

Commissioning Service for “Number Forty-Two!”



It was a beautiful Sunday afternoon on March 5th at the Parchment Valley Conference Center, as Sarah McCloy was commissioned to serve as an International Ministries (IM) global servant to Japan. Over the past year, she has affectionately become known as “Number Forty-Two,” alluding to the fact that she is now the 42nd IM global servant to be commissioned from our WVBC family. However, Leslie Turley (IM Area Director for Southeast Asia and Japan) was quick to suggest that “Number Five” might be more appropriate. With this commissioning Sarah now becomes the fifth WVBC global servant to serve in Japan, joining a list that includes Leslie and her husband David, as well as Bill and Nadine Hinchman.

Joyce Bagiraneza, who serves as an IM Donor Advisor, participated in the service and commented on how quickly Sarah had raised her support. “In all my years of serving with International Ministries,” she said, “I have never seen someone raise support as fast as Sarah!” Since her endorsement last January, Sarah has been invited to speak at 51 churches and 16 association meetings. Beyond that, she has received support from 70 WVBC churches plus numerous individuals. The WVBC family has certainly embraced her! That is what has allowed her to raise her full support in just shy of 12 months!

Other IM staff that participated in the service included Sandra Dorsainvil (IM Director of Short-Term Mission), Dwayne Doyle (IM Mission Partnership Coordinator), Keith and Deborah Myers (IM Global Servants to Mexico) and Susan Rice (IM Board Member). Letters were also read from Sharon Koh (IM Executive Director and CEO) and J.D. and Rhonda Reed (IM Global Servants to Bolivia), as well as a video sent by Gordon and Lee Ann Hwang (IM Global Servants to Japan).

Both of Sarah’s parents had roles in the service. Mary Beth McCloy is the pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Sarah’s home church that actually commissioned her. Mark McCloy, who also serves as the Northwest Area Minister for the WVBC, gave the commissioning message. During his message, he charged the nearly 150 in attendance to continue praying for and supporting Sarah in the years to come.

Now that Sarah has been commissioned, she can officially leave for Japan, which she will do early this spring. Her first assignment will be for five years and will involve language training for at least the first year. After completing language training, she will then work at Shokei Gakuin University as a part-time instructor, teaching English and working with their chaplains’ department. She will also be assisting Shokei Baptist Church, assisting with some of the pastoral needs.

In addition to Sarah, her Mission Partnership Team (MPT) was also commissioned. This team is made up of hand-selected volunteers who have committed to pray for and assist Sarah in a variety of roles during her first-term. Her MPT includes Sandy Foster-Currey, Praise Gardea, Cole and Katie Linder, Rebekah McCloy, Todd McClure, Zola Miller and Ornella Umubyeyi.

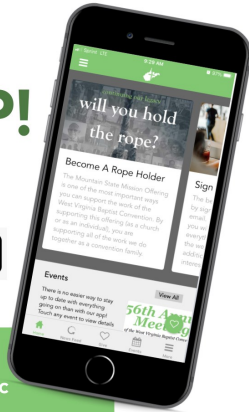
A big thank you goes out to everyone in our WVBC family who has prayed for, invested in and supported Sarah during this journey. It has been exciting to watch as she has listened to, discerned and now obeyed God’s call on her life. A prayer she started praying several years ago was, “The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. Lord, send more workers to Japan.” God used her to answer her own prayer. Will you also join her by praying that prayer? Maybe you will become “Number forty-three!”

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

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by Mike Sisson, Executive Minister

How Did They Know?

In the eleventh chapter of the book of Acts, we read, "And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch." Historically, we know that this was not used as a term of endearment like we use it today. Instead, Christian was a nickname given to the people who were followers of Jesus Christ to mock them by calling them "Christ-ones" or "Little Christs." Professor of New Testament, Craig Keener, in his Bible Background Commentary explains the, "Antiochans were known for making fun of people, but the Christians in the second century decided to adopt the title with pride."

Still, the question must be asked, "How did they know?" How could they tell who was a "Christ-one" and who was not? There were no organized churches with buildings, steeples or signs during this time. The Bible, especially the New Testament, was not in print for them to bind in leather and tote under their arms, display on a smartphone screen or repost on social media. They had no fish emblems on their cars (or cars for that matter) and Christian hymns and praise choruses had yet to be written. And this was long before the advent of cross necklaces or Christian t-shirts.

What were the key factors that identified these men and women as followers of Jesus Christ? Most likely they were identified primarily by their speech and perhaps more importantly their actions! They no doubt spoke of Christ by witnessing boldly of His death, burial and resurrection; proclaiming eternal life to all who accept Him. However, they also spoke like Christ! They refrained from gossip and harsh judgment of others. Instead, their lips uttered words of hope, encouragement and forgiveness. They lived their faith by following Christ's example. Their actions were those of compassion, helping the needy, dealing honestly and with utmost integrity. They served one another, placed others ahead of themselves and showed love to all people. As St. Francis of Assisi is often attributed as saying, "Preach the Gospel at all times, and if necessary, use words."

Jesus said, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:34-35). He also commanded us to, "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:44-45a). In speaking of how the pagan society viewed Christians, even as they persecuted them, early Church father Tertullian wrote, "But it is mainly the deeds of a love so noble that lead many to put a brand upon us. See, they say, how they love one another, for themselves are animated by mutual hatred; how they are ready even to die for one another, for they themselves will sooner put to death" (*Apology*, 39).

Do we as followers of Christ exhibit this kind of love? Can we be recognized as Christians even without the emblems of our faith? Interestingly, someone has presented this question to us, "If you were arrested for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?" After all, Jesus tells us to, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). In a world in need of a credible witness, may we strive to be recognized as "Christ-ones" by our speech and by our actions.

Blessings,
Mike



DOING CHRIST'S WORK *together*

by Intentionally Engaging Communities for Christ

Keith and Deborah Myers Prepare to Return to Mexico

*Written by Keith Myers
Global Servant, International Ministries*

Deb and I spend a significant amount of our time together viewing life through the windshield. As the scenery passes by, so does time. In the past 10 months, our 12-year-old Subaru (a.k.a.: “Stellar Stella”) has amassed 25,000+ miles. It seems like we just arrived at the Mission House a few weeks ago. However, we have around a month before we return to our friends, family, ministry and home in Mexico for another five-year term as missionaries with International Ministries.

Throughout this part of the journey, God has chosen to reveal His story with us through the lens of relationship. Crossing our paths and filling our hearts during our home assignment have been congregations and individuals who love the Lord, the people of CICEM and us. Deb and I want to say “thank you” for your trust and belief in our call. All glory to God!

The visual impression that has been seared into our memories happened at our commissioning service in 2012. John Simmons invited our family to form a circle. He explained that sometimes this would be all that we had. However, next, he requested our Missionary Partnership Team (MPT) to join around us. By the end of the service, the entirety of the congregation surrounded us and prayed. During this home assignment, we have been honored to reconnect with many of those same people.

When we return to Mexico, we will hit the ground running! We have three teams scheduled in June and July. To help us with our teams we will host an intern for six weeks during the summer. In August, we plan on continuing our regional women’s retreats, the theological training of our pastors and our church visits. We are excited to return!



(From left to right): Karla Carr, Colleen Folger, David Bush, Deborah Myers, Courtney Hall, Keith Myers and Frank Sloan posing for a picture after an MPT meeting.

In the meantime, we still have a few weeks in the US. Our minds are racing as we begin to mentally pack and say our “see-ya-later’s” to our friends and family. We each take two suitcases and a carry-on. Our best attempts to not compile “stuff” over the year inevitably fails. Once again, we will have to purge clothes and other paraphernalia. There is freedom found in less. We pray that your lives will be full of Christ-honoring relationships as we serve together in the advancement of the kingdom of God.

mountain state MISSION OFFERING

Intentionally Engaging Communities for Christ

Will your church make it a priority this year to collect the **Mountain State Mission Offering**?

With this offering 100% stays within West Virginia to support our various ministries.

This year’s statewide goal is \$400,000.

Resources are available on our website and will be mailed to churches in early April.

Facility Upgrades at Camp Cowen

In 2023, the **West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen** celebrates 80 years of ministry on this little piece of heaven along the Gauley River. From ambitious but humble beginnings in 1943, the camp facility has grown to 20 cabins, a gorgeous Alice Randall Dining Hall, Hylbert Hall renovations to accommodate more than 350 people, two year-round residence homes, cabins for staff and volunteers, and numerous other outdoor features.

What began in 2020 as the Adopt-a-Cabin program has continued to gain momentum and expand the scope of renovations to the oldest of the camp buildings. To date, all twelve original-style cabins have brand new windows, seven now feature electrical upgrades and all twelve are scheduled to have new doors and storm doors installed this spring!

Constructed in the early years of camp, the main house at camp has supported the year-round care of camp by providing lodging for the staff on-site. Beginning in 2023, the house is undergoing significant renovations, including new plumbing, electrical work, insulation, bathroom renovations, kitchen overhaul and new drywall. This work will prepare the house for the next 80 years of ministry as it houses full-time, year-round staff and family!

How are all these projects possible without impacting camper fees? It is because of generous gifts from faithful servants of Christ who decided to give to the ongoing infrastructure needs of camp, allowing the West Virginia Baptist Camp to continue to improve the facility! Join us in celebrating these improvements and thanking donors whose financial support allows us to be good stewards of the camp facility!

Jill Narraway
Director of Camping and Youth



Volunteers help renovate one of the on-site houses.



Our new Mahindra tractor at Camp Cowen that was purchased to do the heavy lifting and help with other projects around camp.

COWEN SCHEDULE

<u>JUNE 2-4</u>	Younger Midler (grades 2-4)
<u>JUNE 6-9</u>	Leaders in Training
<u>JUNE 11-17</u>	Junior 1 (grades 5-6)
<u>JUNE 18-24</u>	Junior High 1 (grades 7-9)
<u>JUNE 25- JULY 1</u>	Junior 2 (grades 5-6)
<u>JULY 2-8</u>	High School 1 (grades 9-12)
<u>JULY 9-15</u>	Junior High 2 (grades 7-9)
<u>JULY 15</u>	Senior Day (graduated seniors)
<u>JULY 16-22</u>	High School 2 (grades 9-12)
<u>JULY 23-26</u>	Older Midler (grades 3-5)
<u>JULY 28-31</u>	Family Camp
<u>JULY 31-AUG. 4</u>	Raleigh Rockcastle
<u>AUGUST 4-6</u>	AB Men & Boys Camp
<u>AUGUST 11-12</u>	Camp Global



base camp

(noun) a main encampment providing supplies, shelter, and communications for persons engaged in wide-ranging activities, such as exploring, reconnaissance, hunting, or mountain climbing.

At camp, we have a chance to live out Psalm 86:11 as we learn about the Lord, choose to trust in Him, and walk alongside one another as we grow in faith.

Like a base camp for a mountain climber, time at Camp Cowen gives campers time for refreshment, study, encouragement, preparation, debriefing, and equipping.

Focusing on the 23rd Psalm, we will dive into what it means to gather at the base camp!

REGISTER NOW AT
CAMPCOWEN.ORG/REGISTER

Facility Upgrades at Parchment Valley



New LED lighting in the Greenlee Activity Center.



New carpet and furniture in the lodges.

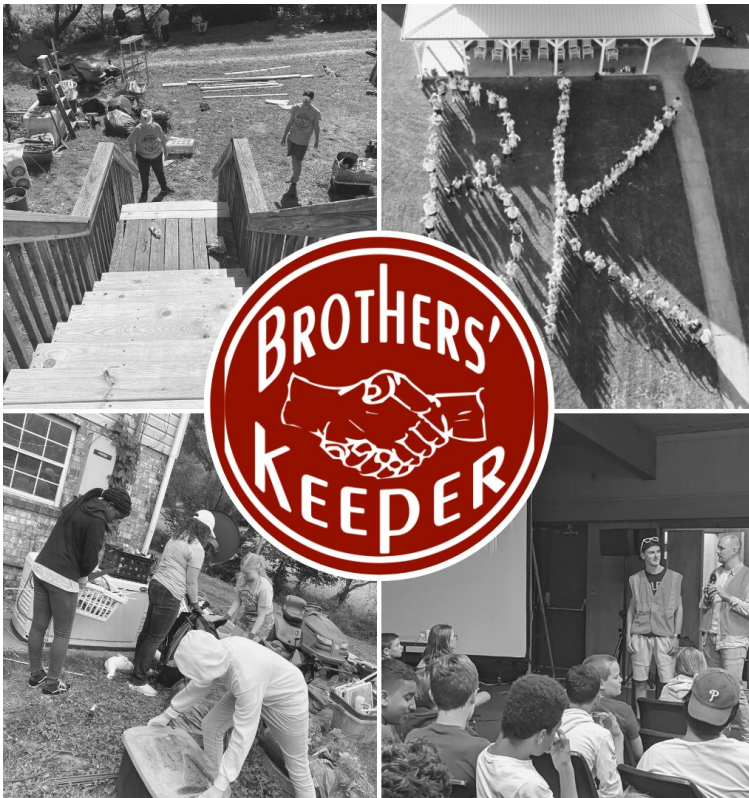
Look what's NEW at **Parchment Valley (PV)**. Since the last edition of the newsletter two months ago, we are excited to celebrate the following facility upgrades:

- New paint, carpet, furniture and LED lighting in the lodges
- New LED lighting in the Greenlee Activity Center (GAC) and new flooring and paint in the Keeney and Crouch rooms of the GAC
- New paint on the water tower after it was professionally cleaned and new security fencing installed around the water tower
- New French drains installed around the pool and House #2
- New furniture in the office and a sliding window installed on the office guest counter
- New eight-person buggy that was purchased to transport guests across the property
- New fiber optic high-speed internet lines installed by Frontier
- New Whippoorwill Covered Campfire that has been fully built and funded

We are so grateful for the staff, the PV Board of Directors and the many volunteers and donors who have helped make these upgrades possible. It is because of you that we can keep our vision alive at PV, of being a place *"where lives are changed."*

Be sure to come visit sometime this spring and see the upgrades! As many of our camps continue to expand, our PV Board continues to explore ways we can continue improving to better serve our guests and WVBC family.

Frank Miller
Parchment Valley Director of Operations



BROTHERS' KEEPER

A REGIONAL MISSION WORK CAMP
FOR YOUTH IN GRADES 6-12

JUNE 18-23, 2023
PARCHMENT VALLEY
CONFERENCE CENTER

*WITH A NEW, ADDITIONAL URBAN WORK
EXPERIENCE IN CHARLESTON THIS YEAR

\$245/PERSON BY MAY 1

\$270/PERSON AFTER MAY 1

LEARN MORE AT:
WWW.PARCHMENTVALLEY.ORG/BROTHERS-KEEPER

Over 225 Individuals Attended This Year's Annual Training Event



This year's event started with a time of worship in Hill Hall, followed by a devotion led by Dana Gatewood.

Over 225 individuals attended this year's **Annual Training Event**, held Saturday, February 4th, at Parchment Valley Conference Center. This annual event is designed to be a day of worship, fellowship and workshops to help individuals better serve Christ and His church. During this year's event, attendees could choose from 14 different workshop options, including both the standard church officer workshops and several newer topics relevant specifically to churches today. Several of these newer topics were extremely well-attended.

If you were unable to attend this year's event but need resources or training for your church leaders, contact Todd McClure at todd@wvbc.org. We would love to provide you with resources from this year's event, or we can also provide you with training specifically tailored to your needs.

Senior High Convention: Discovering the Elements of Community

From the beginning, humanity was hard-wired for community – community with God and with one another. It is a tale as old as time: we want to have belonging and meaning. At this year's **Senior High Convention**, speaker Chris Campbell shared that this may be the single greatest issue of their generation. He then challenged our teens to set the trajectory and blaze a trail forward as they define, practice and model community for our world.

Throughout the weekend, teens explored three key aspects of community: faith, fellowship and action. With Marshall BCM's band leading in worship, Chris Campbell and Jeff Biddle bringing the Word, fun activities and deep discussions, students experienced connection through professing our hope in Christ, confessing our sins and failures and encouraging one another to bring the light of Christ to our homes, churches and communities.

Through the love of Christ, God's transformational work was present among us as two youth accepted Christ as Savior, numerous others rededicated their lives and several students prayed to get their lives back on track. We celebrate the blessing of the community of Christ's children growing together!



212 people from 27 churches gathered for this year's Senior High Convention held at South Parkersburg Baptist Church.

The National Men's Prayer Breakfast Was Held at 22 Churches



Main Street Baptist Church served as one of two National Prayer Breakfast hosts from the Teays Valley Association.

On February 25th, the **American Baptist Men (ABMen) of West Virginia** joined ranks with men across our nation and conducted our annual **National Men's Prayer Breakfast**. As thousands of faithful men assembled in faith, the intentions were to pray for one another, our missionaries, our pastors and our churches. In total, 22 churches representing 18 associations participated.

Jeff Fetty, pastor of Main Street Baptist Church in Point Pleasant, shared, "At Main Street Baptist, we hosted for the first time in four years. We had around 30 in attendance with individuals joining from both Lifespring Community Church and Concord Baptist Church. The deacons and I made breakfast, we had a local quartet sing and we took up an offering for the new ABMen's Scholarship Fund. I then led a Bible Study on the topic of prayer and we spent some time in group intercessory prayer. Finally, we all sang "What a Mighty God We Serve," and Pastor Justin Moran from Concord Baptist closed us out in prayer. It was a wonderful time and we are already looking forward to next year."

In total, between the 22 churches that hosted breakfasts, more than \$2,000 was raised for the new scholarship fund. This fund is being established to help young men from our WVBC family who are entering college or technical school. Students can begin applying for this scholarship in the fall of this year.

If you would like to know more about the scholarship or about the ABMen, you can contact Frank Miller at miller@wvbc.org.

Pastors4Pastors Hosts; “A Pastor’s Perspective on the Book of Galatians”

On Friday, March 3, there were over 20 pastors that gathered at Parchment Valley Conference Center for our **Pre-Bible Conference Event**, hosted by **Pastors4Pastors**. Each attendee enjoyed an evening of fellowship, dinner and worship led by Sam Gasaway. Dr. Lee Spitzer then led us through a chapter-by-chapter “pastor’s perspective” study of the book of Galatians. It was an extremely rich study!

Our next Pastors4Pastors event will be our “Family Picnic,” co-hosted with the Misters’ Wives’ Fellowship. This will take place at Parchment Valley in Shelter #1 on June 10th.

To learn more about Pastors4Pastors, contact Anthony Pratt at anthony_pratt@hotmail.com.



Pictured from left to right: Mike Sisson, Lee Spitzer, Sam Gasaway and Evan Arkell, enjoying a discussion during dinner.

Over 270 Attended This Year’s Spring Children’s Rally



For the opening of their rally, the children enjoyed a sneak peek of Parchment Valley’s new Whippoorwill Covered Campfire.

Over 270 attended this year’s **Spring Children’s Rally**, held on Saturday, March 4th, at Parchment Valley Conference Center. This year’s theme was “Happy Camper,” and children participated in camping-themed Bible lessons, learning that Jesus invites us all to join Him on a great adventure. The kids enjoyed activities, games and songs led by Caleb Villers, similar to what they’re used to at Camp Cowen. And, of course, they had a large group “Attitude Check!”

Every children’s rally also has a mission project. This rally’s project was to collect supplies for the Foster Closet in Grafton, WV. Children brought in items such as toiletries, duffel bags, bedding sets, socks, underwear, gift cards and more. The children have a heart for helping people, and we are thankful for their churches teaching them about serving others!

Go ahead and mark your calendar for the **Fall Children’s Rally**, and plan on joining us on Saturday, November 4th, at Parchment Valley.

8th Annual Bible Conference: The Gospel for All

The 8th Annual Bible Conference was held on Saturday, March 4th, at Parchment Valley Conference Center. This year’s study explored the Book of Galatians and was titled “The Gospel for All.” Dr. Lee Spitzer, former General Secretary of the American Baptist Churches USA, led the study from his recent translation of Galatians, which he referred to as a “devotional interpretation.” The morning session focused on the spiritual journey described by Paul, and the afternoon session focused on the relationship between Jew and Gentile. It was particularly interesting hearing from Dr. Spitzer in the second session, considering he was born a Jew and converted to Christianity at the age of 14.

Around 70 were in attendance and benefited tremendously from this extremely rich study. Several pastors left with some good sermon material for the next few months! We are grateful for the Parchment Valley staff who helped make some last-minute accommodations after the windstorm knocked out the power for most of the area. The staff were able to move us from Hill Hall to the Administration Building and we were able to continue our conference, running off a generator.

Our Annual Bible Conference always takes place on the first Saturday of March. We hope you can join us next year for what will be our 9th conference.



Dr. Lee Spitzer presenting a “devotional interpretation” of Paul’s pastoral letter to the Galatians.

Top 50 Mission Giving Churches



mountain state MISSION OFFERING

1	Hurricane, First	\$29,360
2	Summersville	\$21,558
3	Lubeck Community	\$14,000
4	New	\$14,000
5	Ravenswood, First	\$12,000
6	Oakwood	\$10,816
7	Simpson Creek	\$8,625
8	Parchment Valley	\$7,466
9	Williamson, First	\$6,504
10	Mill Creek, Leroy	\$6,430
11	Reynoldsville	\$6,209
12	Barboursville	\$5,675
13	Beulah	\$5,500
14	Harmony	\$5,400
15	Pea Ridge	\$5,100
16	Clarksburg	\$5,000
17	Grass Lick	\$4,979
18	Genesis Fellowship	\$4,915
19	Buckhannon, First	\$4,800
20	Petersburg, First	\$4,661
21	Racine, First	\$4,500
22	Logan, First	\$4,499
23	New Hope	\$4,235
24	Kanawha City	\$4,200
25	Hopewell	\$4,078
26	Bethel, Hurricane	\$3,581
27	Gassaway	\$3,373
28	Parkersburg, First	\$3,230
29	Pleasant Grove	\$3,196
30	Lacoma	\$3,158
31	Spencer, First	\$3,126
32	Sistersville, First	\$3,100
33	Forks of Coal	\$3,000
34	Judson	\$2,874
35	Guyandotte	\$2,500
36	Sutton	\$2,500
37	Man, First	\$2,400
38	Willow Tree	\$2,200
39	Toneda	\$2,188
40	Old Greenbrier	\$2,100
41	Forks of Cheat	\$2,000
42	Rush Run	\$1,947
43	Matewan	\$1,920
44	Romney, First	\$1,910
45	Goshen	\$1,758
46	Tallmansville	\$1,688
47	New Martinsville, First	\$1,670
48	Emmanuel, Charleston	\$1,660
49	Mount Carmel	\$1,600
50	Wilsonburg	\$1,500



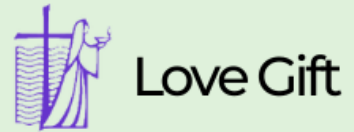
West Virginia Baptist Convention Specifics

1	Saint Albans, First	\$47,667
2	Crab Orchard	\$45,000
3	South Parkersburg	\$23,874
4	Beckley, First	\$22,067
5	Vienna	\$21,935
6	Simpson Creek	\$20,681
7	Elkins, First	\$18,484
8	Emmanuel, Parkersburg	\$16,579
9	Beulah Ann Missionary	\$7,000
10	Highlawn	\$4,784
11	Mount Vernon	\$4,334
12	Hepzibah, Bridgeport	\$3,470
13	The Chapel, Winfield	\$3,194
14	Fairmont Baptist Temple	\$2,752
15	Clarksburg	\$2,500
16	Union	\$2,427
17	Middleville	\$2,355
18	Dunbar, First	\$2,200
19	Ebenezer	\$2,152
20	Diamond	\$2,000
21	Milton	\$2,000
22	Bethesda	\$1,800
23	Romney, First	\$1,550
24	Athens	\$1,300
25	Macedonia	\$1,200
26	West Union	\$1,200
27	Willow Tree	\$1,000
28	Deepwater	\$902
29	Millbrook	\$900
30	Enon	\$817
31	South Charleston, First	\$816
32	Welch, First	\$800
33	Bridgeport	\$750
34	Crum Missionary	\$630
35	Hill Grove	\$630
36	Cyclone	\$600
37	Birch River	\$566
38	Meadow Grove	\$554
39	Williamstown, First	\$500
40	New Life Ministries	\$480
41	Chapel, Big Springs	\$420
42	Mount Urim	\$300
43	North Mill Creek	\$239
44	Connolly Memorial	\$200
45	Main Street	\$200
46	South Fork	\$180
47	The Anchor	\$161
48	Lauckport	\$120
49	Murphytown	\$120
50	Big Cub Missionary	\$100



United Mission

1	Fifth Avenue	\$65,791
2	Oak Hill	\$19,895
3	Calvary, Oak Hill	\$17,736
4	Rainelle, First	\$17,700
5	New Martinsville, First	\$16,819
6	Madison	\$16,000
7	Sistersville, First	\$14,465
8	Summersville	\$12,906
9	Charleston Bapt. Temple	\$12,759
10	Shuck Memorial	\$8,830
11	Saulsville	\$8,767
12	Salem	\$8,242
13	Shinnston, First	\$8,074
14	Dorcas	\$7,504
15	Gilboa	\$7,264
16	Weirton Heights Mem.	\$7,256
17	Meadow Grove	\$6,953
18	Judson, Belle	\$6,675
19	Fayetteville	\$6,414
20	Summit Missionary	\$6,376
21	Emmanuel, Charleston	\$6,167
22	South Parkersburg	\$6,051
23	New England	\$6,050
24	Hope, Frametown	\$5,919
25	Sunrise	\$5,628
26	Mt. Zion, Mineral Wells	\$5,087
27	Nitro, First	\$5,034
28	Elkins, First	\$4,956
29	Little Laurel	\$4,947
30	Petersburg, First	\$4,829
31	Big Tygart	\$4,669
32	Grafton, First	\$4,660
33	Hurricane, First	\$4,406
34	Indian Fork	\$4,309
35	Philippi	\$3,903
36	Gauley Bridge	\$3,750
37	Hamlin, First	\$3,661
38	Rockcastle	\$3,492
39	Olive Branch	\$3,378
40	Glenville, First	\$3,358
41	Enon, Grantsville	\$3,300
42	Vienna	\$3,174
43	Victory	\$3,161
44	Auburn	\$3,018
45	Big Union	\$2,950
46	Harrisville	\$2,750
47	Racine, First	\$2,653
48	Nutter Fort, First	\$2,167
49	Milton	\$2,125
50	Olive	\$2,100



Love Gift

1	Fifth Avenue	\$6,615
2	Hurricane, First	\$4,406
3	Vienna	\$3,174
4	South Parkersburg	\$2,809
5	Racine, First	\$2,653
6	Charleston Baptist Temple	\$2,341
7	Milton	\$2,125
8	Summersville	\$2,073
9	Oak Hill	\$1,895
10	Main Street	\$1,730
11	Auburn	\$1,698
12	Glenville, First	\$1,613
13	Bethel, Rio	\$1,463
14	Fairmont Baptist Temple	\$1,460
15	Goshen	\$1,276
16	Judson, Belle	\$1,247
17	Bridgeport	\$1,214
18	Concord	\$1,200
19	Dorcas	\$1,192
20	Sand Fork	\$1,092
21	Kingwood	\$1,077
22	New Martinsville, First	\$1,059
23	Fayetteville	\$1,014
24	Philippi	\$903
25	Willow Tree	\$839
26	Nitro, First	\$834
27	Mount Vernon, Hurricane	\$802
28	Union Valley, Parkersburg	\$756
29	Lubeck Community	\$742
30	Harmony, Burton	\$731
31	Flint Chapel	\$692
32	Bethel, Morgantown	\$650
33	Weirton Heights Mem.	\$629
34	Emmanuel, War	\$615
35	Lauckport	\$605
36	Everson	\$600
37	Two Runs	\$580
38	Salem	\$556
39	Beulah Ann Missionary	\$549
40	Shinnston, First	\$514
41	Union, Simpson	\$507
42	Judson, Winfield	\$494
43	Burnsville, First	\$487
44	Mill Creek, Leroy	\$486
45	Saint Albans, First	\$485
46	Calvary, Oak Hill	\$478
47	Gilboa	\$477
48	West Warren	\$455
49	Chapel, Big Springs	\$441
50	Baileysville	\$440



Churches of the WVBC for 2022

America for Christ Offering

1	Indian Fork	\$4,309
2	Fifth Avenue	\$3,635
3	Bethesda, Barrackville	\$2,640
4	Gilboa	\$2,549
5	Saint Albans, First	\$2,483
6	Jordan Run	\$2,235
7	Weston, First	\$2,074
8	Rainelle, First	\$2,025
9	Ravenswood, First	\$1,988
10	South Parkersburg	\$1,700
11	Mount Carmel	\$1,600
12	Sistersville, First	\$1,500
13	Guyandotte Missionary	\$1,470
14	Beulah, Grafton	\$1,393
15	Old Greenbrier	\$1,341
16	Fairmont Baptist Temple	\$1,310
17	Pea Ridge	\$1,200
18	Beulah Ann Missionary	\$1,200
19	Charleston Bapt. Temple	\$1,140
20	New Martinsville, First	\$1,085
21	Union, Simpson	\$1,072
22	Wilsonburg	\$1,050
23	Emmanuel, Parkersburg	\$1,045
24	Racine, First	\$1,025
25	Nutter Fort, First	\$974
26	Little Capon	\$919
27	Vienna	\$905
28	Elizabeth	\$880
29	Milton	\$790
30	Mount Vernon, Hurricane	\$720
31	Emmanuel, Charleston	\$705
32	Buckhannon, First	\$670
33	Grass Lick	\$660
34	Elkins, First	\$631
35	Hepzibah	\$631
36	Kanawha City	\$623
37	Calvary, Oak Hill	\$620
38	Salem	\$615
39	New Hope, Parkersburg	\$540
40	Lauckport	\$520
41	Forks of Coal	\$515
42	Diamond	\$506
43	Rockcastle	\$500
44	Hope, Frametown	\$500
45	Valley Bend	\$500
46	West Point	\$500
47	Shinnston, First	\$500
48	Kingwood	\$500
49	Leon	\$450
50	Dunbar, First	\$447

World Mission offering

1	Vienna	\$25,410
2	Hurricane, First	\$17,124
3	Saint Albans, First	\$17,118
4	South Parkersburg	\$15,780
5	Lubeck Community	\$15,250
6	Emmanuel, Parkersburg	\$15,241
7	Romney, First	\$12,150
8	Connolly Memorial	\$10,600
9	Sistersville, First	\$9,169
10	Willow Tree	\$9,052
11	New Hope, Parkersburg	\$8,800
12	Bethesda, Barrackville	\$8,280
13	Mill Creek, Leroy	\$8,244
14	Broad Run	\$7,292
15	Pine Grove, First	\$6,900
16	Cook Memorial	\$6,835
17	Beckley, First	\$6,666
18	Oakwood	\$6,560
19	Summersville	\$6,188
20	Sabraton Hill	\$5,935
21	Beulah, Grafton	\$5,865
22	Enon	\$5,435
23	Hopewell, Mount Alto	\$5,397
24	Spencer, First	\$5,250
25	Hepzibah	\$5,225
26	Goshen	\$4,915
27	Kingwood	\$4,910
28	Parkersburg, First	\$4,686
29	Crab Orchard	\$4,375
30	Indian Fork	\$4,309
31	Matewan	\$4,233
32	Simpson Creek	\$4,000
33	Philippi	\$3,975
34	Calvary, Oak Hill	\$3,950
35	Pleasant Grove	\$3,821
36	Williamson, First	\$3,804
37	Dorcias	\$3,800
38	Parkersburg Bapt. Temple	\$3,691
39	Everson	\$3,600
40	Breckenridge	\$3,600
41	Fairmont Baptist Temple	\$3,452
42	Mount Vernon, Hurricane	\$3,417
43	Union Valley, Pkb.	\$3,255
44	New	\$3,250
45	New Martinsville, First	\$3,235
46	Old Greenbrier	\$3,223
47	Wilsonburg	\$3,100
48	Bethel, Morgantown	\$3,025
49	Middleville	\$3,000
50	North Hills	\$3,000

One Great HOUR OF SHARING

1	Bethel, Hurricane	\$33,205
2	Summersville	\$29,195
3	Gilboa	\$21,125
4	Fifth Avenue	\$20,46
5	Clarksburg	\$11,250
6	South Parkersburg	\$11,193
7	Long Run	\$10,000
8	New	\$9,081
9	Williamstown, First	\$8,044
10	Spencer, First	\$6,480
11	Saint Albans, First	\$6,405
12	Beckley, First	\$6,110
13	Emmanuel, Parkersburg	\$5,853
14	Gassaway	\$5,693
15	Milton	\$5,075
16	Sistersville, First	\$4,811
17	Ravenswood, First	\$4,791
18	Bethesda, Barrackville	\$4,050
19	Charleston Bapt. Temple	\$3,720
20	Calvary, Oak Hill	\$3,425
21	Weston, First	\$3,398
22	Old Greenbrier	\$3,329
23	Grafton, First	\$3,210
24	Lubeck Community	\$3,180
25	Meadow Grove	\$3,150
26	Albright	\$2,926
27	Mill Creek, Leroy	\$2,796
28	Weirton Heights Mem.	\$2,757
29	West Point	\$2,545
30	Beulah Ann Missionary	\$2,346
31	Boothsville	\$2,336
32	New Life Ministries	\$2,250
33	Oak Hill	\$2,171
34	Petersburg, First	\$2,115
35	Fairmont Baptist Temple	\$2,090
36	Goshen	\$1,971
37	Nitro, First	\$1,855
38	Forks of Coal	\$1,710
39	Kanawha City	\$1,613
40	Mount Carmel	\$1,600
41	Philippi	\$1,590
42	Mannington, First	\$1,568
43	Fayetteville	\$1,339
44	Rainelle, First	\$1,241
45	Guyandotte Missionary	\$1,227
46	Sunrise	\$1,215
47	Harrisville	\$1,205
48	Clendenin, First	\$1,125
49	Elkins, First	\$1,100
50	Elizabeth	\$1,090



1	Mount Vernon, Hurricane	\$5,493
2	New	\$4,554
3	Indian Fork	\$4,309
4	Summersville	\$3,772
5	Gassaway	\$3,564
6	Hurricane, First	\$3,290
7	Beulah, Grafton	\$2,706
8	Kingwood	\$2,693
9	Bethesda, Barrackville	\$2,565
10	Spencer, First	\$2,500
11	South Parkersburg	\$2,475
12	Vienna	\$2,450
13	New Martinsville, First	\$2,447
14	Shuck Memorial	\$2,405
15	Hopewell, Victor	\$2,000
16	Charleston Bapt. Temple	\$1,755
17	Weston, First	\$1,651
18	Sistersville, First	\$1,500
19	Romney, First	\$1,430
20	Ravenswood, First	\$1,384
21	Emmanuel, Parkersburg	\$1,321
22	Sunrise	\$1,278
23	Springdale, First	\$1,200
24	Rainelle, First	\$1,095
25	Fifth Avenue	\$1,095
26	Buckhannon, First	\$1,010
27	Williamson, First	\$1,008
28	Beulah Ann Missionary	\$900
29	Sabraton Hill	\$895
30	Parchment Valley	\$888
31	Broad Run	\$875
32	Mannington, First	\$820
33	Hopewell, Mount Alto	\$816
34	Madison	\$800
35	Wilsonburg	\$782
36	Harrisville	\$780
37	Old Greenbrier	\$770
38	Sutton	\$750
39	Calvary, Oak Hill	\$750
40	Elizabeth	\$735
41	Union Valley, Pkb.	\$720
42	Forks of Coal	\$718
43	Diamond	\$662
44	Glenville, First	\$535
45	Fairmont Baptist Temple	\$525
46	Oak Hill	\$510
47	Burnsville, First	\$500
48	Rockcastle	\$500
49	Forks Of Cheat	\$500
50	North Fork	\$500



PALMER

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

SAVE THE DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 23

Seminary Open House

Time: All day

Location: Parchment Valley, Santrock Education Building

Have you considered attending seminary? Please join us and sit in on an actual class. Lunch is provided!

Graduation Banquet

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Parchment Valley, Hill Hall

All are welcome to join us as we celebrate the Class of 2023. You can RSVP on the Palmer WV Facebook page.

For more information, contact Dr. Allan Copenhaver, program director, at (304) 763-8564 or rcopenha@eastern.edu.

Covered Campfire Dedication



It is through your faithful support that we can now celebrate the completion of the **Whipoorwill Covered Campfire**! As part of the celebration, we want to invite you to join us for a special Dedication Service on Saturday, May 6th, at 1 PM.

The Dedication Service will include an opening prayer and remarks by Mike Sisson, a recognition of volunteers and donors, special music from the Putnam Family and a special lighting of the first flame. A BBQ lunch will also be included.

Everyone from our WVBC family is invited to join us for this special day. For those who are part of the WVBC Executive Board, the Dedication Service will take place immediately following the conclusion of Executive Board meetings.

To RSVP, call the Parchment Valley office at 304-372-3675.

BCM Student Spotlight



Photo Credit: Alderson Broaddus University Athletics Website

Baptist Campus Ministry exists on nine different university campuses around the state and has the mission of “changing lives that change the world.” **Dwayne Johnson, Jr.** is one such student who is living out that mission.

Dwayne is a senior Exercise Science major at Alderson Broaddus University. He is originally from Baltimore, MD. He has been a steady leader in BCM, serving as the BCM President for the last two years. He has also had major success in the classroom, being named honorable mention for the Dean’s list last semester. In addition to school and BCM, Dwayne is also on the wrestling team and recently won the Mountain East Conference title at 197 pounds!

With whatever platform God has given him, he continues to give God all the glory and uses that platform to “change lives that change the world.”



April 14-16, 2023

\$50 for the weekend
includes housing, meals & t-shirt

Follow “Women’s Camp WV” on
Facebook for more details

Spring Golden’eers Conference

“A conference for adults 55 years
of age and older”

Love
is in the air

May 1-3, 2023

Parchment Valley

For more information, visit: wvbc.org

89th

Annual Conference

American Baptist Women’s Ministries of WV

Saturday, June 3, 2023

Parchment Valley Conference Center

Theme: “Plant the Seed” (1 Corinthians 3:9)

Speaker: Koreen Villers

Special Music: Brian and Sara McClure

Registration Fee: \$25

* Additional Friday night option at the Whippoorwill
Covered Campfire that includes dinner, worship
and devotions for only \$8 more.

Learn more at wvbc.org

Hosted by Pastors4Pastors and the Ministers’ Wives’ Fellowship

2023

Summer FAMILY PICNIC

JUNE 10 - NOON - 4 PM

PARCHMENT VALLEY (SHELTER 1)

EVERYTHING IS FREE!!!

Bring a side dish to share

Guest Speakers: Jon and Koreen Villers

Special Music: The Putnam Family

Recreational Activities: Swimming, fishing
corn hole, disc golf, hiking and more

Pastors and families can RSVP at wvbc.org

Northwest Area News

by Mark McCloy, Northwest Area Minister

“I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest” (John 4:35).

Do you ever think that Jesus sees something different when He looks at the world? Something different than what we see? It would be easy for us to think that He sees something negative. But this passage sounds anything but negative. I think God originated the idea of possibilities-thinking. When He sees our neighborhood, He sees what could be, not just what is. Let us never forget that all things are possible with God.

Think about how Jesus described His own ministry: “The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.” Lots of things were happening. What is God doing in your neck of the woods?

Here are just a few that I can think of: Auburn Baptist Church has started a new youth group and has had a couple of baptisms. Pond Creek Baptist Church has called Rev. Bill Law as their new interim pastor. Lubeck Community Baptist Church has called Rev. Chad Mugrage back to West Virginia to serve as their new senior pastor. Rev. John Putnam has transitioned into full-time ministry at Glenville First Baptist Church. Weirton First Baptist Church ordained their pastor – Rev. Judi Bartlett-Tomes. And what about revival? Revival meetings began in early

March for the students of Glenville State University, helped along by a number of churches in their area. Two of my associations, Good Hope and Harrisville, will be having roving revivals (meeting for a week at a different location each night) this spring.

God is doing a lot in my area! The question is: what is He wanting to do in your neighborhood?



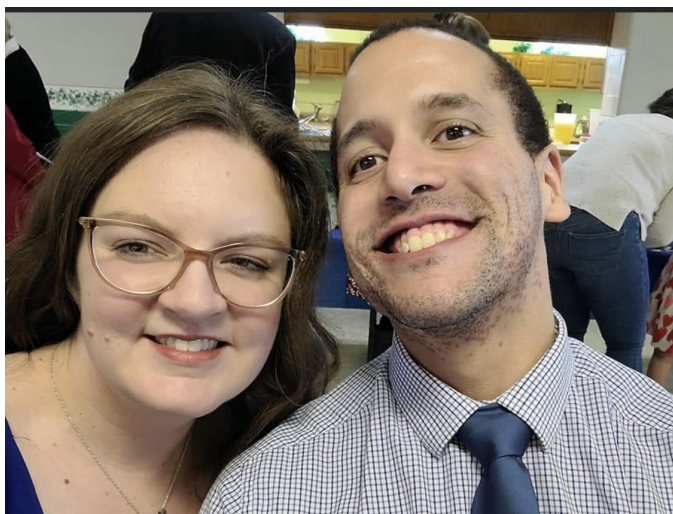
The Putnam family leading worship at Glenville First Baptist Church.

Southwest Area News

by Evan Arkell, Southwest Area Minister

Michael Perry Installed at FBC Nitro

On February 19th, Todd McClure and I were honored to be able to participate in the installation service of Pastor Michael Perry at Nitro First Baptist Church. After worshiping through song, prayer and a great message from Michael, I was able to lead a short service of installation that included charges to both Michael and the church body. A delicious meal was prepared and enjoyed following the service.



Michael and Vanessa Perry after the installation service.

Men's Prayer Breakfasts in the SW Area



Coal River Association Men's Prayer Breakfast at Racine First Baptist.

The Southwest Area celebrated the American Baptist Men's Prayer Breakfast on February 25th with several different churches hosting for their associations. Some of our associations even had more than one location. The Coal River Association men met at Racine First Baptist, the Guyandotte Association men met at both Fifth Avenue Baptist and Pea Ridge Baptist, the Kanawha Valley Association men met at both Kanawha City Baptist and Diamond Baptist, the Logan-Mingo Association men met at Bob Evans in Logan, the Teays Valley Association men met at both Hurricane First Baptist and Main Street Baptist, and the Twelve Pole Association men met at Fort Gay Baptist. I was blessed to have the opportunity to speak at Hurricane First Baptist at 8 AM. Several men praying about issues that God had placed on their hearts made this a special gathering. As if I didn't eat enough there, I was blessed with the opportunity to drop in on the Twelve Pole Association breakfast at 10AM. I was certainly full when I left there!

Northeast Area News

by **David Hulme**, Northeast Area Minister

New Deacons Ordained at Beulah Baptist



The laying on of hands for deacons Matthew Ezzi and John Hardesty.

On January 29th, Beulah Baptist Church ordained Matthew Ezzi and John Hardesty as their newest deacons. The ordination service was led by Dr. David Bess, pastor. I also had the pleasure of participating in the service, alongside Associate Pastor Jonathan Minear and other members of the church's deacon board. The church has been blessed by the provision of these two servant-leader men and their families.

Evelyn Lange Retires at Elkins FBC

A lot of ministry, renovations, remodeling, additions and changes have occurred in the life of Elkins First Baptist Church over the past four and a half decades. However, one constant through it all has been the faithful ministry of Evelyn Lange. Recently, Evelyn retired after serving for 45+ years as the church's administrative assistant.

The church honored Evelyn's ministry with a retirement celebration and dinner on February 19th. As a tribute to her ministry, the church dedicated the Fellowship Hall in her honor. As Evelyn's church family expresses their thanks for her ministry, those of us in her WVBC family who have been blessed by her love and friendship also wish to express our gratitude.



Evelyn Lange is presented a retirement gift from Pastor Brett Rinehart.

Southeast Area News

by **Dana Gatewood**, Southeast Area Minister

Hopewell Association Youth Rallies

Jeremy Nicholas, pastor of Smoot Baptist Church, has "re-booted" the Hopewell Association Youth Rallies which were shut down due to COVID. For many years these youth rallies have given teens from Greenbrier, Fayette, Nicholas and Webster Counties an opportunity to gather and worship each month at different association churches. Students and adults are happy to see these rallies begin again.



Hopewell Association students participate in "Holy Hollywood Squares," competing in teams to answer Bible trivia questions.

Jim Truman Installed at Calvary Baptist

Jim Truman was installed as the associate pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Oak Hill on February 5th. Jim will be working with children, youth and families in the Plateau Area. In addition to his ministry at the church, Jim also works as a public school teacher while pursuing a degree from Palmer Theological Seminary. Jim and Autumn have three sons.



Jim Truman is seen here standing between his wife Autumn and Senior Pastor Greg Swisher during his installation service.

RAMONA GODBY ADKINS, 93, of Union, KY, died on January 15, 2023. She was a member of Hurricane First Baptist Church, where she served as the ladies Sunday School teacher, was active in the American Baptist Women's ministry and served on various committees.

CHARLES DOYLE BOGGS, 82, of Gassaway, died on January 11, 2023. He was a member of Gassaway Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon, trustee and Sunday School teacher.

JUAN "GATOR" ARNET CALLOWAY, 62, of Charleston, died on January 2, 2023. He was a member of Charleston First Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon.

MICHAEL E. COLLINS, 62, of Elizabeth, died on February 17, 2023. He was a member of Strait Creek Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon, trustee, Sunday School superintendent and moderator.

TERRIE LEE FOLEY, 62, of Petersburg, died on February 11, 2023. She was a member of Petersburg First Baptist Church, where she served as a deaconess and Sunday School teacher and was a member of the American Baptist Women and praise team.

EUELL HOSKINS, JR., 92, of Parkersburg, died on February 15, 2023. He was a member of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Mineral Wells, but had previously served as a deacon, Sunday School teacher and treasurer at Enon Baptist Church and a deacon at Grantsville First Baptist Church.

DORSEY PAUL KELLEY, 89, of Bridgeport, died on February 3, 2023. He was a member of Simpson Creek Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon and usher.

HANNAH MARGARET SECKMAN, 105, of Vienna, died on January 25, 2023. She was a member of The Journey on Park Avenue (Baptist Temple of Parkersburg), where she served as a deaconess and nursery volunteer.

MARTHA "PAT" SIMONTON, 89, of Parkersburg, died on January 15, 2023. She was a member of Parkersburg First Baptist Church, where she served on numerous boards and committees and was a member of the Christian Challengers Sunday School class.

MARGIA "FAY" (LUCAS) SNIDER, 92, of Parkersburg, died on January 11, 2023. She was a member of South Parkersburg Baptist Church, where she sang in the choir. She and her husband, Rev. Ray Snider, were also founding members of Boaz Baptist Church. Fay is the mother of International Ministries Area Director and former global servant, Leslie Turley.

ROBERT "BOB" ORAL SPURGEON, 90, of Hurricane, died on February 1, 2023. He was a member of Hurricane First Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon and sang in the choir.

BARBARA JANE STEELE, 81, of Diamond, died on January 26, 2023. She was a member of Diamond Baptist Church, where she served as a secretary.

RYAN CHARLES STOUT, 43, of Worthington, died on December 3, 2022. He was a member of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Mineral Wells. He was the son of Rev. William Stout, pastor of Weirton Heights Memorial Baptist Church.

HELEN MARIE LANDERS STRICKLEN, 88, died on January 26, 2023. She was a member of Nitro First Baptist Church, where she served as a secretary.

DORIS JEAN VANDALL, 88, of Rainelle, died on February 6, 2023. She was a member of Rainelle First Baptist Church, where she served as a children's Sunday School teacher.

EARL A. WHITENER, JR., 90, of Beckley, died on January 22, 2023. He was a member of Beckley First Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon, moderator and Sunday School teacher. He also served as a past president of the WVBC.

Leadership Updates

Tom Hudson to Cedar Grove Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) as pastor 7/01/2022

Christopher Stanley to Union Baptist Church, Simpson (Union) as pastor 11/02/2022

Ezekiel Stepp to Connolly Memorial Baptist Church (Logan-Mingo) as interim pastor 12/04/2022

Bobby Goldsberg to Diamond Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) as pastor 12/04/2022

James Truman to Calvary Baptist Church, Oak Hill (Fayette) as associate pastor 1/01/2023

Austin Young to New Hope Baptist Church, Parkersburg (Parkersburg) as youth pastor 1/01/2023

William Law to Pond Creek Baptist Church (Parkersburg) as Interim pastor 2/05/2023

MINISTRY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

This section was created to be a resource for our churches to be able to advertise employment opportunities across our entire WVBC family. Opportunities are also advertised on our website and included in our weekly emails. If you would like to advertise a position at your church, email Todd McClure at todd@wvbc.org.

The latest ministry positions submitted include:

Youth Pastor (Part-Time)

Location: Beckley area

Accompanist (Part-Time)

Location: Charleston Area

Senior Pastor (Full-Time)

Location: Summersville area

Senior Pastor (Part-Time)

Location: Huntington Area

Learn more about these or any of the other positions at:

www.wvbc.org

Prayer Calendars

April 2023

APRIL 1 – Ngoc Pham, International Ministries Global Servant to Vietnam
APRIL 2 – R.L. Ely, member of the WVBC Outreach Commission
APRIL 3 – The ministry of Saint Paul Baptist Church; Larry Harker, pastor (Fairmont Association)
APRIL 4 – The ministry of Masontown First Baptist Church; William Winston, pastor (Goshen Association)
APRIL 5 – The ministry of Salem Baptist Church; William Kniceley, interim (Broad Run Association)
APRIL 6 – Rebecca Stanton, International Ministries Global Servant to Hungary
APRIL 7 – The ministry of Hilton Village Baptist Church (Hopewell Association)
APRIL 8 – Susan Hegarty, International Ministries Global Servant to Costa Rica
APRIL 9 – CELEBRATE THE RISEN CHRIST!!
APRIL 10 – The ministry of Jordan Run Baptist Church; Charles Stoner, pastor (Eastern Association)
APRIL 11 – The ministry of Fayetteville Baptist Church, Andy Kiddle, pastor (Fayette Association)
APRIL 12 – The ministry of Bethel Baptist Church; Todd Pauley, pastor (Coal River Association)
APRIL 13 – Ammie Rasmussen, member of the WVBC Stewardship Commission
APRIL 14 – AB Men Work Party happening at Parchment Valley
APRIL 15 – Ginny Prunty, Administrative Assistant to the Executive Minister, WVBC
APRIL 16 – Women’s Camp happening at Camp Cowen
APRIL 17 – Carmen Boso, member of the WVBC Discipleship Commission
APRIL 18 – The ministry of Portersville Baptist Church; Harry Moore, pastor (Guyandotte Association)
APRIL 19 – Brian Smith, International Ministries Global Servant to the Dominican Republic
APRIL 20 – Worship Summit happening at Camp Cowen
APRIL 21 – The ministry of Pleasant Dale Baptist Church; Wayne Litton, pastor (Elk Valley Association)
APRIL 22 – The ministry of South Fork Baptist Church; Tom Burrill, pastor (Harrisville Association)
APRIL 23 – The ministry of North Shinnston Baptist Church; Mathew Keith, pastor (Judson Association)
APRIL 24 – Corene Smith, International Ministries Global Servant to Brazil
APRIL 25 – Michael Hopkins, member of the WVBC Leadership Commission
APRIL 26 – The ministry of Hopewell Baptist Church; Andrew Robinson, pastor (Good Hope Association)
APRIL 27 – The ministry of Old Greenbrier Baptist Church; Derek Hall, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh Association)
APRIL 28 – AB Men Work Party happening at Camp Cowen
APRIL 29 – Joyce Reed, International Ministries Global Consultant
APRIL 30 – Valerie Osterbrock, International Ministries Global Servant to Malaysia

May 2023

MAY 1 – The Spring Golden’eers Retreat happening at Parchment Valley
MAY 2 – Sarah Matos, International Ministries Global Servant to Mexico
MAY 3 – The ministry of Glenville First Baptist Church; John Putnam, pastor (Little Kanawha Association)
MAY 4 – The ministry of Clearview Fellowship; Roger Adams, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh Association)
MAY 5 – The ministry of Simpson Creek Baptist Church; Sean Wegener, pastor (Union Association)
MAY 6 – The WVBC Executive Board / Commission Meetings happening today at Parchment Valley
MAY 7 – Nora Kalkman, International Ministries Global Servant to Europe and the Middle East
MAY 8 – The BCM Beach Week beginning today at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
MAY 9 – The ministry of Highlawn Baptist Church; Jason Robbins, pastor (Teays Valley Association)
MAY 10 – The ministry of Curtis Baptist Church; Danny Thomas, pastor (Rockcastle Association)
MAY 11 – Gail McClure, member of the WVBC Leadership Commission
MAY 12 – The Summer Kick-off / Youth Work Party happening at Camp Cowen
MAY 13 – Frank Miller, Director of Operations, Parchment Valley Conference Center
MAY 14 – The ministry of Weirton First Baptist Church; Judy Bartlett-Tomes, pastor (Panhandle Association)
MAY 15 – The ministry of Huntington Baptist Temple (Guyandotte Association)
MAY 16 – Amy Paff, member of the WVBC Discipleship Commission
MAY 17 – The ministry of Broad Run Baptist Church; Allen Burnsworth, pastor (Broad Run Association)
MAY 18 – Laura Freeman, International Ministries Global Servant to Turkey
MAY 19 – The ministry of Long Run Baptist Church; Robey Godfrey, pastor (Elk Valley Association)
MAY 20 – Hermelinda Damasceno, International Ministries Global Servant to United Kingdom
MAY 21 – Lee Ann Hwang, International Ministries Global Servant to Japan
MAY 22 – David Workman, member of the WVBC Stewardship Commission
MAY 23 – The ministry of Newton Memorial Baptist Church; Curtis Harris, pastor (Hopewell Association)
MAY 24 – The ministry of Macedonia Baptist Church (Twelve Pole Association)
MAY 25 – Brett Rinehart, member of the WVBC Outreach Commission
MAY 26 – Wayne Niles, International Ministries Global Servant to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
MAY 27 – The ministry of Gauley Bridge Baptist Church; Allen Donaldson, pastor (Kanawha Valley Association)
MAY 28 – Lynette Smith, International Ministries Global Servant to the Dominican Republic
MAY 29 – The ministry of Dent’s Run Baptist Church; Doug Cyphers, pastor (Judson Association)
MAY 30 – The ministry of Connolly Memorial Baptist Church; Ezekiel Stepp, interim pastor (Logan-Mingo Association)
MAY 31 – The ministry of North Parkersburg Baptist Church; Michael Towner, pastor (Parkersburg Association)

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

Upcoming Events

APRIL

April 14-15
AB Men Work Party
Parchment Valley Conference Center

April 14-16
Women's Camp
Camp Cowen

April 20-22
Worship Summit
Camp Cowen

April 22
Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies: Hospital Ministry (E-04)
Parchment Valley Conference Center

April 28-29
AB Men Work Party
Camp Cowen

MAY

May 1-3
Spring Golden'eers Conference
Parchment Valley Conference Center

May 2
Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies: Communicating God's Word (M-01)
Various locations

May 5
WVBC Executive Committee Meeting
Parchment Valley Conference Center

May 6
WVBC Executive Board and Commission Meetings
Parchment Valley Conference Center

May 6
Covered Campfire Dedication Service
Parchment Valley Conference Center

May 8-15
BCM Beach Week
Myrtle Beach, SC

May 12-13
Summer Kick-Off / Youth Work Party
Camp Cowen

May 15
Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies: Leading People (M-05)
Online

May 15
Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies: Community Ministry (Mod-05)
Online

May 23
Palmer Seminary Open House and Graduation
Parchment Valley Conference Center

JUNE

June 2-4
Young Midler Camp (Grades 2-4)
Camp Cowen

June 3
ABW Ministries Annual Conference
Parchment Valley Conference Center

June 6-9
Leaders in Training
Camp Cowen

June 10
P4P / Ministers' Wives Family Picnic
Parchment Valley Conference Center

June 11-17
Junior 1 Camp (Grades 5-6)
Camp Cowen

June 17
Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies: WV Baptist History (E-02)
Parchment Valley Conference Center

June 18-23
Brothers' Keeper
Parchment Valley Conference Center

June 18-24
Junior High 1 Camp (Grades 7-9)
Camp Cowen

June 23-25
ABC Biennial
San Juan, Puerto Rico

June 25-July 1
Junior 2 Camp (Grades 5-6)
Camp Cowen

JULY

July 2-8
High School 1 Camp (Grades 9-12)
Camp Cowen

July 9-15
Junior High 2 Camp (Grades 7-9)
Camp Cowen

July 15
Senior Day (High School Graduates)
Camp Cowen

July 15
Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies: New Testament I (B-03)
Online

July 15
Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies: Ministerial Ethics (Mod-02)
Online

July 16-22
High School 2 Camp (Grades 9-12)
Camp Cowen

Newsletter Submissions

Send submissions for *The West Virginia Baptist* to: thewvbaptist@wvbc.org or mail submissions to the West Virginia Baptist Convention, Attention: Todd McClure, P.O. Box 1019, Parkersburg, West Virginia, 26102. If you are submitting text, send typed copy only. 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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