

# mountain state MISSION OFFERING

DOING CHRIST'S WORK *together*

by Intentionally Engaging Communities for Christ



**Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM)** has the mission of “changing lives that change the world.” Since 1967, BCM has been engaging students on college campuses all around our state.

In March, the BCM Board approved the launch of a new ministry at Davis & Elkins College. With this new addition, BCM now has a presence on nine campuses. Across these campuses, there are more than 60,000 students, making BCM one of our most important outreach tools for engaging people with the gospel.



**FSU BCM before departing to Mexico for their Spring Break Mission Trip.**

Not only does BCM provide opportunities for students to engage others locally, it also provides them with the chance to engage people around the world. Earlier this spring, 45 students went on mission trips. Fairmont State's BCM took five students to Mexico to work alongside Keith and Deborah Myers. Marshall, Potomac State and WVU sent a combined 40 students to Puerto Rico to work with the Instituto Psicopedagógico de Puerto Rico. These life-changing trips were only possible because of the partnerships of many of our WVBC churches who directly support BCM or who support them through the Mountain State Mission Offering.

**Your support of the Mountain State Mission Offering supports dozens of ministries across our WVBC family, including Baptist Campus Ministry. BCM has long proven to be one of our most effective tools as we seek to “Intentionally Engage Communities for Christ.” When you give to the Mountain State Mission Offering, 100% of your gift stays in West Virginia to support our various ministries.**

**Give today by scanning the QR code above with your smartphone or by placing a check in your church's offering plate with “MSMO” written in the memo line.**

**Learn more at [MountainStateMissionOffering.org](https://MountainStateMissionOffering.org)**

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**Brothers' Keeper (BK)** is a week-long youth mission work camp held each summer at Parchment Valley Conference Center. In 2023, BK celebrated its 23rd year by expanding beyond the Jackson County area to complete work projects in Charleston.

Over the years, more than a thousand homes have been repaired by BK participants. Last year added 40 new projects to that total, and saw 145 youth and volunteers from five different states.

In addition to work projects, participants take part in worship, Bible study, and fellowship. Last summer, five teenagers made decisions to give their hearts to Jesus at BK!

“We change people's lives while God is changing ours,” said Carter Crihfield, a student at Ripley High School and member of the BK leadership team. “We don't realize how blessed we are until we meet someone less fortunate... Sometimes all we need is a walk with the Lord.”



**One BK team installed a handicap ramp for a homeowner's porch.**

**Your support of the Mountain State Mission Offering supports dozens of ministries across our WVBC family, including Brothers' Keeper and the other ministries of Parchment Valley. Each of these ministries are vital, as we seek to “Intentionally Engage Communities for Christ.” When you give to the Mountain State Mission Offering, 100% of your gift stays in West Virginia to support our various ministries.**

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The **WVBC Missionary Internship Program** provides young adults with an opportunity to explore a long-term calling to missions through summer internships alongside one of our global partners. Last summer, Katelyn Dorsey served for six weeks in Mexico alongside Keith and Deborah Myers.

Katelyn said this of her experience, “The time I spent in Mexico was so impactful. My faith is changed as God helped grow me in several areas.

I truly feel like Keith and Deborah are family to me now. The love they show for others is truly a reflection of God’s love for us, and their ministry is absolutely beautiful. I’m so grateful to know them and to have experienced the work they are doing.

While in Mexico, I got to experience the preparation for and visit of three teams—two to Zongozoltla and one to Haucapa. The communities and the people now have a huge place in my heart. Their faith, love and hospitality showed in every action, and I was blessed to have experienced it. I truly hope to see them again soon. “



**Katelyn Dorsey (middle) with Deborah Myers (left) and 2019 Missionary Intern, Cortney Hall (right).**

Your support of the Mountain State Mission Offering supports dozens of ministries across our WVBC family, including the Missionary Internship Program. This program not only helps identify future missionaries, but it also provides a way for young adults to “Intentionally Engage Communities for Christ.” When you give to the Mountain State Mission Offering, 100% of your gift stays in West Virginia to support our various ministries.

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Every year, **Camp Cowen’s** gates open to welcome campers of all ages and walks of life. Since 1943, Camp Cowen has been a place *where people meet Jesus and grow as His disciples in a community of faith.*

With three-day camps for second through fifth graders, weeklong camps for middle and high schoolers, and camping opportunities for the whole family, there is a place for everyone at Camp Cowen. The generational ministry of camp allows us to grow in faith *together*, and to live out the kingdom calling as a unified Church.

The camp theme for 2023 was Basecamp, a dive into Psalm 23 as we learned about God, chose to trust in Him, and walked alongside one another as we grow in faith. In total, more than 1,500 campers stayed at Cowen, and 374 volunteers, counselors, and staff members made camp possible. And perhaps the biggest blessing of all, we saw 70 campers make first-time decisions to follow Jesus.

We can’t wait to see all God will do in 2024 as we study how to be Brave through the love of Jesus!



**A worship service from High School 1 in 2023, which had 118 students.**

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