

mountain state MISSION OFFERING

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by Intentionally Engaging Communities for Christ



Last summer, a mission team from the **American Baptist Women's Ministries of WV** traveled to Puebla, Mexico, to assist International Ministries global servants Keith and Deborah Myers with the 2024 C.I.C.E.M. National Women's Retreat. The retreat was held June 20-23 and consisted of 32 indigenous women from five different states of Mexico. This retreat was the first ever for the C.I.C.E.M. women!



The ABWM of WV Mission Team, alongside Keith, Deborah and Baillie Myers.

Official planning for this trip began in 2023 after Nancy Adkins participated in the WVBC's Short-Term Mission Trip Leader Training. She then recruited a team of eight others who joined her in the planning. During the actual retreat, the desire of the indigenous women to learn and grow in Christ was evident through their stories of travel and struggles to attend. Some traveled over 23 hours on buses to attend the retreat, crossing through dangerous areas. Others attended despite deaths in their family that week, desiring to be with sisters in Christ for peace and understanding.

The beauty of this first event is that these ladies were equipped with lesson plans, craft materials and instructions on how to teach these same workshops and crafts to the women in their communities. Mission trips always have an impact on those who participate in them, but it will also be exciting to watch how God continues to work through the indigenous women of Mexico for many years and decades to come!

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

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The Every summer, an increasing number of unchurched kids show up at **Camp Cowen**. However, being backed by the 350+ churches of the WVBC, Camp Cowen is perfectly suited to not only introduce these kids to Jesus, but to also connect them and their families to a local church.



Mason is joined by his family after being baptized by Bryson Morlan.

At last summer's Junior 2 Camp, designed for fifth and sixth graders, Mason was one such kid who did not have a church, nor did he know anyone else at camp. With things like small groups, family-style meals and lots of recreational activities, camp is an easy place to meet people. Many lifelong relationships have been formed here.

Two days into camp, Mason began asking his counselors lots of questions about Jesus. On Thursday night, he sat with one of his counselors and his Bible study leader, Bryson Morlan, and they answered more of his questions. Later that night, he accepted Christ!

Mason immediately wanted to be baptized, so Jill Narraway called his parents and arranged for them to drive down and participate in his baptism. On Saturday morning, prior to the conclusion of camp, nearly 120 other campers gathered on the beach of the Gauley River to celebrate Mason's baptism.

Mason was just one of 10 kids who accepted Christ during last year's Junior 2 Camp. What a joy it is to be part of a ministry whose mission is to be a place "where people meet Jesus and grow as His disciples in a community of faith."

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