978, Youth Leader Core (YLC) faced the challenge of doing ministry during a global pandemic. While it is true, 2020-2021 provided a unique challenge to the program, the Lord faithfully provided a way for ministry to move forward with online meetings when face-to-face meetings were not possible.

YLC is a leadership training program focused around discipleship, personal awareness, faith principles, leadership development and ministry skills. With the powerful support of the local church, YLC is a vital part of growing strong leaders within the West Virginia Baptist Convention.

Reading through the YLC purpose statement highlights the importance and the strength of the program. First, YLC exists to empower youth. The Lord has richly blessed us with students dedicated to Him and passionate in service and commitment to living for Him. Through the process of YLC, students grow in understanding, knowledge and confidence to step forward in leadership.

Second, students don't go through this program alone, they are called and commissioned by their local church. With the support of their church family, pastors and advocate (local mentor), students participate in the program with a framework of support to take what they are learning and put it into real life practice. Each student selects an advocate to act as mentor and guide them within their local context to work through the material presented each weekend, while encouraging and providing opportunity to step into leadership roles in their home church.



2020-2021 YLC: (l to r): Zenna Zvoll, Jonathan Delgado, Lauren Modesitt, Nathan Reed, Isaiah Moncrief, Brogan Ward, J.D. James, Jill Narraway and Matthias Freeman

Lastly, within this community, YLC is a place where students learn, grow and discover more about the Lord, who He created them to be, about leadership and about their role in the local church. In a world filled with competing voices, YLC approaches an understanding of identity, personality, talents, giftedness and calling from a God-centered, Biblically-based perspective.

Discipleship is always core to learning about leadership. As we grow to know the Lord more and understand how He has called us to live, we are then able to approach leader-

ship and our specific calling from the Lord from a proper perspective.

This year, leaders Jonathan Delgado and Jillene Narraway present to you our 2020-2021 YLC students: Matthias Freeman, J.D. James, Lauren Modesitt, Isaiah Moncrief, Nathan Reed, Brogan Ward and Zenna Zvoll and ask for your continued prayers and support as they grow in their discipleship and leadership!

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Evan Arkell, Southwest Area Minister

Easter Journey A Good Friday Drive-Thru Experience

*Written by Don Biram, Pastor, Emmanuel Baptist Church
(Kanawha Valley)*

The church families of Oakwood and Emmanuel Baptist Churches (both of Kanawha Valley) teamed up to provide the



Station two, just one of seven stations presenting the gospel during the Good Friday drive-thru service.

Charleston area with a Good Friday drive-thru evening service in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 70 members of both churches pooled their resources to establish seven stations attendees moved through in the safety of their own cars. These locations provided the reason for Christ's redemptive work and progressed through the major points of the passion of Christ Jesus. The final stop allowed participants to ask questions about what they had seen and share a time of communion before departing the parking lot. Children's packets were created for each post, allowing children to interact as their families went through the stations. Each stop provided participants an item to take with them that would be a reminder of what they had seen and experienced. The organizers sought to make the experience interactive so families could not only hear, but experience in a small way, how great God the Father's love is for them. The first site gave each person a stone representing the sin of humanity which they exchanged at the final station for a bracelet that said, "I'm Forgiven - Saved By Christ's Blood" as a sign of Christ's redemption of sinners. Many families participated in the opportunity. A booklet containing a copy of each site's devotion was provided to those attending. A video of the event can be found on YouTube under the title of this article. It was a great time of ministry together as sister churches.

Northeast Area News

David Hulme, Northeast Area Minister

Happenings from around the Area

Clockwise from top left:

Josh Weddle, associate pastor of Next Generations at Clarksburg Baptist Church (Union) leads a study from Jonah in their Student Life Ministry's newly renovated area, "The Underground."

Simpson Creek Baptist Church (Union) honors Dr. C. Michael Hopkins, April 11, 2021 in recognition of his 30th anniversary as the church's senior pastor. Northeast Area Minister David Hulme brings a word of congratulations and thanks from the West Virginia Baptist Convention.

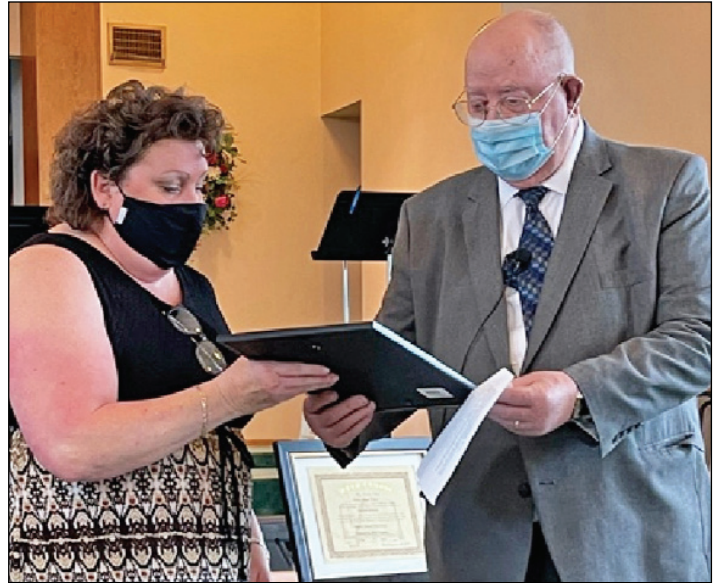
Reynoldsville Baptist Church (Judson) presents their 34th annual lighted portrayal of the crucifixion. The event is held each year on Good Friday at dusk at Reynolds Farm. Jon Hayes is pastor.

Pastor Moises Saravia leads Comunidad Luz y Vida (Eastern), in a service of baptism. Three young people were baptized at this event, held in the sanctuary of Petersburg First Baptist Church (Eastern).



Waking Up

It is so good to see the flowers blooming, churches reopening and ministries beginning to flourish once again. In so many ways, it seems like parts of life have been on hold or asleep, during the recent year. One of the pleasant changes is many ordinations that have been held up are starting to happen. Parkersburg Baptist Temple (Parkersburg) recently ordained Sandra Walker, a School of Christian Studies' Pastoral Ministry graduate. Sandra is called to a special ministry very needed in our world - ministry to those with addictions. She has taught several times at our Annual Training Event on this subject, and she would love to come to your church and help you explore how to minister to this ever-growing population. God has blessed her with a heart to reach the addict, and has gifted her with knowledge and skills to do so. If you are waking up to the reality many in your community are struggling with addictions, please feel free to contact our convention office (304.422.6499) and we will gladly help connect you to Sandra. She is the event coordinator for High on Hope Ministries and she also works with Equip the City events. She is also part of Set Free Ministries, a 12-step, faith-based recovery group dealing with addiction and destructive life styles.



Sandra Walker receives her ordination certificate from Rufus Hoalcraft.

Southeast Area News

Jim Anderson, Southeast Area Minister

In Memory of my Fellow Bolivian Amigo, Alex Garrett

One of the most powerful statements in all scripture are Jesus' words from Matthew 21:22, "And ALL THINGS, whatever you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."

Too often it seems, I forget this great promise for potential in mission and ministry in my life. Our loving Lord has again brought this reality back to me in a powerful manner as I continue to reflect on the life and mission work of my dear young friend and fellow Bolivian amigo, Alex Garrett, who went to be with the Lord after a tragic ATV accident in March 2021.

On the way home after my first mission trip to Bolivia in 2006, I prayed for guidance on how to accomplish the promise of placing solar lighting in 20 Andean mountain churches, who at that time had no electricity. As I was praying, the Lord, in a very clear and concise vision, showed me the way using the chorus of the old hymn, "Send the Light!" "Send the light! The blessed gospel light, let it shine from shore to shore. Send the light! The blessed gospel light, let it shine forevermore."

My estimate for this project was one year for the installation of 20 lights - this is what happens when we decide time frames and not trust in the power of the Lord. After the vision of "Send the Light!" and after asking churches, including Page Baptist Church (Fayette), where Alex (12) first expressed interest in going to Bolivia with the church's team. I visited churches to help, and within the first month of presentations, I had received funding for 20 lights, many coming from individuals. Six months later, I had received funding for 62 lights, with more to come! In my return October trip with the Page Baptist Church team, we had the privilege to help place lights in village Baptist churches. In one special moment, we were honored to turn the light on and see the

joy in the faces of the village people as the realization dawned the dark would not rule their lives again!

Eight years later, Alex did go to Bolivia, and until his death, became a vital member bringing light and hope to all he met and loved in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though the youngest of the Bolivian amigos, it was always Alex who reminded us of Jesus' words from Matthew 21:22 when we faced major obstacles and challenges. Rest in peace Alex and we will see you again!



Four Bolivian amigos: (l to r) Alex Garrett, Greg O'Neal, Jim Anderson and Mike Nelson

February 2020 - April 2021

FREIDA M. SWEENEY ARTHUR, 83, died April 23, 2021. She was a member of Hurricane First Baptist Church (Teays Valley), where she was involved in Ladies Bible Studies and the American Baptist Women's Ministries. In addition, she served on several boards, associations and committees.

MARIAN OLETA BOEHR, 94, of Portland, Oregon, died on April 25, 2021. She was an American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) alumna, who served in South India.

LOUELLA (GRIFFIN) BRIGHT, 76, died February 22, 2020. She was a member of Webster Springs First Baptist Church (Hopewell). She had taught in the nursery, was a Baptist Youth Fellowship leader and Vacation Bible School coordinator for many years.

CRAIG A. CROSSMAN, 68 of South Charleston, died March 17, 2021. He was retired from American Baptist Churches and served in other denominations where he had a heart for helping small churches.

GLENNA F. DRENNEN (DENT, WOLFE), of South Charleston, died April 16, 2021. She was a charter member of Bethel Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley), where she served faithfully in the ministry as a Sunday School teacher and deacon. She also served in various roles of the Kanawha Valley Association, the West Virginia Baptist Convention and the American Baptist Women's Ministries of American Baptist Churches, USA. She was especially devoted to the ministry of the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen.

MICHELLE SUE (MCGEE) HAMRICK, 52, died December 17, 2020. She was a member of Webster Springs First Baptist Church (Hopewell). She enjoyed being a member of the choir and helping with Vacation Bible School.

ERIC SCOTT LUSK, 40, of Oceana, died April 16, 2021. He was a member of Tonedá Baptist Church (Rockcastle), where he had served as Adult Men's Sunday School teacher, Vacation Bible School worker as well as being a member of the Missions Committee and Usher Board. Previously, he was active in the Fellowship of Oceana Area Churches, whose focus is to promote fellowship among churches and to meet the needs of those less fortunate outside of the church. He was licensed by Tonedá Baptist Church in 2007, received a certificate in General Studies by the West Virginia Baptist Convention Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies in October 2010 and received his certificate of Ordination for the work of ministry by the Rockcastle Baptist Association on June 24, 2012.

WILLIAM "BILL" R. MCHENRY, 84, of Smithville, died April 20, 2021. He was a longtime member of Smithville Baptist Church (Harrisville), where he served as superintendent for over 50 years.

HOWARD RAY MEADOWS, 74, of Ona, died March 18, 2021. He was a member of Beulah Ann Missionary Baptist Church

(Guyandotte), where he was a greeter and sang in the choir.

PAUL ALLEN MILLER, JR., 89, of Weirton, died April 23, 2021. He was a member of Weirton Heights Memorial Baptist Church (Panhandle), where he served as a deacon, trustee and was active in the Men's Fellowship and Pairs and Spares. He and his wife, Voneta, enjoyed volunteering their time at Weirton Christian Center.

PRISCILLA SUE "PRUDY" ONEY, 77, of Charleston, died April 5, 2021. She was an active member of Mount Vernon Baptist Church (Teays Valley) in the 1980s and taught Sunday School at Oakwood Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) in the early 1990s.

PATTY PAYNE, 78, died November 11, 2020. She was a member of Webster Springs First Baptist Church (Hopewell). She was well known in the church for her cooking and headed the Kitchen Committee for many years. She also prepared delicious Bible School snacks for all the children.

JAMES C. PHARES, JR., 82, died May 5, 2020. He was a member of Webster Springs First Baptist Church (Hopewell). He sang in the choir and had helped with building an addition to the church.

WILLIAM ROGER "BILL" STALNAKER, 84, of Glenville, died April 15, 2021. He was an active member of Glenville First Baptist Church (Little Kanawha), where he served as a deacon, was on the Finance Board and volunteered for many ministries, especially the Glenville First Baptist Church Cancer Fund Ministry.

JAMES ROBERT "BOB" STRICKLEN, 90, died March 20, 2021. He was a member of Nitro First Baptist Church (Teays Valley) for 41 years, where he served as a deacon, trustee and treasurer.

DAVID MICHAEL WILLIAMS, AKA "FROSTY", 71, of Tesla, died May 3, 2021. He was a member of Stump Chapel Baptist Church (Elk Valley), where he was a trustee and choir member. He had formerly been a superintendent and Sunday School teacher.

Leadership Updates

MR. DANIEL CUNNINGHAM to Plum Run Baptist Church (Fairmont) as pastor on March 14, 2021

REV. KEITH GEORGE to Diamond Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) as pastor on April 11, 2021

MR. ETHAN STARCHER to Mannington First Baptist Church (Fairmont) as pastor on March 6, 2021

June 2021

JUNE 1 - Tammy Jordan, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
JUNE 2 - The ministry of Crab Orchard Baptist Church; David Bush, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)
JUNE 3 - The ministry of Little Laurel Baptist Church; David McLaughlin, pastor (Elk Valley)
JUNE 4 - Younger Midler Camp begins today at Camp Cowen
JUNE 5 - The American Baptist Women's Ministries' Annual Conference happens today at Parchment Valley Conference Center
JUNE 6 - Junior 1 Camp begins today at Camp Cowen
JUNE 7 - The ministry of North Fork Baptist Church; Darrell Farley, pastor (Harrisville)
JUNE 8 - Phil Smith, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Brazil
JUNE 9 - Dilia Zelaya, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Honduras
JUNE 10 - The ministry of Hope Christian Center; Michael Lewis, pastor (Guyandotte)
JUNE 11 - The ministry of Salem Baptist Church; David Carpenter, pastor (Broad Run)
JUNE 12 - The ministry of New Prospect Baptist Church; Tim McClung, pastor (Hopewell)
JUNE 13 - Junior High 1 Camp begins today at Camp Cowen
JUNE 14 - Sarah McCurdy, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Costa Rica
JUNE 15 - Vital Pierre, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to the Dominican Republic
JUNE 16 - The ministry of Little Capon Baptist Church; Paul A. "Tony" Baker, pastor (Eastern)
JUNE 17 - Dan Londeree, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
JUNE 18 - Jeff Dieselberg, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Thailand
JUNE 19 - The ministry of Kingwood Baptist Church; Charles Warger, pastor (Goshen)
JUNE 20 - Brothers' Keeper begins today at Parchment Valley Conference Center
JUNE 21 - Junior 2 Camp happens this week at Camp Cowen
JUNE 22 - The ministry of Fayetteville Baptist Church; Jack Eades, interim pastor (Fayette)
JUNE 23 - Michael Knotts, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission
JUNE 24 - Anita Gutierrez, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to South Africa
JUNE 25 - The ministry of Gilboa Baptist Church; Larry Greathouse, pastor (Good Hope)
JUNE 26 - Rita Chapman, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
JUNE 27 - High School 1 Camp begins today at Camp Cowen
JUNE 28 - The ministry of Mount Zion Baptist Church; Michael Murphy, pastor (Fairmont)
JUNE 29 - Drew Crislip, vice-chair, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
JUNE 30 - The ministry of Sand Fork Baptist Church (Coal River)

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

July 2021

JULY 1 - The ministry of Leon Baptist Church; Fred Sparks, pastor (Teays Valley)
JULY 2 - Andrew Walker, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission
JULY 3 - The ministry of Weston First Baptist Church; Mark Evans, pastor (Broad Run)
JULY 4 - Hefziba Aragon, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant (youth) to Mexico
JULY 5 - Junior High 2 Camp happens this week at Camp Cowen
JULY 6 - The ministry of Coon's Run Baptist Church; Max "Sonny" Palmer, pastor (Judson)
JULY 7 - Jennie Mathias, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission
JULY 8 - Tim Rice, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
JULY 9 - Ryan Baumgart, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Japan
JULY 10 - The ministry of Emmanuel Baptist Church; Don Biram, pastor (Kanawha Valley)
JULY 11 - High School 2 Camp begins today at Camp Cowen
JULY 12 - The ministry of Weirton First Baptist Church; Judith Bartlett-Tomes, pastor (Panhandle)
JULY 13 - The ministry of North Parkersburg Baptist Church; Michael Towner, pastor (Parkersburg)
JULY 14 - Amy Vo, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Vietnam
JULY 15 - The ministry of Union Baptist Church; Jeffrey Johnson, interim pastor (Guyandotte)
JULY 16 - Catherine Longkumer, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to India
JULY 17 - The ministry of Bellemeade Baptist Church; Nathan Vance, pastor (Rockcastle)
JULY 18 - Robert Mann, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Southeast Asia
JULY 19 - Konedra Devrick, president, West Virginia Baptist Historical Society and member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission
JULY 20 - Boaz Keibarak, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Kenya
JULY 21 - Larry Stanton, International Ministries' (IM) Global Servant to Hungary
JULY 22 - The ministry of Harmony Grove Baptist Church; James Baker, pastor (Union)
JULY 23 - Family Camp begins today at Camp Cowen
JULY 24 - The ministry of Mallory Baptist Church; James Saunders, pastor (Logan-Mingo)
JULY 25 - The ministry of Macedonia Baptist Church; Terry Thompson, pastor (Twelve Pole)
JULY 26 - Eric Thomas, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission
JULY 27 - Older Midler Camp begins today at Camp Cowen
JULY 28 - The ministry of Sand Fork Baptist Church; Donald Dague, pastor (Little Kanawha)
JULY 29 - The ministry of Willow Tree Baptist Church; Patrick Vincent, pastor (Fairmont)
JULY 30 - Rob Ely, director, Student Ministries, West Virginia Baptist Convention
JULY 31 - Camp Global happens this weekend at Camp Cowen

Coming Events

JUNE

June 4-5

Younger Midler Camp (grades 2-4)

Camp Cowen

June 5

American Baptist Women's Ministries' Conference

Parchment Valley Conference Center

June 6-11

Junior 1 Camp (grades 5-6)

Camp Cowen

June 13-18

Junior High 1 Camp (grades 7-9)

Camp Cowen

June 20-25

Brothers' Keeper 2021

Parchment Valley Conference Center

June 20-25

Junior 2 Camp (grades 5-6)

Camp Cowen

June 26

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

One-Day Class

Matt Ash at Parchment Valley

Conference Center

and David Hulme Online Via Zoom

June 27-July 2

High School 1 Camp (grades 9-12)

Camp Cowen

JULY

July 4-9

Junior High 2 Camp (grades 7-9)

Camp Cowen

July 5

Independence Day Holiday

West Virginia Baptist Convention Office

CLOSED

July 10

Senior Day (high school grads)

Camp Cowen

July 11-16

High School 2 Camp (grades 9-12)

Camp Cowen

July 15

Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies Digital Learning Initiative (DLI): New Testament I (B-03) 12-Hour Class Begins

Online

July 15

Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies Digital Learning Initiative (DLI): Ministerial Ethics (Mod-02) 6-Hour Class Begins

Online

July 23-25

Family Camp

Camp Cowen

July 26-29

Older Midler Camp (grades 3-5)

Camp Cowen

July 30-August 1

Camp Global

Camp Cowen

AUGUST

August 6-8

ABMen and Boy's Camp

Camp Cowen

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.

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