

mountain state MISSION OFFERING

DOING CHRIST'S WORK *together*



Dylan is a student at Glenville State University and is known as a very talented young athlete who excelled in high school basketball. He had a very hard upbringing and home life. He first heard about Jesus as a young guy on the basketball court from his coach. He accepted Christ at a young age but had no one to disciple him.

A weekly outreach of Glenville State **Baptist Campus Ministry** is to host pickup basketball and volleyball games on campus. It was there that Lance Linden met Dylan. He was admittedly at the lowest point of his life and was desperate for community. He was invited to BCM and quickly found the belonging that he had so long looked for.

Over the last year, there has been a considerable change in Dylan's life. However, that change did not stop with him. Last summer, his job sent him to Florida for a month, where he just so happened to be placed within a half-hour drive to his grandparents. He used that opportunity to share the Gospel with them, as neither of his grandparents had grown up in church or ever opened a Bible. The day after Dylan visited them, his grandfather discovered he had cancer throughout his entire body and only had a few days to live. He called Dylan, crying over the phone, and assured him that he had given his life to Jesus. Dylan's grandfather is now in heaven.

"*Changing lives that change the world*" is more than just a motto. It is a lifestyle that is being lived out by students and associates on campuses all across our state. BCM is truly making an eternal impact!



Lance Linden speaking to students at
Glenville State BCM.

When you support the Mountain State Mission Offering, 100% of your gift supports our WVBC ministries, such as **Baptist Campus Ministry**. Every penny helps us carry out our mission of **doing Christ's work together**.

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The WVBC's mission statement is "**Doing Christ's Work Together**." The most recent Kenya mission trip provided a powerful example of what that mission looks like in action.

While the 14 trip participants came from two churches, the prayers and financial support came from across the state.



Dedication of the Living Water project.

The **American Baptist Women's Ministries of WV** adopted the team's *Sewing Faith in Tribal Cultures* project as their 2025 Mission Outreach Project. Through their support, the team was able to purchase 15 Singer sewing machines and officially launch the ministry.

The **American Baptist Men of WV** contributed to the *Living Water* project, which brought clean, running water to a village for the first time.

Trip leaders, Casey and Shelly Dawson, participated in a **Short-Term Mission Trip Leaders Training** offered through the **Annual Training Event**, and they have also been active participants in **Camp Global**.

Several of the team members received financial support and scholarships from their churches, their association and the WVBC's mission trip scholarship fund.

During the trip, more than 8,000 people were reached with the Gospel and 26 new believers were baptized. The team also dedicated a new church.

Together, we can accomplish far more than any of us could on our own.

When you support the Mountain State Mission Offering, 100% of your gift supports our WVBC family, including each of the ministries and resources listed above in bold. Every penny helps us carry out our mission of **doing Christ's work together**.

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For the last 13 years, **Parchment Valley Conference Center** has worked with the Jackson County Hunting Heroes to host a three-day hunt for US military veterans. This is one of several events they partner on with the mission of providing recreational and fellowship opportunities to assist veterans with their recovery and rehabilitation.

Frank Miller shared, "Over the years, we have had over 500 veterans participate in our hunts, and we have been able to minister to several who were on the brink of suicide. This ministry has truly been life-changing for those who have participated."



General Chris "Mooie" Walker (left) joins others in recognizing one of our Vietnam veterans.

Participants have traveled from as far as Oklahoma and New Mexico to participate in this ministry. One Florida veteran even moved to West Virginia to be closer to the community he found here.

Part of what makes this event so impactful is that local veterans donate their land and serve as guides to the hunters over the three days. This past year's hunt brought together 20 veterans and guides who hunted across 75,000 acres in Jackson and Mason counties.

Throughout the three days, 25 deer were harvested. But more importantly, relationships were formed, the gospel was shared and hope was restored.

Parchment Valley's mission is to be a place "*where lives are changed.*" Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support. You are impacting the lives of many, including those of our veterans.

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"God is being magnified in the West Garo Hills!" That is how Faith Lambert, a WVBC Missionary Intern, described her experience after returning from a three-week stint in northeast India last summer. "In a country where Christianity is not welcomed, they proclaim Christ anyway and you can see the evidence of God's goodness in their ministry."



Hunter, Isabell and Faith in the streets of Tura.

The **Missionary Internship Program** exists to provide individuals with the opportunity to explore a long-term calling to missions by pairing them with one of our global partners. The Garo Baptist Convention is one of those many partners who have deep ties to West Virginia Baptists. Rob Ely, the Director of Student Ministries for the WVBC, has served as an International Ministries Special Assistant to India for nearly 20 years. He is the one that challenged Faith and other Marshall Baptist Campus Ministry students to consider an internship in India last summer.

Faith wrote this about her experience: "My favorite part was working alongside the staff at Tura Christian Hospital and seeing how they selflessly care for their patients. It was a joy to see healthcare providers show Christ's love to their own people in a way they will receive it. They took the luxury of being a doctor and exchanged it for sharing Christ in a private hospital, and I have so much respect for that."

Faith was joined in India by fellow Marshall graduates, Hunter Mitchell and Isabell Roop. We were also able to send two interns to Mexico and two others to Thailand.

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