

# The West Virginia Baptist Newsletter

April-May 2018

## Weirton Christian Center Facility Nearing Completion

by Kim Weaver, director, Weirton Christian Center

Thanks to all our faithful supporters, we have been able to complete much of the construction on our new facility. The winter has been rough for the crew who are working to make it happen. After having to tent and heat the entire building in order to lay the block and let it settle properly, our costs have skyrocketed over the past couple months. We had too much leakage with the bottom floor extending 20 feet beyond the top floor, so the entire addition had to be closed in. This gave us an additional 880 square feet for the preschool area, but that comes with an unexpected expense. We are currently about \$400,000 away from a debt-free building, and although we are submitting and praying for a couple more large grants to come through, we are still in need of donations to our **BUILD-A-BUILDING PROJECT**. If your church has not yet contributed, we would truly appreciate your consideration in bringing this building to completion. We know God will provide.

The building is under roof, has been back-filled and the drywall is currently being installed. The colors are picked for the floors and walls, steps are installed and the elevator will be installed this month. Our plan is to start our fall afterschool/preschool program in the new building, but it should be complete much sooner than that. Please pray for the future of our current buildings. There is a huge need for transitional living for the 18-24 year-olds in the area. Many are homeless and couch surfing and have no guidance into adulthood. Please pray God opens doors for us to be able to minister to this at risk group, many of who once attended the Christian center.

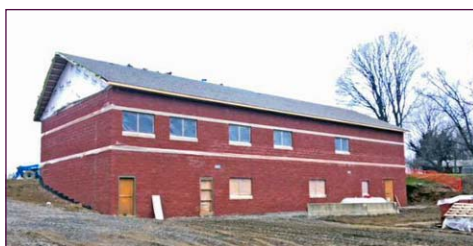
Our afterschool program had been on hold as we supported West Virginia teachers. Unfortunately, we had been afraid many of our children were not getting the nutrition they needed with no school breakfast and lunch, so we opened a couple days a week just to feed them. We also sent home blessing bags until the strike was settled. Our preschool was still being held because the children have missed so much school already with the two-hour delays and snow days.

We need to replenish our *quarters for grades* fund. Please continue to collect those quarters and send them in. We are finding the kids are so anxious to bring in their grades to us and work harder because of the challenges we are able to provide to them through this fund. Our eighth grade twins, who have both been good students, are perfect examples. Maleeah had As and three Ds and she now has all As with one C that should be a B. Serina was excited to tell me her three Fs have now gone up to two As and a D. They are

halfway through the semester and didn't want to open their report card money last time because they knew they would be lectured. But because they have us caring enough to push them, they are working at it. So your donations are greatly appreciated, and helping to change attitudes ... and lives!

Thank you for all the support you provide us in so many ways. Your financial contributions keep the doors open for us to minister to these children and show them the way the Lord would have them go. It also helps us provide for their needs along with White Cross, Walmart cards and the in-kind support many of you are so generous with. Our Baptist family is such a wonderful partnership as we go into our second century. We cannot thank you enough for letting us continue our work!


The mission of the West Virginia Baptist Convention is to **empower** local churches to be Christ honoring communities of faith and to help them fulfill their mission by **enabling** them to do together what they cannot do alone.



by **Michael B. Sisson**, Executive Minister



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

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

Vol. LXXXV, Issue 03 April-May 2018

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## Moving Forward in Faith

If we had been able to eavesdrop on the Israelites during their captivity in Egypt, we would have probably heard a very similar prayer offered in most every household, a prayer God ultimately would answer. It would have been a prayer asking God to free them from the bondage of the Egyptians and to place them in the land promised to them through the patriarch Abraham. Exactly how they expected God to answer their prayer we do not know; however, the way God chose to answer is clearly described for us in the early narratives of the Bible.

God miraculously, through the use of a series of plagues and the parting of the Red Sea, delivered the Israelites from their bondage in Egypt, leaving only the journey to the Promised Land to complete the answer to their prayer. The Lord did not expect them to make this journey alone. He would travel with them to see they would make it safely. He gave them clear guidance and direction in the form of a pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire at night. He provided the necessary food and water for the journey while preventing their clothing from wearing out along the way. Finally, it would seem the answer to their prayers was within their grasp!

The day came and they stood at the border of the Promised Land. The fullness of their prayers about to be realized! BUT ... there are giants in the land came the scouting report! The obstacles are too large and too many for us to go in so they turned back into the wilderness.

In that moment an incredible prayer for deliverance and relocation would go unanswered because the people of God could not muster the courage to make that final step of faith and enter in. After everything the Lord had done for them and all they had seen and experienced of His might and His majesty they would stop just short of the blessing He had for them. And why? The challenge seemed too large, which

means in that moment their view of God was too small.

As followers of Jesus Christ we find ourselves standing where the Israelites stood, at the threshold of a great opportunity. For us it is the opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. We have spent a great amount of time

praying God would help us to be more effective in reaching people for Jesus Christ. We have asked Him to open doors of outreach and to guide us to step through them. And like He did with the Israelites, He has been with us on the journey to realizing the answer to that prayer. Along the way He has been empowering us, teaching us, growing our faith and equipping us to make a difference in people's lives so we will be prepared to take that next step in faith.

So now the Lord says to us, "Open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest." Sure, there will be obstacles larger than our abilities to overcome them and the scouts will be saying, "There are giants in the land!" However, now is the time to step forward in faith, believing God is bigger than the giants and obstacles we face in sharing the gospel in such a skeptical and fragmented society.

Early missionary William Carey, after hearing an account of the spiritual needs of India, was moved when the secretary of the meeting remarked, "There is a gold mine in India, but it seems almost as deep as the center of the earth. Who will venture to explore it?" Carey responded, "I will go down." Carey's resolve to take such a great step of faith in the face of seemingly impossible odds can be found in the key points of one of his sermons, "Attempt great things for God and expect great things from God!" Like Carey, let us have the resolve to step forward in faith, attempting great things for God because we serve a great God of infinite possibility!



Dr. Michael Sisson

*Blessings,  
Mike*

# Parchment Valley Conference Center

by **Frank Miller**, Director of Operations,  
Parchment Valley Conference Center

## *Parchment Valley: A Bearer of Hope*

Recently, our group of dedicated Parchment Valley Conference Center volunteers were busy breaking out old concrete from around the upper lodge road and tearing out rock at the sidewalks at The Barn (administration building). The areas was being framed up for concrete to be poured. There are several new and exciting construction projects taking place at Parchment Valley Conference Center that we need your help to complete: upgrading the camp ground, repairing Grapevine Chapel, installing



*New sidewalks were added to make the walk to The Barn a little smoother.*

new outdoor security lighting and making barn renovations.

I am very blessed to report the ministry plan of Parchment Valley Conference Center is alive and well. Praise the Lord for our volunteers and donors. Through your faith, "*Lives are being changed.*" Several weeks ago, I was invited to the annual Ripley High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) banquet to represent our Parchment Valley Conference Center staff to receive the Future Farmers of America Honorary



*Future Farmers of America students serving at Parchment Valley Conference Center.*

Degree. This wonderful acknowledgment was the result of

school students and faculty being welcomed to Parchment Valley Conference Center for various activities and providing labor for some of our events. Because of these students' service and faithfulness toward our community, many lives are changed. These young leaders' positive attitude, hard work and faith are genuine, and for that we are thankful.

The West Virginia Bow Hunters' Association invited the Parchment Valley Conference Center staff to their 38th Award Banquet on March 17 at the Days Inn at Flatwoods. There we received a *Land Owner of the Year* award. This was the result of working with their organization to bring successful Christian seminars to Parchment Valley Conference Center and recognizing our support for the veterans. Pastor Bryan Sweeney began the bow-hunting ministry 20 years ago while serving on the Parchment Valley Conference Center Board of Directors.

Throughout his tenure, God has enabled this ministry to grow.

This will be a year to remember, especially as we prepare to roll out Brothers' Keeper 18 with a full team of youth from across the country, along with their adult volunteers. Being the hands of feet of Christ, they will canvas the Jackson County area looking for projects to serve less fortunate families and, at the same time, share the gospel message.

Please consider being a part of the great ministry at Parchment Valley Conference Center, where the Lord is served and "*lives are changed.*" Join us today in advancing the kingdom work which Christ called us to do together!

*Be Blessed to be a Bearer of the Good News*

## **Seeking West Virginia Baptist Convention Southwest Area Minister**

The Executive Committee of the West Virginia Baptist Convention is accepting applications and resumes for the staff position of **Southwest Area Minister**. All applications must be received in the Convention office by **May 4, 2018**.

Applicants must have a Master of Divinity or equivalent and a minimum of ten years professional ministry experience.

**Area Ministers** serve as resource persons to the churches in their area. **Area Ministers** work closely with the leadership of the assigned associations to accomplish the mission of the association in conjunction with the Convention mission and purpose. **Area Ministers** work to resource pastors and provide pastoral care for them as needed. **Area Ministers** serve as transformational leaders for the churches of their area.

In addition to serving as an **Area Minister**, the position will require service in other areas of Convention life according to the gift mix of the **Area Minister** and the ministry needs of the Convention and its associations.

The **Area Minister** will report directly to the executive minister of the West Virginia Baptist Convention and relate to the Executive Board and Committee through one of the four Commissions of the Convention.

For more details of the job description, please visit [www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org) and look under the News Updates and Event Information section.

**Applications should be sent to: WVBC AM Search, PO. Box 1019, Parkersburg, WV 26102 or by email to: [prunty@wvbc.org](mailto:prunty@wvbc.org).**

# Discipleship Ministries

by Lisa Simmons, Director

## Faith in the Workplace Participating Churches Sign Up Now!

### Adult Discipleship:

#### Faith in the Workplace Emphasis 2018



Helping churches do together what they cannot do alone with the goal of honoring Christ is an important part of the mission of the West Virginia Baptist Convention. The Discipleship Commission is moving full steam ahead in the 2018 emphasis *Faith in the Workplace*.

While many resources and ideas have already been shared and will continue to be shared with our member churches, the *Faith in the Workplace* participating churches group will serve as a community of churches who are making faith in the workplace an emphasis in the church, and who are interested in sharing ideas, receiving additional helps and coaching throughout the year.

*Faith in the Workplace* participating churches will receive coaching calls from the West Virginia Baptist Convention Discipleship Ministries department, access to two webinars concerning faith in the workplace, additional resources to assist in sermon preparation, adaptation of current materials for small groups throughout the year, Worker Dedication Sunday materials, Recognizing Workers in the Community ideas, tips on starting *Faith in the Workplace* groups in workplaces and recognition as a *Faith in the Workplace* Participating Church at the 153rd West Virginia Baptist Convention Annual Meeting on

### Short Term Mission Leader Training Session

Short term mission leader training will be held at Charleston Baptist Temple (Kanawha Valley) on Saturday, April 7, 2018. The session will begin at 10 a.m. and will conclude by 3 p.m. Short term mission leader training is required for anyone leading a mission trip that seeks to be endorsed by the West Virginia Baptist Convention.

The training includes such topics as team preparation, fundraising, coping with stress, conflict management, logistics, working in another culture, culture shock and the role of the onsite missionary.

Registration for the training is required. The deadline for registration is April 3, 2018. Registration forms can be found online at [www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org) or use the form below. Participants should bring a lunch or plan to order for take out. The training session is free. For questions, contact Lisa Simmons at 304.273.9693 or [lsimmons@wvbc.org](mailto:lsimmons@wvbc.org).

#### Short Term Mission Leader Training

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Representing: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Short Term Mission Leader Training, West Virginia Baptist Convention, PO Box 1019, Parkersburg, WV 26102

October 19-20, 2018 at South Parkersburg Baptist Church (Parkersburg).

Fill out the registration form below and return it to the address provided or go online to [www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org), click *Faith in the Workplace* participating churches and complete the registration form. A confirmation letter will be sent as well as a *Faith in the Workplace* Participating Church checklist. Check off items as your church completes them. We suggest every participating church complete items one to three. You may add other ideas your church has created and completed. We will be checking back with you later in 2018.

If you have questions or need assistance planning the emphasis in your church, please contact Lisa Simmons, director of Discipleship Ministries at [lsimmons@wvbc.org](mailto:lsimmons@wvbc.org) or call 304.273.9693.

#### Faith in the Workplace Participating Church Registration Form

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Participating Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Discipleship Ministries, West Virginia Baptist Convention, Attn.: Valma, PO Box 1019, Parkersburg, WV 26102.

### West Virginia Baptist Convention

# Worship Conference

For Worship Leaders, Pastors, Technicians  
and anyone else involved in worship  
in the local church.

Saturday, June 16, 2018

Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Hurricane  
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Cost: \$20.00 per person**

Register four from one church and  
get the 5th person free until June 1, 2018.

After June 1, \$25.00 per person.

## White Noise



I am easily distracted. If you were to visit my office and see my workspace you might wonder how I get anything done. There are stacks of papers and files, in seemingly random piles, everywhere. For me to file something I might need in a few weeks has always felt like a waste of time. My stacks are not random piles to me - they are perfectly organized for the way my mind works. I can recall a time when I was a pastor that the custodian took pity on me and cleaned off my desk. It took me two months to get reorganized.

I am easily distracted. If I hear a voice in the hallway or even hear the phone ring, I lose my train of thought. I hate the new e-mail program that pops up an announcement that a new e-mail has arrived when I am trying to concentrate on writing. The ding on my phone that announces a text drives me crazy and it will repeat itself if I do not stop what I am doing and respond.

Studies have shown each distraction for a worker such as I have described costs 20 minutes of work time for a person to refocus. Did I mention that I am easily distracted?

To minimize distractions when I need to hyper focus on work (like right now on the *West Virginia Baptist* newsletter deadline), I close my e-mail program, silence my phone and work after everyone is gone from the building.

In my office I also have a device that generates “white noise.” The machine runs all day in the background with a fanlike noise that helps filter out the other noises that might distract me.

I am reminded of the words of Paul in Philippians three when he is answering critics who are trying to distract him from the gospel message. He warns us to “watch out for those dogs” and remained focused on the truth. He calls us to righteousness and encourages us to “know the power of his resurrection.” “We should forget what lies behind and strain toward what is ahead.” We are to live our lives of faith without distractions.

The enemy likes to keep us distracted from the mission to which Christ called us. There are so many ways to get distracted and it only takes a brief moment to get us off track. We might find a webpage or Facebook post from someone we interpret to have a different understanding of scripture than we do. We might find in an article a position that is opposite ours. We can easily find lots of faults among our Baptist family. But should these things keep us from doing together the work Jesus commissioned?

I will not be distracted from the mission! I will stay focused on the task at hand - to take the gospel into the world as Christ commanded. To accomplish God’s mission for us, I “press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

Do not let the noise of the enemy keep you from your focus. Block out all distractions and stay on mission.

*Committed to Missions*



*Mountain State  
Mission Offering  
packets will be  
mailed April 3.*

*If you do not receive a  
packet and need one,  
please contact Joan at  
hall@wvbc.org or  
304.422.6449.*

***100% Supporting the  
Mission and Ministries of the  
West Virginia Baptist Convention.***

## Camp Cowen Celebrates 75 Years of Onsite Ministry

Jill Narraway, Associate Director of Camping and Youth

*"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."  
Luke 19:10*

The Bible is the story of rescue. From Genesis through Revelation, we see the beautiful plan of God unfold to save the people from sin and restore our relationship with Him through the redemptive work of Christ and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit. At camp this summer the theme, "Operation Rescue," strives to ground campers in the word of God as it teaches us who God is, who we are and how we are to live.

Looking at scripture in both the Old and New Testaments, we see God's work in creation, consequences of sin, promise of a redeemer, the redemptive work of the cross, sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit and the promise through prophecy of the new Heaven and new Earth. Younger campers through graduated seniors will find the love of God in the rescue story and find their place in taking the rescue message to the world around them that is so in need of a savior.

Two thousand eighteen (2018) is a special year for the *West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen* as we celebrate 75 years of on-site ministry. Reflect on that for a moment: 75 years! Thinking on that number, we are quickly thankful for God's provision and humbled by the great calling He has given to minister in this place *"Where people meet Jesus."*

Take the numbers out a little farther and they become an awe-inspiring view into the power of God at work in the lives of many thousands of children, youth and families through the last 75 years. Look at one summer of ministry at *Camp Cowen* and the numbers are mind blowing. In 2017, there were: 1,748 campers, 61 first-time decisions, 126 rededications and 12 who heard the call to full-time service in ministry. Can you begin to imagine what that looks like through 75 years? Praise God for the blessing of the legacy and impact this ministry has had for the West Virginia Baptist Convention, our churches, in families and for each person impacted by this special place.

This year, on April 21, we will gather at Emmanuel Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) at 1:15 p.m. for the *Cowen Block Party*, a *Cowen* celebration through stories, songs, displays and messages, we will share with one another the immense impact of the last 75 years of ministry while looking to the next 75. As we assemble, we will recognize the numerous people before us who rallied to commit to the hard work needed to develop the camp facility, recruit solid leadership and minister to generations of campers.

Looking to the future, the *Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center* provides a vision for increasing the ministry of *Camp Cowen* to our campers, the community of Webster County and to the West Virginia Baptist Convention. What will your part be in building the future of *Camp Cowen* today? We prayerfully ask you to consider donating your time, talent and finances as we continue to move forward in this ministry. Will you give of your time to volunteer on a workday or serve as a camp counselor? Is there a child or teen you can help get to camp this sum-



*Looking to the future at the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen.*

mer? What financial commitment are you able to give to bless the *Sunny Day* project?

As 2018 brings an opportunity to reflect with immense thankfulness on the last 75 years of blessings God has provided through *Camp Cowen*, we also look forward with faith and hope to the future! Knowing the faithful dedication and hard work of the past, we extend the call to you asking: how will you support the next 75 years of ministry today?

### 2018 Camp Cowen Dates

Women's Camp	April 13-15
Older Midler	June 3-6
Younger Midler	June 8-10
Junior 1	June 10-16
Junior High 1	June 17-23
Junior 2	June 24-30
High School 1	July 1-7
Junior High 2	July 8-14
Senior Day	July 14
High School 2	July 15-21
Family Camp	July 27-30
AB Men and Boys Camp	August 3-5
Camp Global	August 10-12

*All registration forms are available by calling Jennifer at the West Virginia Baptist Convention office at 304.422.6449.*

*You may download any of the forms online at [www.campcowen.org](http://www.campcowen.org).*

*Don't forget to print off a health form for each individual attending.*

# *The Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center: A gift for the next 75 years!*



*When it rains, campers can play in the gym of the Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center.*

## ***Seventy-five years of the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen!***



*An artistic rendering of the exterior of the Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center. It is time for the West Virginia Baptist Convention to build it with your commitments.*

*Be Sunny.  
Be Devoted.  
Be a Giver!*



*The Sunny Day Leadership and Activity Center will add more space for training in leadership and discipleship.*

*The time for commitment is here.  
Please complete the card at right  
and mail to West Virginia Baptist  
Convention, Attn: Jennifer, PO Box  
1019, Parkersburg, WV 26102 by  
April 15, 2018.*

### SUNNY DAY LEADERSHIP & ACTIVITY CENTER COMMITMENT CARD ULTIMATE GOAL OF CAMPAIGN IS \$1.5 MILLION

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to make a one time donation of:  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$10,000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$5,000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$2,500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ Other

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to make a monthly contribution, for 12 months in the amount of:  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$200 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ Other

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in having my monthly contribution deducted from my checking account automatically.  
Please send me further information.

\_\_\_\_\_ I commit to sending my monthly donation from my Sunny Day bank.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:  
West Virginia Baptist Camp,  
Sunny Day Center,  
PO Box 1019,  
Parkersburg, WV 26102.







# Love Gift

## Love Gift Top 50 for 2017



<b>#1*</b>	Fifth Avenue	10,345
	Hurricane First	6,600
	Vienna	3,729
	Milton	2,709
	Racine First	2,547
	Fayetteville	2,461
	South Parkersburg	2,404
	Oak Hill	2,212
	Everson	2,161
	Charleston Baptist Temple	2,078
	Diamond	2,043
	Dorcas	1,689
	Fairmont Baptist Temple	1,678
	Main Street	1,650
	Calvary, Oak Hill	1,644
	Summersville	1,607
	Beulah	1,527
	Page	1,513
	Saint Albans First	1,498
	Weirton Heights Memorial	1,429
	Goshen	1,416
	Beulah Ann Missionary	1,413
	Crab Orchard Missionary	1,375
	Sabraton	1,262
	Beckley First	1,229
	Auburn	1,210
	Concord	1,200
	Wilsonburg	1,193
	Emmanuel, War	1,162
	Mount Vernon, Hurricane	1,151
	Parchment Valley	1,144
	Boothsville	1,110
	Judson, Winfield	1,059
	Bridgeport	1,056
	Petersburg First	1,045
	Emmanuel, Parkersburg	1,033
	Mount Pisgah	1,020
	Bethel, Morgantown	944
	Starcher	885
	Forks of Coal	853
	Judson, Belle	836
	Williamson First	809
	Lubeck Community	790
	Danville First	771
	Kingwood	757
	New Martinsville First	755
	Nutter Fort First	728
	Coons Run	725
	Lauckport	680
	Willow Tree	662

*Love Gift* is a financial contribution over and above our regular giving. It is given out of a sense of LOVE, FAITH and GRATITUDE to God for all of His blessings, and in recognition of our need to share these blessings with others. One way to express our faith is by giving. We give of our time, talent, money and ourselves. As our faith grows, we realize our God, in whom we trust, really loves and cares for us. As a result, our desire to give grows, too. *Love Gift* is one of the ways we express our faith and love. It is an offering to God.

Take time to assess what you offer to God. How do you love God? Count the ways. Let your *Love Gift* offering reflect your love for God and Christ's Church and its ministries.

Less than 50 percent of American Baptist churches currently participate in *Love Gift*. Does your church support *Love Gift*? American Baptist mission needs your support!

*Love Gift* has great potential to empower American Baptist mission in this century. If your church does not have organized women's ministries, you can still participate in *Love Gift*! Meet with your region's Minister of Mission Support, to discuss and plan your *Love Gift* promotion.

Text taken from [http://www.abcusa.org/what\\_we\\_believe/mission/mission-giving/funding-the-mission/united-mission/love-gift/](http://www.abcusa.org/what_we_believe/mission/mission-giving/funding-the-mission/united-mission/love-gift/)

\*The West Virginia Baptist Convention Ranking in ABC-USA.

# Spring Golden'eers Conference



"Spring is in the Air"

April 30 - May 2, 2018

Parchment Valley Conference Center

Bible Study Leader:  
Joel Harpold



The conference will begin on Monday in the Santrock Building with registration and pizza at 12:00 noon and will end on Wednesday at 11:00 a.m.

# West Virginia American Baptist Women's Conference

June 1-3, 2018

Parchment Valley Conference Center

"Hand of The Man"

Keynote Speaker:  
Rev. Ron Stoner

"Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt me?" Matthew 14:31

Registration begins at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 1. Program begins at 7:00 p.m.

Featuring: Leadership Academy Session #9: Resourcing, Book Sale and Like New Flea Market

*Jim Anderson*, Southeast Area Minister

## ***Calvary Baptist Holds Ordination Council for Ron Moore***

On February 18, 2018, Calvary Baptist Church (Fayette), after approval from the ordination committee of Fayette Baptist Association called upon the ordained members of that association's churches to hold an ordination council for Rev. Ron Moore.

Rev. Greg Swisher, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, and also chairman of the ordination committee, called the meeting to order and asked for nominations for a moderator to preside over the meeting. Rev. Jim Anderson, Southeast area minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention, was elected and first thanked the ordination committee for a great job in helping Ron with his doctrinal paper. He then presented the candidate, Ron Moore, who also is interim pastor at Webster Springs First Baptist Church (Hopewell) and explained how the process would work.

Ron then read his paper section by section and entertained questions from ordained members of the association represented after each section.

After finishing, he was asked to leave the sanctuary. After a brief discussion, a vote was taken and Ron was unanimously voted to be ordained by Calvary Baptist Church at an undetermined date.

Ron was asked to come back into the sanctuary, and along with his wife, Brenda, thanked everyone for their support. He then ended the afternoon in prayer.

## ***Hopewell Baptist Holds Ordination Council for Michael Anderson***

On March 4, 2018, Hopewell Baptist Church, after approval from the Ordination Committee of Hopewell Baptist Association called upon the ordained members of the Hopewell Baptist Association churches to hold an ordination council for Rev. Michael Anderson.

Dr. Dana Gatewood, pastor of Summersville Baptist Church (Hopewell) and chairman of the ordination committee called the meeting to order and asked for nominations for a moderator to preside over the meeting. Rev. Jim Anderson, Southeast Area Minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention, was elected and then Rev. Allen Donaldson, pastor of Sunday Road Baptist Church (Hopewell) was elected interrogator.

Jim then introduced Mike, who is pastor of Hopewell Baptist Church (Hopewell), and asked him to share his conversion experience and call to ministry.

Rev. Donaldson then led the questioning session, and after its conclusion ordained members of the association met. After a brief discussion a vote was taken, and Mike was unanimously voted to be ordained by Hopewell Baptist Church at an undetermined future date.

Mike shared his thanks, closed in prayer and gave thanks for the time of fellowship and refreshments that were held afterward.

## **Northeast Area News**

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*David Hulme*, Northeast Area Minister

### ***Feeding the Hungry***

When Jesus didn't want to send the crowd home hungry for fear they would collapse along the way, the disciples responded, "But where in this remote place can anyone get enough bread to feed them?" (Mark 8:4)

Unlike the disciples, when challenged to feed hungry people, West Virginia Baptists never question where they are going to find enough food. They simply ask, "What do you need and when do you need it." In fact, most of the time they don't have to be asked. They simply see the need and respond.

In the Northeast Area, as I know they are in the other three areas as well, churches are responding to the needs of the hungry around them. You see their pictures and reports on social media, in the newspaper, on television, in newsletters and on church websites. If I were to try to name individual churches, I would inevitably leave someone out.

For school children, many churches participate in the backpack ministry. Recently, others joined forces to provide

meals for children who, for a period of time, were unable to get their meals at school. Some churches regularly provide afterschool programs that include a meal.

Several churches either operate a local food pantry on their own, combine efforts with other churches or donate food items regularly. The reports of the numbers of families and individuals who benefit from these pantries is unbelievable.

Sharing their culinary skills with the young people in their church, seasoned cooks have helped them prepare and deliver meals to shut-ins. These events also do wonders for the intergenerational relationships in local churches.

On a regular basis, churches help prepare and serve meals at a number of rescue missions. Such interactions allow for individual Christians to "put a face and a name" with the hungry in their community.

We all know that Baptists are the best cooks in the world. Anyone who doubts that would be quickly convinced simply by attending one of our church's covered-dish dinners. Since we are such great cooks, it just seems natural for us to lead the way in feeding the hungry around us.

Thank you to all those who are making a difference by feeding the hungry in their communities.

## ***Pine Grove Baptist Recognizes Pastors and Deacons***

by Bryan Knight, pastor, Pine Grove Baptist Church (Parkersburg)

"As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen." 1 Peter 4:10-11 (NASB)

Serving the church appears with many roles and titles. It appears at the beginning with our shepherds/pastors and reaching toward the bottom with the volunteers and our laymen. The apparent totem created with this flow of roles is not based on which person is more important, but rather the flow is based on the weight carried or accountability required for those roles. James 3:1, "Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment." This verse echoes the importance in each believer's life to approach the throne of grace in a worthy manner and ask God specifically to reveal the path He has prepared for them to serve in our local assemblies.

Here at Pine Grove Baptist Church on February 18, 2018, we had six brothers in Christ pursue their personal paths. On that night, our church family had the privilege to ordain four brothers into deacon-hood and two brothers were licensed to perform the gospel ministry. The two roles of pastors and deacons have become very prevalent in any church atmosphere and nearly synonymous with the leaders of the church. There is a cost of leadership involved in these two distinct callings and they both carry a "stricter judgment," but this is not a public banner to be waved and proclaimed for the sake of attention. Those convictions are personal and should remind us to remain "set apart" and should be between the believer and God, just as any other church family member wars internally. It is those "private" battles within that allow us to execute our roles with peace and unity.

God delights in our obedience to act upon our individual callings and James 4:14 reminds us our roles are only temporal, "Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away." Our agenda is God's agenda, that is, we must desire to present the gospel in order to have people fall in love with Jesus. John 14:6 is the most definitive passage, "Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me." It is not a pluralistic god, it is the name Jesus that convicts and offends and it is to that point in all of creation to drive those around us to be in horror of the realization of



*The families and attendees pray over the newly ordained at Pine Grove Baptist Church.*

their own sinful ways. It is to this point we are all "servants" of Christ, slaves of righteousness starting at the beginning with our shepherds/pastors and reaching toward the bottom with the volunteers and our layman, all in unity with one Spirit, with one goal, the gospel of Jesus Christ.

I personally wish to thank Steve Ferrell, Gordon Inghram, David Cronin, Phil Smith, Chris Hackney and Michael Rubin for accepting their charge as servants and slaves of righteousness under their calling as deacons and shepherds. I would also like to thank their wives, Becky Ferrell, Karen Inghram, Dona Cronin, Addy Smith, Cassie Hackney and Celeste Rubin for supporting their husbands and surrounding them with prayer and encouragement. I also wish to thank Scott Morehead, my brother and servant in Christ here at Pine Grove Baptist Church and our area minister and brother in Christ, Mark McCloy, Northwest area minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention in their calling as shepherds and their role during our night of celebration. I close with my thankfulness to the church congregation who gather under the name Pine Grove Baptist Church and your continued support for your servant leaders. Bless you all as we continue to seek God's guidance.

## ***Robbins Ordained into Gospel Ministry***

Rev. Jason Robbins was ordained into the gospel ministry by Hurricane Baptist Church (Good Hope) in an ordination service on February 25, 2018. Those participating in the service were Mr. Mike Kelly; Mr. Bob Gunnoe; Mrs. Kathy Abshire, all of Hurricane Baptist Church; Rev. Herman Robinson, retired pastor; Dr. Michael Sisson, executive minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention; Dr. Mark McCloy, Northwest area minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention; and Rev. Mark Wood, pastor, Spencer Baptist Church (Good Hope).

## **Southwest Area News**

### ***Coal River Association Men Gather for AB Men Prayer Breakfast at Racine First***

On Saturday, February 24, 2018, 43 men of the Coal River Association, representing eight churches, gathered together for a time of prayer and fellowship at Racine First Baptist Church (Coal River) for an American Baptist Men Prayer Breakfast. Tim Davis, the Baptist Campus Ministries' president at West Virginia University Tech, delivered the message and challenged the men to allow God to finish the good He has begun in them. The

scripture text came from Philippians 1:6. The Coal River Association moderator is Anthony Pratt.



*Coal River Association attendees listen to Tim Davis at the AB Men Prayer Breakfast at Racine First.*

## Connecting at Home and Around the World

**Rob Ely**, director of Student Ministries

*"Changing lives that change the world!"* The Baptist Campus Ministries (BCM) of West Virginia meet weekly on eight campuses across the state. Enjoy the ongoing ministry as you read the list below of how Baptist Campus Ministries' students plan on changing lives around the world during the spring semester of 2018:

- Students from Baptist Campus Ministries at West Virginia University will have the opportunity to engage in missions as they travel to Bolivia.
- A group of Baptist Campus Ministries' students at Marshall University will enjoy an educational trip to Israel.
- On May 7-14, 2018, college students across the state will have the opportunity to participate in the annual Beach Week event at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. David Bush will be the event speaker, teaching from Ecclesiastes. The event will also enjoy the company of Emily Ferron from International Ministries. Encourage college students in your church to sign up now and join us for Beach Week 2018.
- Various students will engage in ministry opportunities during Spring Break.
- Baptist Campus Ministries' students will be on mission this summer. The countries include Mexico, Bolivia, Japan and others yet to be determined.



**BCM**  
*Changing Lives that Change the World*

Each local church can help Baptist Campus Ministries make connections with graduating seniors in 2018. Send their names and colleges to Jennifer at [jennifer@wvbc.org](mailto:jennifer@wvbc.org). The Senior Day event at Camp Cowen is a wonderful opportunity for graduating seniors to begin making connections with godly leaders at the colleges and universities of their choice. These leaders will see them through the transition from high school life to becoming a college graduate, stepping out on their own. Many of these students have been raised in the church. It is now time to help them make the leap to continue in their faith journey through the intensity of the college years. Senior Day is a one-day event at Camp Cowen that will provide the much-needed introduction to life on a college campus to graduated seniors before they officially move into their dorms. Registration for this one-day event will start at 3 p.m. on July 14, 2018 and dinner will be provided at 6 p.m. The cost for this one-day event is \$15 for students who are not registered for High School 1 or 2 camps, while registered campers have free admission. Consider what a great gift a registration to this event would be for seniors celebrating the transition into life's next big phase. Your college bound students won't want to miss this time of fellowship and introduction to college life.

To download a registration form for your 2018 high school graduates, go to [campcowen.org/register](http://campcowen.org/register).

# OMEGA

**April 21, 2018**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Emmanuel Baptist Church,**  
**Charleston**

Another school year is coming to a close and we are inviting all students, grades 6-12, to join us as we complete the end of 2017-2018 Student Ministries' events!

We will spend the morning closing the yearlong theme, "The Race: From Here to Eternity" as we look once more into the year's theme verse: Hebrews 12:1-3.

*For more information and to download a registration form, go to [www.wvbc.org/ministries/youth/](http://www.wvbc.org/ministries/youth/).*

*Do not miss out on this last opportunity of the school year to share in this time of worship and fellowship.*

**April 21,**  
**2018**

**1:15 p.m.**

**Emmanuel**  
**Baptist**  
**Church,**  
**Charleston**



We have seen how God has worked through the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen throughout the past 75 years, and now is the opportunity to celebrate that ministry and look forward to the ministry ahead!

The Camp Cowen Block Party will be an afternoon full (beginning at 1:15 p.m.) of camp activities, worship, reflection on the years past and an opportunity to work together to propel the camping ministry forward. This event will host activities for people of all ages including, Camp Cowen games, a t-shirt quilt auction, Cowen Store, snacks and displays of Camp Cowen through the decades.

*For more details and ways to register, go to [www.campcowen.org](http://www.campcowen.org).*

*December 2017 - March 2018*

**BONNIE GAIL HUMPHREYS ADKINS**, 75, of Greenville, died January 18, 2018. She was a member of Ballard First Missionary Baptist Church, where her husband, Nathan, served as a pastor for many years. Also, she was a member of Flint Chapel (Greenbrier-Raleigh) Ladies Circle.

**ALEJANDRO C. "ALEX" AMAYA**, 75, of Wheeling, died February 15, 2018. He was a member of Agape Baptist Church (Panhandle). He devoted his time to volunteering locally with Habitat for Humanity as well as going on mission construction trips to various Latin American countries with West Virginia Baptist churches. He worked tirelessly with the West Virginia American Baptist Men Disaster Relief Team, answering the call for aid in flood-stricken areas all over the state as well as clean-up at ground zero after the 9/11 attack in New York City and after Hurricane Katrina. He also spent many years working in ministry with the Laughlin Memorial Chapel in East Wheeling, seeing to the home maintenance needs of the community. He supervised and mentored many college volunteer work groups who came to help in these chapel work projects.

**DOUGLAS EUGENE BALL**, 75, of Deep Water, died January 2, 2018. He was a member of Deep Water Baptist Church (Fayette), where he was a deacon and trustee.

**TAMARA "TAMMY" KAY BROWN**, 55, of Belleville, died February 15, 2018. Tammy was a longtime member of South Parkersburg Baptist Church (Parkersburg), where she was active in children's church.

**HERBERT RAY CADLE**, 88, of Grassy Meadows, died December 28, 2017. He served as pastor at Little Creek Baptist Church on Sims Mountain, Rainelle and at West Point Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh).

**JEANETTE FAYE CHAPMAN COPENHAVER**, 68, of Blue Jay, died recently. She was a member of Beaver First Baptist Church (Greenbrier-Raleigh). She was the mother of Allan Copenhaver, pastor of Sutton Baptist Church (Elk Valley).

**ROBERT "BOB" HAL HARDMAN**, 88, of Oak Hill, died January 6, 2018. He was a member of Calvary Baptist Church (Fayette), Charles Town First Baptist Church and Glenville First Baptist Church (Little Kanawha), where he served as deacon and a Sunday School teacher.

**MARILOU LEGG**, 54, of Wallback, died February 12, 2018. She was a member of Stump Chapel Baptist Church (Elk Valley), where she was past president of the women's circle for two years. She was a member of the West Virginia Baptist Convention Stewardship Commission, where she performed secretarial duties for their meetings.

**JOANNE MORPHIS**, 83, of Dunbar, died January 24, 2018. She was a member of Charleston Baptist Temple (Kanawha Valley). She was very active in her church, serving as a deacon and choir member for many years.

**TROY ALLEN OURS**, 52, of Petersburg, died January 11, 2018. He was a member of Petersburg First Baptist Church (Eastern).

**KATHY DARLENE PECK**, 61, of Ansted, died February 18, 2018. She was a member of Antioch Baptist Church (Hopewell).

**HUBERT H. "HALE" RIDDLE**, 91, of Parkersburg, died February 17, 2018. He was a member of South Parkersburg Baptist Church (Parkersburg).

**SHERRIL EDWIN SHUMAN**, died December 20, 2017. He was a member of Petersburg First Baptist Church (Eastern), where he was a deacon and choir member.

**NILA LEE SMITH**, 86, formerly of Vienna, died January 28, 2018. She was a 60-year member of Vienna Baptist Church (Parkersburg). She actively participated in many of the church's ministries.

**ALLISON W. SNYDER**, 82, of Kingwood died February 12, 2018. He was a member of Albright Baptist Church (Goshen), where he served in many capacities, one being a Sunday School teacher for many years.

**MARY CATHERINE "KITTY" UNDERWOOD**, 88, died January 11, 2018. She was a member of Webster Springs First Baptist Church (Hopewell) since 1941. She taught Sunday School for first and second grades for 30 years and was also a Bible School teacher for many years. She was a former local president for American Baptist Women's Ministries and officer of the Nicholas-Webster American Baptist Women. She was also active in church circles and served as a deaconess.

**BETTY R. WATSON**, 85, of Harrisville, died March 6, 2018. She was a 73-year member of Harrisville Baptist Church (Harrisville), where she had served as a Baptist Youth Fellowship (BYF) counselor, clerk, financial secretary, deaconess and Sunday School teacher.

**OTIS EUGENE WAYBRIGHT**, 80, of Washington, died January 19, 2018. He was an American Baptist pastor, serving various churches and retiring from Sunrise Baptist Church (Parkersburg).

**RUBY MAE RHODES WOOD**, 81, of Greenbelt, Maryland, died February 28, 2018. She was a member of Sandusky Baptist Church, Lynchburg, Virginia. She was the mother of Mark Wood, pastor of Spencer First Baptist Church (Good Hope).

## **Leadership Update**

**MR. EDWIN TABOR** to Standard First Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley) as pastor in February 2018

## April 2018

**APRIL 1** - Praise and celebration of our risen Savior!  
**APRIL 2** - The ministry of Chesapeake First Baptist Church; John P. Reed, II, pastor (Kanawha Valley)  
**APRIL 3** - John Wood, clerk/treasurer, Elk Valley Association  
**APRIL 4** - The ministry of Oak Hill Baptist Church; Samuel Blaylock, pastor (Fayette)  
**APRIL 5** - Judy Akers, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission  
**APRIL 6** - Rebecca Stanton, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Hungary  
**APRIL 7** - Grace Reed, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary (ABFMS) (youth) to Bolivia  
**APRIL 8** - Susan Hegarty, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Costa Rica  
**APRIL 9** - Matt Mann, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary  
**APRIL 10** - The ministry of Clarksburg Baptist Church; Phil Wayman, pastor (Union)  
**APRIL 11** - Stephen James, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Haiti  
**APRIL 12** - The ministry of Riverside Baptist Church; Michael Hanna, pastor (Teays Valley)  
**APRIL 13** - Women's Camp this weekend at Camp Cowen  
**APRIL 14** - Shigemi Tomita, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Japan  
**APRIL 15** - Ginny Prunty, Administrative Assistant to the Executive Minister, West Virginia Baptist Convention  
**APRIL 16** - Richard Sargent, chair, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission  
**APRIL 17** - The ministry of New Hill Baptist Church; Stephen Dodrill, pastor (Goshen)  
**APRIL 18** - Joani Brohard, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission  
**APRIL 19** - The ministry of Smoot Baptist Church; James Luchsinger, pastor (Hopewell)  
**APRIL 20** - The ministry of Murphytown Baptist Church; Jason Hickman, pastor (Parkersburg)  
**APRIL 21** - Omega and the Camp Cowen Block Party at Emmanuel Baptist Church (Kanawha Valley)  
**APRIL 22** - Jeannie Bess, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission  
**APRIL 23** - The ministry of Sand Run Baptist Church; Donald Butcher, pastor (Broad Run)  
**APRIL 24** - Corenne Smith, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Brazil  
**APRIL 25** - Elijah Williams, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to the Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**APRIL 26** - Cristina Parajon, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to Nicaragua  
**APRIL 27** - American Baptist Men's Work Weekend at Camp Cowen  
**APRIL 28** - Thelma Nambu, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the Philippines  
**APRIL 29** - Daniel Chetti, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Lebanon  
**APRIL 30** - The Golden'eers' Spring Retreat at Parchment Valley Conference Center

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

## May 2018

**MAY 1** - The ministry of Leading Creek Baptist Church; George Jones, pastor (Little Kanawha)  
**MAY 2** - Patricia Vannoy, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Discipleship Commission  
**MAY 3** - The ministry of Twelve Pole Valley Baptist Church; Douglas Thompson, pastor (Twelve Pole)  
**MAY 4** - Isabella Smith, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to Brazil  
**MAY 5** - The West Virginia Baptist Convention Executive Board as they meet at Parchment Valley Conference Center  
**MAY 6** - Pamala Williams, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Outreach Commission  
**MAY 7** - Ed Noyes, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**MAY 8** - Baptist Campus Ministries' Beach Week at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina  
**MAY 9** - The ministry of Long Run Baptist Church; Robey Godfrey, pastor (Elk Valley)  
**MAY 10** - Jill Lowery, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**MAY 11** - Bonnie Smith, member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Leadership Commission  
**MAY 12** - American Baptist Men's Work Party at Parchment Valley Conference Center  
**MAY 13** - Frank Miller, director of Operations, Parchment Valley Conference Center  
**MAY 14** - The ministry of Comunidad Luz Y Vida; John Vetter and Obed Siberon, pastors (Eastern)  
**MAY 15** - Adison Williams, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to the Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**MAY 16** - The ministry of Cairo Baptist Church; Chris Rusher, pastor (Harrisville)  
**MAY 17** - The ministry of Bethel Baptist Church (Coal River)  
**MAY 18** - The ministry of Plum Run Baptist Church; Patrick Vincent, pastor (Fairmont)  
**MAY 19** - The Youth Work Party at Camp Cowen  
**MAY 20** - Hermalinda Damasceno, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the United Kingdom  
**MAY 21** - Lee Ann Hwang, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to Japan  
**MAY 22** - The ministry of Clearview Fellowship; Roger Adams, pastor (Greenbrier-Raleigh)  
**MAY 23** - The ministry of Fifth Avenue Baptist Church; Eric Porterfield, pastor (Guyandotte)  
**MAY 24** - David Hoge, president, West Virginia Baptist Convention and member, West Virginia Baptist Convention Christian Stewardship Commission  
**MAY 25** - The ministry of Lumberport Baptist Church; Chad Hutson, pastor (Judson)  
**MAY 26** - Wayne Niles, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**MAY 27** - The ministry of Rockcastle Baptist Church; Silas Mullins, Jr., pastor (Rockcastle)  
**MAY 28** - Kyle Williams, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**MAY 29** - Abie Reed, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to Bolivia  
**MAY 30** - The ministry of Mill Creek Baptist Church; Robert Keen, pastor (Good Hope)  
**MAY 31** - Jack Bolick, American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS) missionary (youth) to Chile

## Coming Events

### APRIL 2018

April 13-15

*Women's Camp  
Camp Cowen*

Registration begins at 6:30 p.m.  
Program begins at 8:00 p.m.

April 14

*School of Christian Studies  
Weddings and Funerals (E-05)  
One-Day Class with Herman Robinson*

*Parchment Valley Conference Center in  
the Santrock Education Center*  
Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.  
Class begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at  
2:15 p.m.

April 21

*School of Christian Studies  
Weddings and Funerals (E-05)  
One-Day Class with Dan Meadows*

*Petersburg First Baptist Church*  
Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.  
Class begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at  
2:15 p.m.

April 21

*Omega and Camp Cowen Block Party*  
*Emmanuel Baptist Church, Charleston*  
10:00 a.m. and 1:15 p.m.

April 27-28

*American Baptist Men's Work Weekend*  
*Camp Cowen*  
Begins with lunch at 12 noon.

April 30 - May 2

*Golden'eers' Spring Retreat*  
*Parchment Valley Conference Center*  
Registration begins at 12:00 noon.

### MAY 2018

May 1

*School of Christian Studies*  
*Discipleship Essentials (M-02)*  
*Six-Week Class Begins*  
*Various Times and Locations*

May 4

*West Virginia Baptist Convention*  
*Executive Committee*  
*Parchment Valley Conference Center in*  
*the Santrock Education Center*  
6:30 p.m.

May 5

*West Virginia Baptist Convention*  
*Executive Board and Commission*  
*Meetings*  
*Parchment Valley Conference Center in*  
*the Santrock Education Center*  
9:00 a.m.

## West Virginia Baptist Newsletter Submissions

Send submissions for *The West Virginia Baptist* to: [thewobaptist@wvbc.org](mailto:thewobaptist@wvbc.org) or mail submissions to the West Virginia Baptist Convention, Attention: Donna, P.O. Box 1019, Parkersburg, West Virginia 26102. If you are submitting text, send typed copy only. We no longer accept handwritten text. 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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# Women's Camp

**"Better Together"**

**Ephesians 4**

**April 13-15, 2018**

**Camp Cowen**

**Cost: \$45.00, includes all meals**

**Speakers: Jana Stoner  
and Jillene Narraway**

*This camp is for women 18 years of age and older.  
There are a limited number of scholarships available.  
Please contact Lisa Simmons at 304.273.9693 or  
[lsimmons@wvbc.org](mailto:lsimmons@wvbc.org).*

*For more information and a registration form, please visit the  
[www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org) website, click on Partners, then WVBC Auxiliaries and  
finally, American Baptist Women's Ministries of WV. If you have ques-  
tions, please contact Kasey Madden at 304.840.1482 or  
[kasey.madden@icloud.com](mailto:kasey.madden@icloud.com).*

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