

Annual Training Event 2026

Morning Workshops @ 10:15am

Short-Term Mission Trip Leader Training (Part 1)

Presenters: Todd McClure, Baillie Myers, Rich McClure

This is a two-part workshop designed to equip individuals to lead a short-term mission trip. We will cover several pre-trip, trip and post-trip topics. Individuals are required to attend both parts in order for their trip to be endorsed by the WVBC.

Same Storm, Different Boats: Bridging the Generational Divide in the Church

Presenters: Jeremy Nicholas

Goal: To help believers understand that while we're all navigating the same spiritual and cultural storms, we're doing so in different "boats." Each generation brings unique strengths, priorities, and perspectives. The church flourishes when we value every generation and move forward together in unity.

Identifying and Discipling Leaders

Presenters: Mike Sisson

The question of how do I find new leaders is not a new one. The answer, however, is another story. What if there was a way to successfully identify and equip new leaders in your church? The good news is there is! Join us in this workshop to discover how.

Faithful Innovation: Using AI to Enhance Your Ministry

Presenters: Trent Eastman

Discover how artificial intelligence can enhance your ministry effectiveness while maintaining theological integrity and pastoral care. This hands-on training equips pastors and church leaders with practical AI skills for everyday ministry tasks. Participants will learn to use AI tools for:

- Biblical Research
- Sermon Review and Evaluation
- Teaching Slide Images and Engagement
- Administrative tasks like meeting summaries

Recruiting Faithful Volunteers for Children's Ministry

Presenters: Koreen Villers

Looking for ways to recruit more kids ministry volunteers? Learn effective recruiting strategies to engage and retain dedicated leaders for your ministry.

God's People, God's Word, God's Purposes

Presenters: Rob Ely

When is the last time you read the Bible with 2-3 friends? We will look at a simple method of walking alongside others to discover and discuss Jesus! We will use the book of John in this workshop.

Small Churches Can Do Big Things

Presenters: Roger and Carol Adams

This workshop shows churches of all sizes, large and small, how you can impact your community in a major way. We know how poverty has hit our state. We want to share with you a plan we have followed for 20 years, and how we have impacted thousands of children. This is not a church growth program. This is real ministry to children who have few positive days in their lives.

Who Are We? Exploring the WVBC

Presenters: Jon Villers

An orientation to the WVBC. Navigating the structure of our Convention as we answer the questions of What is our purpose? Why do we choose to Associate? What are the benefits and advantages? What do we believe? How do we collect money and where does it go?

Church Trustees

Presenters: Mark McCloy

This workshop is intended for those filling the role of "trustee" at your church. Practical and useful information will be provided.

Church Treasurers and Financial Secretaries

Presenters: Mark Miller and Teresa Miller

This workshop will cover the duties and responsibilities of both treasurers and financial secretaries, including how to fill out the WVBC Remittance Form.

Church Clerks

Presenters: Ginny Prunty

Do you know what it means to be a church clerk? Do you know what forms the WVBC expects from you throughout the year? Come and find out the answer to these questions.

Afternoon Workshops @ 1:00 pm

Short-Term Mission Trip Leader Training (Part 2)

Presenters: Todd McClure, Baillie Myers, Rich McClure

This is a two-part workshop designed to equip individuals to lead a short-term mission trip. We will cover several pre-trip, trip and post-trip topics. Individuals are required to attend both parts in order for their trip to be endorsed by the WVBC.

Effectively Communicating with Different Generations

Presenters: Todd McClure and Mike Sisson

This workshop will explore differences between the various generations in how they communicate and give.

Dinner Church: Exploring Different Contexts and Strategies

Presenters: Evan Arkell

In this workshop we will explore what Dinner Church may look like in different contexts, such as at your church, in a community building, low-income apartments, at home, etc., along with some different strategies that you may be able to use in each context.

Christian Pharisees: The Ways We Look More Like Pharisees Than Jesus

Presenters: Jim Butcher

Pastor Jim Butcher pulls from his book "Christian Pharisees" to look at several of the specific ways that we often look more like the Pharisees than like Jesus.

Connected: Building Authentic Community in Youth

Presenters: Jill Narraway

In a world where teens are more digitally connected yet often feel more isolated than ever, authentic community in youth ministry is vital. This workshop explores the current realities and challenges of fostering true connection among young people and leaders. Join a panel of youth pastors as they share real-life insights, followed by an open Q&A to equip and inspire you to cultivate meaningful, Christ-centered community in your ministry.

How Does What I Believe About God Affect my Mental Health?

Presenters: Christa Raitz

Join Christa Raitz, Licensed Profession Counselor, to learn more about how our beliefs about God (our doctrine) affect our thoughts, emotions and reactions and hence our mental health and well-being.

Creating Remarkable Experiences

Presenters: Corey Brooks

This class will equip churches to create “remark”able experiences that make Sundays, youth nights, and events truly memorable. Learn how to build anticipation, engage people deeply, and design moments that feel personal, surprising, and worth sharing. Discover how to honor guests, cast the right people in the right roles, and commemorate experiences with lasting impact. Remarkable doesn’t require big budgets—it comes from using both the head and the heart to love people well and point them to Jesus. Life is measured in time but valued in remarkable, God-centered moments that leave lasting impressions and change lives.

Women’s Ministries in the WVBC

Presenters: Sherry Husted, Koreen Villers, and Board Members

Where do you start and what does MOP, Special Project, WV Hope, and WV Blessings even mean? What's new for 2026? This session will help with all those topics and many more for your local church and association. We will discuss ideas for small or large community outreach projects for your women's group. Updated contact information and activities for 2026 will be shared.

Conflict in Church: Why & What & Where Do We Go from Here?

Presenters: Greg Swisher

This workshop is intended to provide thematic information regarding conflict in church, its impact on health & mission of the church and those conflicted, and some resources to aid in promoting a healthier church.

The Escape Plan: Retreats and Advances for your Ministry

Presenters: Sherry and Peter Coffey

This workshop is for anyone whether you have planned 100 retreats or the idea scares you, but you would like to try. We will share our experiences and have some round table discussions about day retreats, one night and multiple night options. We will touch on planning, costing and resourcing your retreat. Bring your ideas, questions and lets plan! Sherry and Peter have over 60 years combined of Camp, Conference and retreat planning and hosting and look forward to sharing and learning with you.

Deacons

Presenters: Mike Cornell

This session will outline the role of the Deacon as defined by scripture and how it relates to the deacon ministry in today's church. This session is for anyone who is considering or is currently serving as a deacon as well as spouses and pastors. Focus will be on two questions: What does a deacon look like? What doesn't a deacon look like? Purpose is to offer encouragement and clarity for ones that have been called to this important ministry.