

# Seasons

*Seasons is a publication of West Virginia American Baptist Women's Ministries.*



## Women's Leadership Academy

### We are Online!

The Women's Leadership Academy sessions will be available online seven days following each live event. To attend online and receive credit do the following:

- If you wish to receive credit towards a Women's Leadership Academy certificate, go to [www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org). From the menu, select Partners and scroll down to American Baptist Women's Ministries of WV and click.
- Click on Women's Leadership Academy Registration; print off the form, complete it and mail to Zola Miller, Registrar, 29 Wildwood Lane, Spencer, WV 25276.
- Exit from this website and go to [www.YouTube.com](http://www.YouTube.com).
- In the Search Bar at the top of the page, type Women's Leadership Academy WVBC (case sensitive).
- Click on the session you wish to view.
- Under the video box click "Show More" and this will give you a link to Google where you can access and print the handouts for the session.

You may attend a session in person or the recorded session for credit toward a Women's Leadership Academy certificate.



*Transformed Learning...Transformed Living...Transformed Lives*

Please be reminded that you **MUST REGISTER** for each session separately.

A registration form is online on the American Baptist Women's Ministry webpage for live sessions.

See page 13 for September and November session information.



### *There's an App for That!*

The West Virginia Baptist Convention app is now available for Android and Apple products. Download yours today!



[www.facebook.com/WVABWM](http://www.facebook.com/WVABWM)

**AUGUST 2016**  
**Volume XI, Issue 3**

President	2
Women's Day	3
Treasurer	4
Personal Development	5
Mission Outreach Project	
Special Project	
Mission and Service	6
Church and Community	7
White Cross	
Spiritual Growth Retreat	8 & 9
Love Gift	10
Details	11
Weirton Christian Center	12
Women's Leadership Academy	13
65th Anniversary	
Bible Books of the Month	14
SGR Registration	15



**2016**  
**GATHERING**  
**DATES**

**Spiritual Growth Retreat**  
September 23-25  
Parchment Valley

*"Pattern for Living...  
Following God's pattern for  
our lives by living according  
to His word"*

**Women's Day**  
October 20  
Gassaway Baptist Church  
*"Lord, Make Me An  
Instrument Of Thy Peace"*

**Baptist Women's Day  
of Prayer**  
November 7

**President**



*Sherry Goldsburg*  
*President*

Being President is an honor bestowed upon you by God. You have the opportunity to touch the lives of every woman in your circle and church. You are responsible to lead, teach and "show by example" what a Godly woman should be. You can make a difference by being "Christ" to those around you. Look to God for guidance and for wisdom. Pray. Study your scriptures. When you are "spirit-filled" your meeting will be, too.

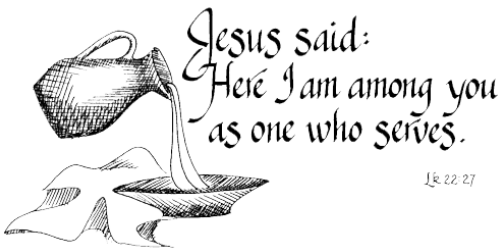
Be well prepared before your meeting. Delegate someone to prepare refreshments, to decorate and have a devotion. Always begin your meeting on time. Make the ladies feel welcome. Begin with a scripture verse or short story. Encourage the ladies to grow in their Christian walk through prayer, Bible study and fellowship. Introduce new ideas: a White Cross project, a craft to be given to shut-ins or nursing home residents or prepare a luncheon for widows and widowers of your church. There is always something to do to let others know you care.

Choose a theme for your meeting and decorate accordingly. Use bright colors, flowers or a bouquet of balloons. Create and present a skit on Love Gift, Special Project or Mission Outreach Project. Have a White Cross dedication. Make your gatherings interesting, so ladies will want to come and share in all that is happening at your circle meetings.

I have been blessed by the reports from the local presidents sharing what is happening in their circles. It is amazing the work being completed by American Baptist women in West Virginia. The ladies have many ideas and work hard on their projects, sharing God's love in their churches, in their communities, across the state, the United States and around the world. They also exhibit their love for God through their generous giving of money. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the service you give to God and His people.

The Spiritual Growth Retreat will be September 23-25 at Parchment Valley. Women's Day is October 20th at Gassaway Baptist Church. Please join us for both events to experience a great time of fellowship and spiritual peace.

*President*  
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# 133rd Annual Women's Day

## October 20, 2016

### Gassaway Baptist Church



## “Lord, Make Me An Instrument Of Thy Peace”

Ordinary people in ministry will share how they use their instruments of peace in daily life. Each of us is a masterpiece from God's hands. We have planned a skit, songs, video and other practical ways to be a peacemaker by using our spiritual voices, hand and feet. Fellowship can be a peace instrument as well, so load up your church bus and travel to the center of the state for a peaceful day in the Lord!



**Special Guest Speaker**  
Vicki Eades

*... and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praise-worthy – meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.*

Philippians 4:7-9

**Refreshments and Registration: 9:00 a.m.**

**Program Begins: 9:30 a.m.**

**Lunch Cost: \$6.00 (payable at registration)**

**Childcare will be available.**

**Directions to the church:** Take Exit 62 of I-79 (Sutton/Gassaway). At bottom of ramp, turn on South Route 4 toward Gassaway. After passing 84 Lumber on the right, and a trailer park on the left, take a left on WV Forest Products Road (look for the “Welcome to Women's Day” sign.) Go over the bridge and to the top of the hill to the church.

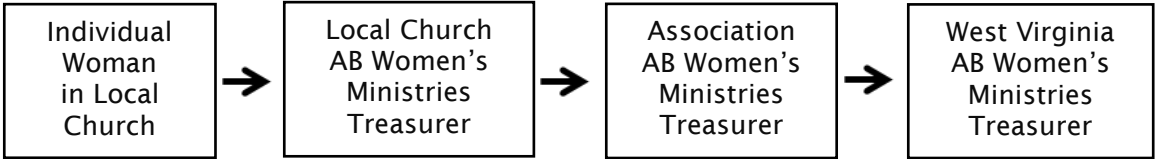
**Registration is inside the front door. The church address is 56 Beall Drive, Gassaway, WV 26624  
Please call the office at 304.364.8843 if you have questions.**

Treasurer

West Virginia American Baptist Women’s Ministries Funds

Thank you for giving to AB Women’s Ministries of West Virginia. Your monetary gifts and prayers support ministries in West Virginia, nationally and internationally.

Contributions to AB Women’s Ministries projects must be sent through the following channels:



*If you send money for Special Project, National Support, Mission Outreach Project, Scholarship, etc. directly to the WVBC office, you cannot get recognition through AB Women’s Ministries of WV. Money must come through the association AB Women’s Ministries treasurer to the state AB Women’s Ministries treasurer.*

To qualify as a **Blue Ribbon Church** and be listed on the **Honor Roll of Churches** all contributions to Special Project, National Annual Support, Mission Outreach Project and Scholarship must be sent to the association AB Women’s Ministries treasurer by December 15<sup>th</sup> and AB Women’s Ministries of West Virginia treasurer by December 27<sup>th</sup>.

Make all checks payable to: **AB Women’s Ministries of WV**  
Contributions received after December 27<sup>th</sup> will be applied to next year’s report.

**SPECIAL PROJECT** -- The Special Project Committee chooses a ministry within West Virginia such as: Parchment Valley, Weirton Christian Center, Camp Cowen, etc. The Coordinator of Church and Community sends quotas for each association to the association president.

**NATIONAL ANNUAL SUPPORT (NAS or NATIONAL SUPPORT)** -- National American Baptist Women’s Ministries uses 100 percent of your gift to provide ministries to empower women and girls to serve Christ. The National AB Women’s Ministries provides programs, resources and leader training for women and girls in West Virginia and other states/regions across the United States and Puerto Rico. More information can be obtained by going to: [www.abministries.org](http://www.abministries.org).

**MISSION OUTREACH PROJECT (MOP)** -- The Mission Outreach Project Committee chooses a ministry recommended by one of our international missionaries. No suggested quotas are sent to the associations.

**SCHOLARSHIP/LOAN FUND** -- The Scholarship/Loan Fund supports eligible women going to West Virginia accredited colleges or universities. Applications are received by the Coordinator of Scholarship. The Scholarship Committee considers all applications. Recipients are recommended to the AB Women’s Ministries Board of WV for vote. The amount a young woman receives each year is determined by the amount of money received the previous year from: 1) contributions, 2) scholarship repayments and 3) interest.

If you attended Conference 2016 please correct page 3 of the Treasurer’s Report. Teays Valley Association giving: Special Project, \$1,470.00; National Support, \$190.00; Mission Outreach Project, \$2,336.50; Scholarship, \$560.00 and Other, \$130.00 for a total of \$4,686.50.

Treasurer  
Linda Carpenter  
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Washington, WV 26181  
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Make a copy of this sheet and give to the treasurer of your group.



# Personal Development Ministries

“Live Your Passion.” This month, over 8,000 athletes from 207 nations will live this motto at the summer Olympic Games in Rio through 28 sports. The Olympics is an international event and a symbol of continuity of people from six continents. In a sermon by the Bishop of Pennsylvania during the 1908 London games, he said “the most important thing is not to win, but to take part.” One cannot win without entering the race. We can parallel this to our spiritual life. We first need to seek God’s will, then follow the paths set before us. However, it is not a race to win. It is the desire to be obedient and leave spiritual footprints along the way.

Before the games begin, the Olympic torch is lit in Greece. Then it begins the journey to the host city. Our desire to seek God is like a flame burning inside of us, and our yearning to be more like Him burns along our spiritual journey. Sometimes the Olympic flame burns out, but it is relit along the way. Our lives can sometimes get messy and our spiritual flame can suffer, but through faith and prayer, we can reignite our passion and continue on our journey. Christ is our Light and His passion for us never waivers.

Over the venues for the games, the Olympic flag with the five rings will be raised. There are five colors, representing the five continents (the Americas are combined.) The colors can remind us of life in Christ:

- blue for Christ, our Living Water
- green for growth through the Holy Spirit
- black for our sinful nature

- red for Christ’s blood shed to cover those sins, and
- yellow for those streets of gold we will walk, when our race here on earth is done. II Timothy 4:7.

Have you thought of what a mission field the games could be? Many athletes from various countries, their coaches, family, friends and fans will be in one place. Think of the possibilities one could have to introduce Christ! We would have to “take part” and have the passion to share. God would provide the means to minister over continental and language barriers and orchestrate the continuity design.

At your next meeting, have an Olympic theme. Carry the torch (candle) into your room and light the “Olympic Center-piece.” Divide into 5 groups and pray for a continent, ministries, schools, etc. Or, select a night to watch the games with a devotion/snacks. Host your own games; bean bag toss (shot put), putt putt (1<sup>st</sup> year for golf!), stick horse races (equestrian), etc. Do sand art (beach volleyball) or demonstrate Taekwondo. Ideas are endless.

What is your passion? Are you taking part? Choose God for your life coach, stay in training by His Word and let no man extinguish your flame.

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# Mission Outreach Project 2016

## MOP 2016

### Bucks for Buckets of Clean Water for Sugar Cane Workers in the Dominican Republic

\$50.00 will buy a filter bucket giving clean water to an entire family!

Send money to your Association Treasurer

YouTube video for Information on Filter Buckets: Search "Wine to Water/Filter Pure Promo Video."

As of August 1st, we have received \$17,300.23

# Special Project 2016

## Weirton Christian Center

### Preschool Program

Goal: \$12,000

This money will purchase the following for the preschool program:

- new tables and chairs
- storage units
- four computers
- a book and communications center

The Center provides a Christian education for three to five year old children.

As of August 1st, we have received \$9,091.75

**Monies for these two ministries must be sent to the association treasurers by December 15, 2016**

## Mission and Service Ministries

...build God's faith community

### WHAT'S NEW WITH OUR WEST VIRGINIA MISSIONARY PARTNERS?

#### Keith & Debbie Myers -- Mexico/Chicken Project



This project seeks to raise \$44,319 by June 2016. The funds will provide 160 families in the southern states of Mexico each with 24 chickens, chicken feed, incubators and materials to build chicken coops. The purpose of the project is to help these indigenous people become self-sufficient and have a steady source of protein. The mobile tractors (chicken coops) are now available.

Josefe is holding an egg from one of the chickens she raises. Your gifts will provide a coop so that during the rainy season her chickens won't be washed away. The chickens will not only help feed Josefe's family but also enable her to supply meat and eggs for church events. In 2015, WV AB Women's Ministries raised approximately \$24,000 to help with this project!

#### Debbie Mulneix -- Philippines/Samaritana Transformation Ministries

Debbie supports the anti-human trafficking work of Samaritana Transformation Ministries (STM) in Manila, the Philippines. She assists in the development of the Guest House facilities and the marketing of livelihood products, such as jewelry and greeting cards.



STM provides a safe, comforting place for women to BE. For the most part, these women have never been in relationships that encourage them to be themselves. They have never known people who accepted them as they are. They have always been "the giver" in relationships, not "the receiver." They have never had long-term friendships. Samaritana assists these women, as they develop many relationships that will last a lifetime, and one that will last through eternity. In February 2016, ten AB women from West Virginia went on a mission trip to minister to the women at STM. Debbie made a wonderful video about this mission trip.

#### J. D. and Rhonda Reed -- Home Assignment Ending



It has been a busy, but full eight months for the Reed family as they have been back in the United States for their home assignment year. It was a blessing for them to visit many churches and share how God is working in Bolivia.

They are pleased to let their missionary family know Rhonda has just completed her first year of her Master's Degree in Global Public Health Nursing at Cedarville University. At the end of the year, as a recognition of her hard work, Cedarville recognized her and gave her a small institutional scholarship. J.D. has begun working on his Doctorate of Ministry in Contextual Theology at Northern Theological Seminary. Please be in prayer for them, as they work on their studies and they return to Bolivia.

Information on our West Virginia Missionary Partners can be found at [www.internationalministries.org](http://www.internationalministries.org)

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**Church and Community Ministries**  
...build God’s faith community

When you read this, it will be late summer. Time to harvest gardens, trim flowers or repot them and prepare ourselves for cool weather.

Do you know someone that could use help with those chores? Can you recruit the church youth to help with this endeavor? What about the men of your church, would they be willing to help?

ASK! We never know what people can and will do in our church community until we ask them. Many people will do things if we personally ask them. Try It! Let me know what happens.

Your church community can be those just within your church or you can broaden the boundaries by reaching out to many others in the community. Too often we do not include those outside our "circle." There are many others that can use a kind word, a good deed, a warm invitation, etc. What about the single mom or dad in your church/

community? What about a recent widow or widower in your church/community? What about the struggling young couple in your church/community? There are many opportunities available. It is up to you to find and reach out to them.

I wish you a happy fall season. This will be my last writing for *Seasons* as my term is about to end. (Do not forget our Special Project for this year: WEIRTON CHRISTIAN CENTER PRESCHOOL FURNISHINGS. Your new Church and Community Coordinator will be Mary Ann Wilson. I pray each of you will take the suggestions I have given you the last two years and go into your communities and share Jesus' love.

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**White Cross**

As I come to the end of my term serving on the state board as Coordinator of White Cross, I want to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to all of you for the help and support I received at the beginning of this adventure and continued to the end. I have served with wonderful ladies, who believe whole heartedly in this ministry and give it their best.

It is my prayer each of us will continue to support our missions and missionaries through this ministry. It is a program we can all be involved in, from the youngest to the oldest, at our group meetings or in the comfort of our homes. Missions involves and helps everyone. Jesus taught us it was/is more blessed to give than to receive, and if we are honest with ourselves, we can all say we always receive more than we ever give away.

As I began to compile the year-end association reports, it is evident we have had busy women this year. The following is a short list of the handiwork you have done:

Roller bandages - 1,114	Cloth Squares - 1,750
Adult Quilts - 16	Baby Quilts - 40
Health Kits - 8	School Kits - 10

Plus...community service projects such as: Helping Hands, cancer care centers, hospice, school backpacks, Christmas shoe boxes, food pantries and the list just

keeps going. Blessings to each of you.

I know the changes in the quotas have been confusing and somewhat difficult. I know there will be more changes before all the kinks are completed. The paper work is important and helpful when putting things together for the next year. The forms do need to be updated, and it is my understanding the ministry boards are working on them. Feel free to contact these boards with questions or suggestions. Periodically, check the web sites [www.internationalministries.org](http://www.internationalministries.org) and [www.abhms.org](http://www.abhms.org) for resources, testimonies, ministry opportunities and much more. Read stories of how our ministries have helped in ways we never knew were possible.

Again, thanks to each of you, and remember.....*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of all compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.* II Corinthians 1:3-4

*Coordinator of White Cross*  
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# *Spiritual Growth Retreat*

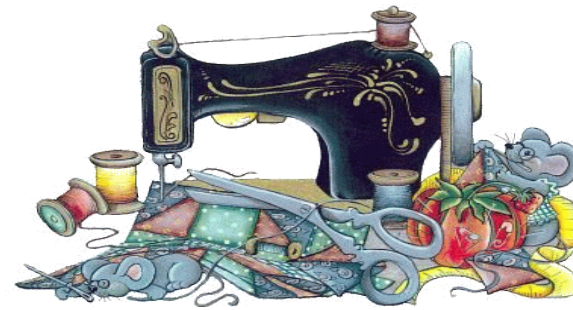
*September 23-25, 2016*

*Parchment Valley Conference Center*

## **Pattern of Living...**

Following God's pattern for our lives by living according to His word

*Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Romans 12:2*



**SPEAKER:** Kim Weaver,  
Executive Director, Weirton Christian Center

**MUSIC LEADER:** Judy Prater, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Parkersburg

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Sue Hamric, First Baptist Church, Spencer

Registration begins on Friday, September 23 at 4:00 p.m.  
Program begins: 7:00 p.m.

*\*No Friday evening dinner or Sunday lunch*



**WORKSHOPS:**

- Puerto Rico** - Alejandrina Ortiz, President of AB Women’s Ministries of Puerto Rico
- Philippine Mission Trip** - Zola Miller and Liz Stewart
- \*\*Crafts** - Ammiee Rasmussen
- Leadership Academy** - Debbie Higginbotham (*see page 13*)
- Patterns of Prayer** - Sandra Lutz and Mary Ann Wilson
- \*\*\*Book Review** - Debbie Higginbotham  
*“Renting Lacy: A Story of America’s Prostituted Children” by Linda Smith*

**\*\* for the craft, bring a colorful seamless t-shirt and scissors**  
**\*\*\* purchase book/read and be ready for discussion**

**You are invited to participate in the retreat choir.**

***Spiritual Growth Retreat Special Guests***

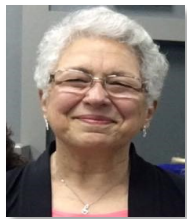
***Guest Speaker: Kim Weaver, Executive Director, Weirton Christian Center***



Betty Killian retired from the Weirton Christian Center in 2006 after 45 years of service. After two years of prayer and consideration, Kim was appointed Executive Director. Kim’s main focus is on children. Starting with approximately 45 children in preschool and afterschool in 2006, Weirton Christian Center has been energized and in 2015, served 277 disadvantaged children from the age of 3 to 18 and their families. Kim’s belief is that since our children are our future, and in Matthew 25, Jesus explicitly tells us to care for the “least of these” as if it were Him – the work is already determined at Weirton Christian Center.

Kim’s husband went to be with the Lord in 2004 and her only son went to college in 2005, leaving a lot of time on her hands, so the Christian Center became her main focus and still is to this day.

***Music Leader: Judy Prater, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Parkersburg***



Judy taught math in Wood County until 2007 when she retired after 31 years of service. She also retired as Director of Music Ministries after 33 years at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Parkersburg. Judy is currently enjoying participating in several other ministries at her beloved Emmanuel. She is the mother of Jason, a designer in Memphis and Mike, an educator in New York City. She is the proud grandmother of Jalen, who will be a college freshmen this fall. Judy is thankful that God continues to provide opportunities for her to lead His children in worship through music. American Baptist Women’s Ministries is one of the great blessings in her life.

## Love Gift

Thanksgiving and Christmas are just around the corner. Family holidays and many blessings are involved in these holidays. Do not forget to thank God for the blessings all year long. You may volunteer at a food pantry or soup kitchen this time of year. There are blessings there, too. Go to a nursing home or assisted living home, it does not have to be on Thanksgiving or Christmas Day. You may not know the people you are visiting, but they love the company and many do not have family near the area. Bless those people with your talents. If singing is your talent, share it. The ladies love to have their fingernails filed and they love to play Bingo. Others just like to talk. Are you a good listener? Have your AB Women's Ministries take snacks or ice cream.

There are as many blessings as there are different kinds of snowflakes in one year. Take advantage of those blessings to help someone in need. A penny, nickel, dime and quarter all add up. SO, COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS EACH DAY!

### PUMPKIN PARABLE

Sometimes I feel like I'm a pumpkin.  
Please don't think that odd.  
I'm growing in a pumpkin patch  
That's planted there by GOD.

God picks me from the Pumpkin Patch  
And washes off the dirt;  
Scoops out the seeds of sin and hate  
And anger, greed and hurt.

And then to show how much I'm loved,  
God does me up just fine,  
And opens up my mouth and eyes  
All part of God's design.

Then filled with love, God sets me out  
For everyone to see,  
So all the pumpkins in the patch  
Can see God's light shine through me.



Do not forget your L & G DOLLARS. These are dollars that have an L or G in the serial number. The letters stand for Love Gift, and it is a fun way to collect more Love Gift. We are  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way through 2016 and our goal of \$120,000 is reachable. As of August 5<sup>th</sup> we have given \$66,684.00 Thanks for all your hard work and keep the blessings coming.

We can share God's ministry through our gifts of love, so others can spread God's word throughout the USA and the world.

Cindy Brooks  
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## Details *...the difference is in the details*

### Communication

When we think of communications in women's ministry, we think about how we might promote our meetings, keep our officers informed, invite others to join us for meetings, a prayer chain and announcements in the church bulletin. You get the picture. Communications is all about staying in contact with our women...right? Well, that is part of it. But what about your communication with God? You, whether you are a leader or a follower, need to be in constant communication with God to know what He has in mind for you to do. Posted on Pinterest recently was this saying, "God will lead you where He wants you to be, but you have to talk to Him daily to see where He wants you to go. The key is prayer." Here are some easy ways to stay in touch with your Heavenly Father.

- Take five minutes in the quietest part of your day to talk to God. That may mean getting up five minutes earlier or going to bed five minutes later or using five minutes of your lunch hour. Find that extra five minutes where it works for you.
- Instead of you doing all the talking, spend time listening.
- Use scripture as a guide to help you pray and listen:  
Psalm 34:4  
I Thessalonians 5:17  
James 5:16  
Matthew 6:9-13  
Jeremiah 29:12  
Romans 8:26  
I Corinthians 14:15  
Matthew 26:41
- Keep a prayer basket. This is not a new idea but one that bears repeating. Fill a basket with a Bible, a journal, note cards, pen, tissues, candle and devotional. Keep the basket in your favorite prayer spot and it will be available to you whenever you come to prayer time. Seeing it will remind you that you need to take time to pray.
- Remove all distractions before coming to prayer. Turn off the television and put your phone in another room. Rather than using the Bible app on your phone, how about using a paper Bible so you will not be interrupted by text messages or phone calls.

Remember, when you go to prayer, you may think you are inviting God to be present. But in reality, this is God's invitation to you to spend time with Him!!

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. Philippians 4:6*

Hospitality

Anytime during the year is a good time to throw an Operation Christmas Child party. At our church, we are asked to bring small items all through the year for the shoe box project. Large boxes placed throughout the church remind us there will come that special time to pack shoe boxes. The goal is to pack 100 extra boxes besides the ones individuals bring for the project.

Why not have an Operation Christmas Child party? It can be anytime. Have as many guests, any age, as you can handle. Each guest brings 12 of the same item (soap, combs, toothbrush, crayons, toy cars, small stuffed animals, etc.) You can email Samaritan’s Purse ([www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org)) and they will send you the boxes already decorated and a video of their ministry.

Start the party by watching the video as a group while someone lays all the items on a table. After the video, talk to your guests about what will happen to the shoe boxes and how sending them to destinations for children will be showing Jesus to children around the world. The guests take a shoe box and walk around the table choosing items to fill it.

Have some refreshments, make a card to go in the shoe box and then gather in a circle and have prayer for the children who will receive the shoe boxes. The nice thing about this party is that it is a giving party. No one goes home with a treat bag.

This could be done as a birthday party for a child, or at a family reunion as an activity, or as a get together in your neighborhood. The fun is doing something for others in an easy, simple way. AND, it might not even be stressful!

Leadership Tips 101

John Maxwell, a pastor, an equipper of leaders and motivator, has said “leadership development is a life-time journey – not a brief trip.” That says, you are never too old to learn something new.

How do you see your role as a good leader? Take the “True or False” test below:

- T F A leader is an initiator. She helps provide the spark to get things going.
- T F She helps the group set its goals.
- T F She helps provide a sense of direction.
- T F She helps find facts or provides resources as needed.
- T F A good leader will raise questions, draw out ideas and help get them implemented.
- T F Leadership involves servanthood – performing chores and accepting blame.

All were true. In fact, our job as leaders involves initiating, stimulating, inspiring, harmonizing, guiding, evaluating, informing, questioning and being a servant.

Leadership is shared by all of us!!!!

*“I wondered why somebody didn’t do something, then I realized that I was somebody.”*  
Anonymous

Get Acquainted and Team Building

There are 11 essential vitamins and minerals. We all need our vitamins and minerals! They are the most essential nutrients the body needs!

For fun, have a basket filled with:

- Sweet potatoes
- Carrots
- Bananas
- Beans
- Oranges
- Kiwi
- Mushrooms
- Sunflower seeds
- Kale
- Corn
- Cheese
- Pumpkin seeds
- Dark chocolate
- Something whole grain

Ask your ladies to decide which vitamin or mineral each represents!  
After all, we need a little of each of these daily.

Our spiritual lives need vitamins and minerals daily also! Have another small basket with slips of paper listing the vitamins below. Ask women to relate how each is good for the body but also good for the soul. See if they can relate scripture to the vitamins and minerals. Have fun! And no fair taking chewable tablets!

- Vitamin A – healthy eyes, teeth
- Vitamin B – energy production, immune function
- Vitamin C – strengthens blood vessels
- Vitamin D – strong bones
- Vitamin E – blood circulation
- Vitamin K – helps makes your blood clot
- Folic Acid – cell renewal
- Calcium – more healthy teeth and bones
- Iron – builds muscles
- Zinc - immunity
- Chromium – makes sure every cell in your body gets energy as needed

# Weirton Christian Center

The Weirton Christian Center has been serving the children of Weirton since a Baptist missionary started it all in 1917. To this day, we could not do what we do without the support and “MISSION MINDS” of our Baptist family. Ninety-nine years later, wonderful people from all over the state are making a huge difference in what we do on a day-to-day basis. We could not do what we do, if it weren’t for the hearts and generosity of our Baptist family.

Each school year, we are provided with just enough QUARTERS FOR GRADES money to award our children for their daily attendance, homework completion and report cards. Your collections throughout the year make it possible for us to encourage and reward our children who may receive no other recognition for their efforts. We are hoping to replenish our supply for the new school year. Please keep sending your contributions. Checks are good as quarters are heavy to mail.



We survive only on donations. The collections of paper products, cleaning supplies and afterschool snacks mean so much to us. Each year, we value our in-kind support of items we need at close to \$20,000. Pine Grove, Parkersburg Association, just delivered their annual batch of school supplies. Our children depend on us for these items year round. We have come to depend on the Radabaughs and a few groups who bring us paper products and afterschool snacks.

Our White Cross from the AB women has become so much a part of our ministry. The donation room is stocked in case someone needs diapers, baby items, underwear, socks, clothing and school supplies. The stamps we receive get us through the year. The Knot-Heads and Knit-Wits from Saint Albans provide us with quilts, hats and gloves each year. Beulah Ann’s Sew-Blast Club provided handmade pillowcases for camp and South Parkersburg ladies brought us a load of camping supplies for hygiene kits. The women from Simpson Creek hand-delivered their White Cross donation in March. We love it when we get to spend time with you. The gift cards your groups provide enable us to get what our kids need, when they need it – in the right size, or help their families with something they desperately need.

Then there are the WORKERS! This year, we had a group of amazing young people from New Baptist Church in Huntington come to the center, led by Lee Boso. They worked around the center fixing, planting, sorting and creating the hygiene kits for camp, organizing donations in the basement and painting EVERY room in the main building. Their creativity was amazing. They turned one room into the outside of a church building. They had such an awesome spirit of love and helpfulness.

In order for them to spend time with some of our kids, we took our Scripture Contest winners to Kennywood Park and they got to spend one-on-one time mentoring them. What a great experience! We cannot wait for them to come back. We welcome any group who would like to take a mission trip to either help with tasks at the Center or work with our children. Once the new building goes up, there will be much painting and finishing work to do!



We cannot thank American Baptist Women’s Ministries of West Virginia enough for choosing our new preschool as your Special Project. May God bless richly bless you for all you do for so many!



Kim Weaver  
3012 Elm Street  
Weirton, WV 26062  
Phone: 304.748.2353  
Email: [center@comcast.net](mailto:center@comcast.net)





Womens Leadership Academy

**Saturday, September 24, 2016  
Parchment Valley Conference Center  
1:30 p.m.**

Debbie Higginbotham, Leader

*What we shall be has not yet been revealed.*  
1 John 3:2

As human beings our life and existence is open ended, a total mystery and future directed. We are works in progress being shaped by the constant rhythms of nature and experiences of life. As nature and history interact with you as an individual that is incomplete, personal formation happens. This personal formation is a fundamental characteristic of human life as it sculpts our will, our emotion and our intellect. For Christians, nature and self is not the final source of personal formation. God, who formed all things, molds human beings into their truest destiny - the total praise of God (Isaiah 43:21). This molding and shaping by God when we constantly seek Him is spiritual formation.

**Saturday, November 5, 2016  
Parchment Valley Baptist Church  
10:00 a.m. until after lunch.  
Lunch will be provided.**

Lisa Simmons, Leader

Developing a Vision for Your Ministry

Participants will learn what vision for ministry is and why it is important to all organizations, even local church ministries! The session will also cover a Biblical foundation for vision, a method to discern and develop a vision for ministry and how to help others understand and use the vision as the foundation for service. Participants should bring their Bible.

Registration for all Women's Leadership Academy sessions can be found at: [www.wvbc.org/Partners/](http://www.wvbc.org/Partners/) American Baptist Women's Ministries of WV.

## **Did you know.....? 2016 is the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of American Baptist Women's Ministries!**

In 1953, the National Council of American Baptist Women was formed to create a national organization to which each American Baptist woman could belong, and to expand the ministry to include the total mission of the church, including missions with women in the United States, Puerto Rico and all over the world. Women wanted to be able to elect their own officers and chairperson who could focus their energy on the needs of American Baptist women and all that these women could accomplish by working together. They also wanted a focus on leadership development of women to develop a greater capacity for ministry and mission.

Several national mission projects launched by American Baptist Women/AB Women's Ministries have led to the betterment of the lives of women and girls.

- In 1977, AB women contributed \$134,610 to the mission project, "Water Without Walking," to provide pump sets to make pure water easily accessible to women in India, Haiti and other countries. The amount raised exceeded the highest expectations by 500%.
- In 1996, AB women raised funds to build the Mitendi Center in Kinshasa, D.R. Congo, Africa, where the Congolese Baptist women teach sewing, health, hygiene and job skills to help women who are single mothers and women coming out of prostitution.
- Between 2007-2013, AB women raised \$515,651 for "Break the Chains: Slavery in the 21st Century." Funds were granted to ministries engaged in the abolition of sex trafficking, victim care and support and prevention. This project exceeded the original goal by over 200%.

You can remember American Baptist Women's Ministries of West Virginia with a \$65 anniversary donation to the West Virginia Leadership Fund for 65 memorable years of ministry with women. The Leadership Fund grants scholarships to women on a one-time basis to attend state AB Women Ministries gatherings, such as Conference or Spiritual Growth Retreat. Honor the past by supporting the present and ensuring the future of our ministries! Send your check to your association treasurer made payable to AB Women's Ministries of West Virginia marked "65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary gift."

Bible Books of the Month for 2017

**January 2017                      Hosea**  
*The Lord spoke to Hosea saying, “Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredome, and have children of whoredome for the land commits great whoredome by forsaking the Lord.” Hosea 1:2 (NRSV).*  
Hosea’s name means “Salvation; deliverance.” He suffered a tragedy in marrying an adulteress, whom he loved in spite of her sinful ways. He tries to compare God’s love for Israel to that of a loyal husband for his dis-loyal wife.

**February 2017                      Philemon**  
*“I am appealing to you for my child Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment.” Philemon 1:10 (NRSV).*  
Paul is writing to his friend, Philemon, on behalf of the runaway slave, Onesimus, who accepted Christ and decided to return to slavery. Paul appeals to Philemon to accept Onesimus as a beloved brother.

**March 2017                      Ezra**  
*The king spoke to Ezra saying, “And you, Ezra, according to the God-given wisdom you possess, appoint persons who know the laws of your God to serve as judges, and you will teach those who do not know them.” Ezra 7:25 (NRSV).*  
Ezra’s name means “The Help,” and true to his name, he gathered people who returned to rebuild the temple. After 70 years in captivity, the Jews returned to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple.

**April 2017                      Nehemiah**  
*Nehemiah prayed, “Lord let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name.” Nehemiah 1:11 (NRSV).*  
Nehemiah, whose name means “God is Comfort,” was cupbearer (a very high position) to King Artaxerxes. He was given permission to return to Jerusalem, and inspired the men to work.

**May 2017                      Judges**  
*After the death of Joshua, the Israelites inquired of God, “Who shall go up first for us against the Canaanites, to fight against them?” Judges 1:1 (NRSV).*  
Twelve people were chosen by God to judge, vindicate, punish and govern Israel during this period in their history.

**June 2017                      1 & 2 Thessalonians**  
*“We always give thanks to God for you, and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith, and labor of love, and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Thessalonians 1:4 (NRSV).*  
In Paul’s letter we see an excellent model of tactful counsel to Christians young in the faith. They were under-

going great persecutions, and Paul was concerned about their ability to withstand.

**July 2017                      Psalms 1-72**  
*Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers. Psalms 1:1 (NRSV).*  
Psalms, the “praise” book, is the largest book in the Bible, comprised of 150 poems.  
These sacred lyrical poems were written in un-rhymed Hebrew verse that was set to music and arranged for worship in the temple.

**August 2017                      1 Samuel**  
*As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him, and let none of his words fall to the ground. 1 Samuel 3:19 (NRSV).*  
Samuel was devoted to the service of the Lord from an early age when his mother, Hannah, brought him to the temple and gave him to Eli, the priest. While serving as one of the judges to Israel, the people came asking for a king like their neighbors. Samuel refused until God instructed him to grant them their wish.

**September 2017                      Ephesians**  
*“I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and of your love toward all the saints, and for this reason, I do not cease to give thanks for you, and I remember you in my prayers.” Ephesians 1:15-16 (NRSV).*  
In this letter, Paul addresses family concerns; explains the need for church officers in building up the body of Christ; and tells of the calling of the nations to share with believing Jews as joint heirs in the body of Christ.

**October 2017                      2 Samuel**  
*“King David prayed, “Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far?” 2 Samuel 7:18 (NRSV).*  
Second Samuel gives the history of Israel following the death of Saul, Israel’s first king, and introduces David, who becomes king, “as the anointed of God.”

**November 2017                      Habakkuk**  
*Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vine; though the produce of the olive fails, and the fields yield no food; though the flock is cut off from the fold, and there is no herd in the stalls; yet will I rejoice in the Lord. Habakkuk 3:17 (NRSV).*  
Habakkuk describes the disasters that might occur in the land, but believers must keep faith in an everlasting God who loves them.

**December 2017                      John**  
*For God so loved the world that He gave His only son, so that everyone who believes in God shall not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:16 (NRSV).*  
John’s gospel reveals the “Word,” who was in the beginning with God, as the “One” through whom all things were created. He uses the word “love” more than the other three Gospel writers.

American Baptist Women’s Ministries
Spiritual Growth Retreat

Parchment Valley Conference Center (Hill Hall) – Ripley, WV
Registration will begin Friday at 4:00 p.m. - Program will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Pattern of Living...
Following God’s pattern for our lives
by living according to His word

Registrations accepted between August 8 - September 2, 2016

Registration form and fees needed for each person registering.
Lodging request includes registration fee, two nights lodging and Saturday meals and Sunday breakfast.

All housing must be reserved and paid for by indicated deadline.
Lodges: ( ) \* Double Occupancy - \$87.00/per person, roommate listed below.
( ) \* Double Occupancy - \$87.00/per person, will accept assigned roommate.
( ) \* Triple (3) or quadruple (4) \$77.00/per person, roommates listed below.
To take advantage of this price, at least 3 per room is required. It is essential to share a bed and must be pre-arranged and all names on the registration form.
\* No linens needed
\*\* Three (3) handicap rooms are available. Please indicate if needed - includes handrails on toilets, tubs and walk-in showers. Three rooms are available for up to six people. Please call the Registrar for availability.
Air Conditioned Cabin (Dorm) Rooms:
( ) \$74.00 per person (without linens)
( ) \$77.50 per person (includes linens)
Cabin room sleeps 10 people, 5 single size bunk beds.
Roommates listed below or on attached sheet.
Part-Time Registration:
( ) \$20.00 Full Time Registration Fee
( ) \$15.00 Saturday Only – Registration Fee
( ) \$ 5.50 Saturday Breakfast
( ) \$ 6.50 Saturday Lunch
( ) \$ 7.50 Saturday Dinner
( ) \$ 5.50 Sunday Breakfast
( ) \$21.00 One night’s lodging, double occupancy
Total
Walk-ins are welcome. However, it is suggested you bring a bag lunch as lunches cannot be assured.
Mail registration forms, including fees to:
Carrie J. Gasaway
451 22nd Street
Dunbar, WV 25064
Panda112260.cj@gmail.com
Phone: 304.552.3760
\* Make checks payable to: AB Women’s Ministries of WV
Financial assistance is available for first-timers from the Durig Leadership Fund. Scholarships are based on need. Please submit a written request by August 28th to:
Sherry Goldsburg
505 Everest Avenue
Saint Albans, WV 25177
sherrygoldsburg@hotmail.com
304.722.1164

Name Phone Amount Enclosed
Address City, State, Zip Code
Church Association
Roommate (s) Email
Dietary Needs Handicap Needs

Please check here if you are attending the Leadership Academy.



Visit us on the web:  
[www.wvbc.org/Partners/  
AB Women's Ministries](http://www.wvbc.org/Partners/AB%20Women's%20Ministries)

### **Purpose of AB Women's Ministries**

*In commitment to Jesus  
Christ as Lord and Savior  
and to the mission of the  
church, and through the  
enabling of the Holy  
Spirit, American Baptist  
Women's Ministries  
provides opportunities for  
each woman to:*

- become and develop  
as God's person,
- build God's faith  
community and
- serve God's world.



### **Subscription / Renewal to SEASONS**

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