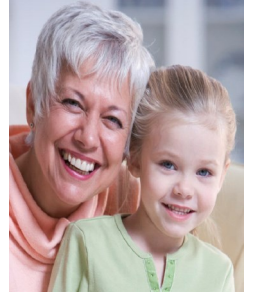


Seasons

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



Winter 2022

HAPPY NEW YEAR
2022

**West Virginia
American Baptist
Women's Ministries**

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



The West
Virginia
Baptist

Convention app is
now available for
Android and Apple
products. Download
yours today!



From the Desk of the President

"Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory and the majesty. Everything in the heavens and on earth is yours, O Lord and this is your kingdom. We adore you as the one who is over all things" 1 Chronicles 29:11.

Greetings Dear Ladies,

We have been so blessed with a great slate of state officers for this coming year. I thank God for everyone. It is such a pleasure to be your servant during my term as President. We have an exciting year planned for the women of West Virginia.

I appreciate all women in all our West Virginia Baptist churches. They are all working to build the kingdom of God. No matter how small you may feel, you are important to God and to me.

"Surely you have granted him unending blessings and made him glad with the joy of your presence" Psalm 21:6. "May God be merciful and bless us. May his face smile with favor on us" Psalm 67:1.

Elizabeth (Libby) Young
 Nutter Fort First Baptist Church
 2184 Marshville Road
 Salem 26426
 304-783-4714
 el.young@aol.com



Lord, We come to you with humble hearts and thank you for this day and for getting us through another year of COVID. We pray for the families that have lost a loved one during this past year. We are blessed American Baptist Women to be able to serve you open and freely in our country. If we only turn to you for our answers, You will guide us each day. Thank you for always being with us. We have so much to be thankful for in our lives, our churches, our homes, our families and friends. I ask that you hold us accountable to Your will and that we would always remember to ask what Your will is for us in our lives. We love you and thank you for loving us. In Christ's wonderful name we pray. Amen.



Carrie Gasaway, Registrar
 Judson Baptist Church, Winfield
 Teays Valley Association
 451 22nd Street, Dunbar, WV 25064
 304-552-3760
 Panda112260.cj@gmail.com

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Reflections

I grew up in a Southern Baptist Church. My mother attended circle, but I do not know a lot about what ministries the ladies were involved in, or if they had associations or a state women's board.

After moving to West Virginia my husband, Ed, and I began attending Dunbar Baptist Church. I was invited to attend a circle meeting early on, and I liked the idea as a way to meet other ladies in the church. I attended some of the state events such as Conference and Spiritual Growth Retreat at Parchment Valley. Ed traveled quite a bit for work which meant I was alone a lot. These events gave me a time to get away and fellowship with others from around the state. In the 1980's, one could attend Spiritual Growth Retreat one of three weekends. It was my favorite gathering as our group would seem to go the weekend when the leaves in Ripley were at their peak. Always a tremendous view and a reminder of God's handiwork.

In 1992, we moved to Hurricane. Our son's first grade teacher knew we were looking for a church and invited us to First Baptist of Hurricane. Later she invited me to a circle meeting. I enjoyed the ladies very much. They seemed to be involved in many church activities as well as the community. I was touched by their love and outreach. As time went on, we decided to stay at Hurricane First. Before I could tell our son's teacher, she told us at a parent teacher conference that she would not pass our child to second grade unless we made Hurricane First our home! (True story). For our child's sake, we made Hurricane our church home, and I love being involved with the circle there. The ladies are fun to be around, have a love for others and their community as well as others in the state and around the world. We share ideas on how to give our time and resources to others, and everyone seems to be ready to jump in with both feet and hit the ground running when challenged with a task or ministry. Everything we do is backed up with prayer, and I believe God blesses our efforts in many different ways.



Through the pandemic, I have learned we were not created to be loners. We were created to fellowship and worship together as a church family. Being part of American Baptist Women's Ministries gives me confidence, friendship, resources and love that I would otherwise not experience.

I love being on the state board and hearing what others do for the Lord, and how our ABWM team work reaches the remotest of areas around the world. What an awesome God we serve!

*Karen Nicholson
Secretary
Term of Office: (Two Years) 2021-2022
Hurricane First Baptist Church
Teays Valley Association
3 Trail Drive, Hurricane, WV 25526
304-542-3313
varzbk@aol.com*





IT'S SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TIME!!!

APPLICATION IS NOW ONLINE

- Yes, current scholarship recipients must apply each year
- Go to our website - wvbc.org
- Move your cursor to Ministries
- When that menu opens, move your cursor to Auxiliaries
- When that menu opens, click on WV American Baptist Women's Ministries
- Scroll down until you see Scholarship/Loan Application and click on that
- There are seven pages to be printed
- Application cannot be completed online. They must be printed and mailed
- **DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS** - They must be received by the Scholarship/Loan Coordinator no later than **MARCH 1, 2022**



Jane W. Mullen
Scholarship/Loan Coordinator
Harrisville Baptist Church
1108 E. Main St./ PO Box 257
Harrisville, WV 26362-0257
Phone: 304.643.5993
ljwm1108@zoominternet.net

Lou Ann Nicholas
Associate Scholarship/Loan Coordinator
Shinnston First Baptist Church
202 Maryland Avenue
Nutter Fort, WV 26301
Phone: 304-622-0988
lanicholas13@aol.com



2021 YEAR-END GIVING TOTALS

Mission Outreach Project - \$7,631.90

Special Project - \$10,203.18

Love Gift - \$73,370.42

Per Amy Starkey, Treasurer
Per Georgia Parsons, Love Gift Coordinator

MEET YOUR NEW OFFICERS FOR 2021



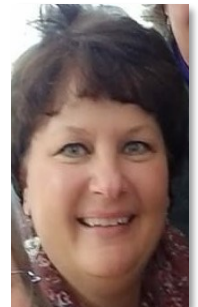
SECOND VOICE-PRESIDENT - LINDA CARPENTER
SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH
BROAD RUN ASSOCIATION
63 Wakefield Place, Washington, WV 26181
304-588-0510
llecgrandma@yahoo.com

MISSION AND SERVICE COORDINATOR - BRENDA ROSIER
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GRAFTON
UNION ASSOCIATION
5 Emery Street, Grafton, WV 26354
304-672-2873
fbc_missions@frontier.com



CHURCH AND COMMUNITY COORDINATOR ELECT-- NANCY ADKINS
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ST. ALBANS
TEAYS VALLEY ASSOCIATION
81 Camden Circle #302, Scott Depot, WV 25560
304-610-1008
nancyadkins07@gmail.com

.SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT COORDINATOR ELECT – KIM PICKRELL
NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
PARKERSBURG ASSOCIATION
337 Dee Street, Waverly, WV 26184
304-481-2632
pickrellk@aol.com



LOVE GIFT COORDINATOR - GEORGIA PARSONS
SOUTH PARKERSBURG BAPTIST CHURCH
PARKERSBURG ASSOCIATION
606 Ruby Street, Belmont, WV 26134
304-665-2822
gpbelmont@suddenlink.net

GOOD SAMARITAN COORDINATOR
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HURRICANE
TEAYS VALLEY ASSOCIATION
1009 Elm Drive, Hurricane, WV 25526
304-562-9209
kmack@cycloswv.com



Special Project 2022
CAMP COWEN CABIN RESTORATION

Goal: \$12,000

Cabins at Camp Cowen need much love and care.

Some improvements include:

New Windows/screens

New doors

Electrical wiring

Relocation of breaker box
(outside cabins)



**In 2021, 1,000 campers attended Camp Cowen
and 39 gave their lives to Christ. What a celebration!**

Send donations to:
Amy Starkey
WV ABWM Treasurer
921 Whispering Pines Road
Ravenswood, WV 26164



Mary Ann Wilson
Church and Community Coordinator
First Baptist Church of Spencer
1638 Charleston Road
Spencer, WV 25276
mawilson@hughes.net
304-927-3667



WV Hope 2022



The WV Hope Committee has selected the following Charities for your consideration:

Lily's Place Contact person: Jennifer Chapman, 1320 7th Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701

Their mission is to provide medical care to infants suffering from Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome [NAS].

Things volunteers could do: Volunteer to do yard work or bring in a meal for their rooming in moms.

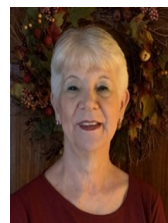
Items they can always use: Diapers for newborns and up, wipes for sensitive skin, paper towels, toilet paper and unscented 13-gallon trash bags. Gift cards and checks are always appreciated.

Good Shepherd Food Pantry Contact person: Debbie Wright, P.O. Box 65, Montgomery, WV 25136. Their mission is to provide food to their community. They prefer checks, which should be made payable to Good Shepherd Food Pantry.

Weirton Christian Center Contact person: Kim Weaver, P.O. Box 2045, Weirton, WV 26062. Volunteers are always welcome as are any contributions of supplies and monetary support.

- WV Hope ministries are in place from January - December each calendar year
- There are no quotas for these ministries. Give what you wish from the goodness of your heart
- All contributions to the WV Hope Ministries are to be sent directly to the providers
- You are at liberty to select one or all of those ministries OR
- You can go to the website of International Ministries. There you will find page after page of White Cross ministries to choose from, or
- You can select a local ministry in your community to support.
- If you have a ministry in your area to be considered for the 2023 WV Hope, they must be received by the Coordinator Mary Davis by April 15th of each year.
- Just a reminder for those of you who participated in the 2021 WV Hope Ministries: your year-end report is due to your Association Officer by January 15th and Association reports are due to me (contact information below) by January 31st.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT – MARY DAVIS
Salem Baptist Church
Broad Run Association
30 Raccoon Run Road, Salem 26426
304-931-4713
primandproper.m@gmail.com



Love Gift 2022

Goal - \$100,000

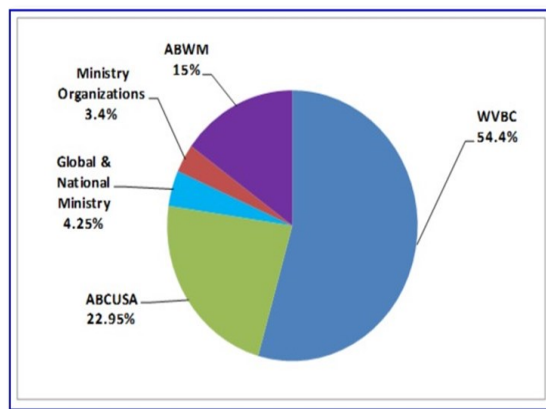
(NOT JUST FOR WOMEN . . .)



As we look back on 2021, I know many groups were unable to meet for several months, so it is not surprising our \$100,000 goal was not met. As of November, we have collected \$64,000.63. I am optimistic that will change, and we will meet the 2022 goal of \$100,000.00. WV American Baptist women have such a heart for Love Gift.

We read in "The Story of Love Gift": "From the beginning (1932), American Baptist women wanted their Love Gifts to be used to support the total mission program of American Baptist Churches, USA. In keeping with this early decision, Love Gift money is a part of the basic budget of American Baptist Churches, USA. These expressions of love and thanks to God support the full range of American Baptist mission."

Do you encourage your husband, family and friends to watch for "L" dollars? I recently had lunch with my Sunday School class, and one of the members, who often shares her dollars, handed me one. Others attending ask what it was all about and before the meal was over, \$18.00 had been given to Love Gift in "L" dollars. What a blessing that was from those women (and men) who do not have a connection to ABW Ministries. Stories such as this are fun to hear about, so share with your group or circle



Please mail checks directly to:

WVBC
Attn: Love Gift
P. O. Box 1019
Parkersburg, WV 26102

Love Gift Coordinator
Georgia Parsons
South Parkersburg Baptist Church
Parkersburg Association
606 Ruby Street, Belmont, WV 26134
304-665-2822
gpbelmont@suddenlink.net



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

A new year full of blessings, sorrows and joys is upon us. I heard many say 2021 was a hard year with dealing with the loss of loved ones, exhaustion from a never-ending cycle, struggles among family and friends, their own physical health and many other reasons. Yet, we hold onto a thankfulness that the Lord has seen us through another year. We look towards this new year with hope, resilience and prayerfully a thankful heart.

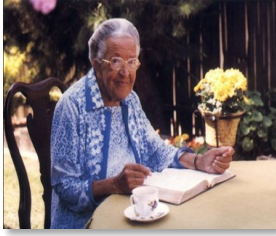
January and February are a great time to regroup, shift our focus, start a new project, or an old one that brings joy. In the snow-covered days, take a little extra time for your own mental and spiritual health. One of the best ways to shift your heart and mind is to focus on the blessings each day has given.

We just finished hearing and reading the Christmas story many times. There is an important part that sometimes gets overlooked. Luke 2:19 *“But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.”* Where the treasure of our heart is, so our mindset is for the days to come. Mary was going to face many challenges including giving up her Son to His calling that she didn’t completely understand. People were mocking and hunting Him, and His physical death was a cruel and horrific way. As she treasured and pondered her blessings in a dark, stinky, dirty stable, God gave her knowledge and hope for the journey ahead of her. Just as He will give us the strength and blessing of the journey ahead of us, if we but stop and ponder on His blessings and joys.

But how will He give us the heart to see the treasures? Through our personal relationship with Him. Take time to walk with Him in prayer and meditation. Visit with Him through scriptures, even just hold His Word (the Bible) in your hands. Make this year’s focus not on just “being” a Christian, but instead focus on the relationship part. Find a new devotional, a new version of scripture to read to change it up a little, listen to the Bible on an app, make the time to be with God. The best gift is time. Did you hear me say join all kinds of committees at church or jump in to help with every project? Being busy for God isn’t the same as having a relationship with Him. Just as Mary treasured and pondered it all, let us take time to treasure and ponder our relationship with God. Don’t just open the door for Him into your heart but invite Him to sit a while with your tired, messy, overwhelmed heart. Soon you too will be focusing on the blessings and thanksgivings, instead of the stinky stable.

Continued on page 10...

Ordinary Women with Extraordinary Faith Series



Comelia Arnolda Johanna “Corrie” ten Boom was born in 1892, in the Netherlands and was a Dutch Christian watchmaker who with her family helped move Jews into “safe” houses and areas during WWII. She became the leader of the group, and it is estimated that they saved over 800 Jews. She and her family eventually were caught and her father, sister, and herself were sent to prison where her father died, then to a concentration camp where her sister died days before Corrie was released. Upon her release after the war, she set up rehabilitation center for concentration camp survivors and even took in those who helped the Nazis.

She went to over 60 countries with her ministry. Early on in 1947, speaking in a defeated Germany at Munich a man came forward. She recognized him as a guard at the camp where she and her sister were held, and Betsie died. After the war the man had become a Christian and he came forward to her and said He knew God had forgiven him but could she? She said in her book she was taken back, and an internal struggle took place, but God forgave her daily and forgiveness is an action. *"I had to do it — I knew that. The message that God forgives has a prior condition: that we forgive those who have injured us."* She said in that moment she had never felt God so close.

You can learn and be inspired more about her ministry through her books:
"The Hiding Place", "Tramp for the Lord", "Each New Day", and many more

Youtube a biography of Corrie- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GHjiGwG4cFY>
Movie - *The Hiding Place*

Devotional Book Review

"One Step Closer Bible" In the New Living Testament with notes and comments by Candance Cameron Bure. The main theme is to show how God's Word meets our every need in daily life. One third of the Bible has a devotional HelpFinder Index which has multiple topics and questions with scriptures for answers as well more in-depth explanation for the topic. Topics are arranged in alphabetical order then multiple questions afterwards.

This Bible and Devotional would be a great personal devotion book for a small group. You could easily pick a topic and have multiple discussion questions with scriptures. This would also be a good Bible for young or new Christians to help them see how relevant and a true guidebook the Bible is to their life. It includes lines for notes on the sides but is not too big or bulky. The books of the bible introductions focus on the lessons or themes found in them. There is also a section for key scriptures of each book. I am going to be using it for my personal devotions and small group.

It can be purchased for around \$50.00 at Local Christian Bookstores, Dayspring, Christian Book Distributors

Sherry Husted
Personal Development Coordinator Elect
Gilboa Baptist Church
21 Washington Street
Reedy, WV 25270
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sherryhusted@gmail.com



2022 Mission Outreach Project

Haiti Clean Water Project



GOAL: \$6,000



2022 Mission Outreach Project

Haiti ~ Clean Water Project

GOAL: The goal of this project is to provide safe, clean water for thousands of families in Haiti.

The Clean Water Project will be managed by the Baptist Missionaries, Kihomi Ngwemi and Nzunga Mabudiga and the Haitian Baptist Convention.

On a personal note, I have been to Haiti on 16 short-term missions trips and have witnessed the difference that clean water can make to a family and to a community. I travel with the mission group, Friends of Ft. Liberte' and we have raised money to drill over 25 water wells and the clean water is such a blessing to the sweet people in Haiti. Please prayerfully consider giving to this life changing project.

Please send donations to:

Amy Starkey

WV ABWM Treasurer

**921 Whispering Pines Road
Ravenswood, WV 26164**

Brenda Rosier
Missions and Service Coordinator
First Baptist Church of Grafton
Union Association
55 Emery Street, Grafton, WV 26354
304-672-2873
Fbc_missions@frontier.com



ADOPT A SEMINARY STUDENT

At the November 2021 ABWM of WV Executive Board Meeting, it was discussed and voted upon that we should adopt two female Latino Seminary Students through the Adopt a Seminary Student Program sponsored and administered by the West Virginia Baptist Convention and Global Servant J. D. Reed.

The motion: *To sponsor two female students for the Master of Theological Studies in the Latino Palmer Seminary through the Adopt a Seminary Student Program administered by IM Global Servant JD Reed, for students in Central and South America. This would be for the calendar years of 2022 and 2023. The annual tuition for each student is \$2400 to be paid yearly for two years. Funding for one student shall be \$2400 from the Million Women Movement fund for the years 2022 and 2023. The annual stipend we receive from WVBC through the Mountain State Mission Offering shall be designated in 2022 and 2023 for payment for the second student's tuition.*

Announcements and Upcoming Events

State Executive Board Meeting
Saturday, March 12, 2022
Parchment Valley Conference Center



Saturday, June 4, 2022
Theme To Be Determined
Sandy Currey, Coordinator
Parchment Valley Conference Center

September 17 - 18, 2022
Parchment Valley Conference Center
Theme: "We Are Family"
Melanie Swisher, Coordinator



ANNUAL MEETING



Summersville Baptist Church
2022 WVBC Annual Meeting October 20, 21
Sherry Husted, Coordinator
Women's Annual Meeting Day
Thursday October 20, 2022

2021 Honor Roll of Churches

Broad Run Association

West Union Baptist

Coal River Association

Racine Baptist Church

Eastern Association

Bethel Baptist

Dorcas Baptist

Little Capon Baptist

Fairmont Association

Baptist Temple

West Warren Baptist

Willow Tree Baptist

Fayette Association

Oak Hill Baptist

Calvary Baptist

Page Baptist

Good Hope Association

Gilboa Baptist Church

Mill Creek Baptist

Ravenswood First Baptist

Reedy Baptist

Goshen Association

Sabraton Baptist

Greenbrier/Raleigh Association

Breckenridge Missionary Baptist

Guyandotte Association

Fifth Avenue Baptist

Hopewell Association

New Hope Community Baptist

Olive Branch Missionary Baptist

Summersville Baptist

Judson Association

Bridgeport Baptist

Nutter Fort Baptist

Kanawha Association

Charleston Baptist Temple

Diamond Baptist

Dunbar First Baptist

Judson Baptist

Starcher First Baptist

Little Kanawha Association

Burnsville First Baptist

Glennville First Baptist

Logan-Mingo Association

Connolly Memorial Baptist

Panhandle Association

Dallas Pike Baptist

Pine Grove First Baptist

Weirton Heights Memorial

Parkersburg Association

Lauckport Baptist

Lubeck Community Baptist

New England Baptist

South Parkersburg Baptist

Union Valley Baptist

Teays Valley Association

Concord Baptist

Hurricane First Baptist

Main Street Baptist

Mount Vernon Baptist

Union Association

Beulah Baptist

Middleville Baptist

Union Baptist

TIDBITS



Instructions on locating our web page: (1) go to wvbc.org (2) move your cursor to the sub-title Ministries (no click); when that menu opens move your cursor to Auxiliaries (no click); when that menu opens up, click on ABWM.



Join us on **Facebook** - American Baptist Women's Ministries of WV for inspirational messages and information updates. The page currently has 3,628 followers! We even have followers in Canada and Mexico!

SCHOLARSHIP
Application

Don't forget that the **2022 Scholarship/Loan Application** is now available on our website. No longer do you have to request an application. Just print it off, fill it out and mail it in. It must be received by the ABWM Coordinator **by March 1st**. Next selection process will occur in March 2022.



If you would like to subscribe to **Seasons**, the cost is \$5.00 per year. Publications are in January, April and August. Subscription mailing information is on the back cover of this edition. OR - go online and read it in its entirety. (Web page instructions are listed above.)

ABWM
MMM

Monday Morning Memo - Keeps you "In the Know" each Monday morning on what's happening as well as reminders and suggestions and information of which we should all be aware. If you would like to receive this Monday e-mail, please send your name and e-mail address to Sue Hamric, ABWM Communication Coordinator, suehamric74@gmail.com



Updates are now on our webpage - 2022 Mission Outreach Project, 2022 Special Project, amended bylaws, committee appointments, officer spreadsheet for easy printing; 2022 WV Hope ministries with information sheet and more. Check frequently for updates.



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*

If your mailing label has any month in 2022 as an expiration date, it is time to renew. **Subscription rate is \$5.00 per year.**

Every association and local president receives a complimentary copy.

I am enclosing my payment of \$____ for my renewal or ____new subscription to *SEASONS* for ____ year (s).

West Virginia Baptist Convention
 P.O. Box 1019
 Parkersburg, WV 26102 -1019

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