

THE WEST VIRGINIA  
**SOUTHERN BAPTIST**

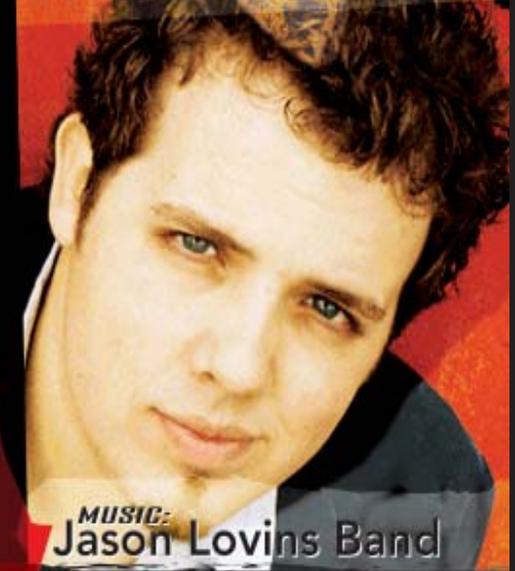
January, 2008 VOL. 38, NO. 1

A Cooperative Program ministry gladly telling the stories of God's work in and through WV Southern Baptists

01.25.08-01.26.08  
 Cross Lanes Baptist Church  
 More Info: firebrand2k8.com



**SPEAKER:**  
**Ronnie Hill**



**MUSIC:**  
**Jason Lovins Band**

FRIDAY NIGHT CONCERT

**Echoing Angels**

**DRAMA: Act Two** North Greenville Univ.

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**DATE** SEND AN E-VITE AT **FIREBRAND2K8.COM**  
 January 25 - 26, 2008

**LOCATION**  
 Cross Lanes Baptist Church  
 Cross Lanes, WV

**REGISTRATION**

Pre-Registration	\$5 [until 11.21.07]
Open Registration	\$10 [11.22.07 - 12.7.07]
Late Registration	\$10 [12.08.07 - 1.25.08]

\* Registration on or before 12/07/08 guarantees each participant a shirt for the event.  
 \*\* Late registration does not guarantee a shirt for the event.

01/25/08: concert: ECHOING ANGELS

**HOT GIVEAWAYS! FREE STUFF! HOT GIVEAWAYS! FREE STUFF! HOT GIV**

Cross Lanes Baptist Church :: 01/25/08 and 01/26/08



## From the Executive Director:

My Dear Friends:

In November we experienced one of our finest annual meetings of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists at Westview Baptist Church in Martinsburg, WV. Pastor Johnny Kelly, his excellent staff and a wonderful team of lay leaders outdid themselves in taking care of every detail for our needs during this time. This church really had to rise above and beyond the call of duty due to the fact that our Prayer Conference followed immediately and continued for the next eight days. All I can say about those days is that God showed up! We really cannot say that in every case today when the church gets together.

As blessed as we are to have a great deal of wonderful pastoral leadership in our state we are further blessed to have the involvement of a number of lay leadership. Such is the case with our newly elected President in the person of Tim Kearney. Brother Kearney is a member of the Good Shepherd Baptist Church in Scott Depot and has been very involved in our convention during recent years. He served on our *Strong Foundations for a Strong Future* committee which gave direction for the near future for our convention.

We are grateful for each of our officers for the New Year. We believe that the future of our convention is bright and we

can expect to see continued growth and development in the days ahead.

We were all saddened to hear at our annual meeting that Tom Young planned to retire effective January 1, 2008. Tom and his dear wife, Veda, have been great co-workers and have served our convention faithfully for many years. He has certainly earned a time of retirement and an opportunity to have a change of pace. Hopefully Tom can have the enjoyment of pursuing some of his favorite pastimes. He has truly been a dedicated, faithful servant and I am sure we are all grateful for him and Veda. I certainly know that I am.

As we look to a new year, we know that it offers many new opportunities and possibilities. Hopefully we will find a way to continue the good work that God began in us at the Prayer Conference. A mighty movement of God is the only hope for our country. It will not happen as long as we are content to live without it. Will you join me in asking God for revival in our state?

It is such a joy and privilege to serve with you in reaching West Virginia and beyond for Christ. "I thank God upon every remembrance of you". Please call me if there is any way I can be of help to you or to your church.

Sincerely,  
Terry L. Harper

*“As we look to a new year, we know that it offers many new opportunities and possibilities. Hopefully we will find a way to continue the good work that God began in us at the Prayer Conference. A mighty movement of God is the only hope for our country. It will not happen as long as we are content to live without it. Will you join me in asking God for revival in our state?”*

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SOUTHERN BAPTIST**  
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**The WVCSB is Building Strong  
Foundations for a Strong Future  
We are focused on ministries that  
Build the Kingdom:  
Missions and Evangelism  
Prayer and Spiritual Renewal  
Communication and Public Relations  
Strengthening Churches  
Fellowship  
...Fulfilling the Great Commission**

## WV Baptists Focus On Prayer & Spiritual Awakening At Annual Convention

The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of WV Southern Baptists with the theme, "Celebrating A Year of Prayer & Spiritual Awakening," took place November 2-3 in the beautiful new facilities of the Westview Baptist Church in Martinsburg. Total attendance was 189 including 132 registered messengers from the approximately 200 churches who are affiliated with the WVCSB.

Messengers welcomed eight new congregations into the Convention and approved a \$2,754,411 budget for the 2008 calendar year that will be funded by \$1,350,906 anticipated Cooperative Program Receipts and \$1,403,505 from outside sources such as interest income, LifeWay Christian Resources and the North American Mission Board. Thirty-eight per cent of the Cooperative Program receipts will be forwarded to the SBC Executive Committee. This percentage is the same as in the 2007 budget.

Tim Kearney, a lay leader from Good Shepherd Baptist in Scott Depot was elected new President of the WVCSB in an election between him and Rev. Cledith Campbell, pastor of Altizer Baptist Church

in Huntington. The remaining officers were elected without opposition. Dr. Seth Polk, pastor of Cross Lanes Baptist was elected to serve as First Vice President. Rev. Todd Hill, pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Parkersburg was elected to serve as Second Vice President. Helen Mellquist, a pastor's wife from First Southern Baptist of Fairmont was elected to serve as the new Recording Secretary replacing Fred Morgan, a layman from Fairlawn Baptist in Parkersburg who declined to be re-elected after serving in the role for the last eleven years.

Messengers approved a resolution expressing appreciation for the host congregation and association plus their leaders, the officers of the Convention, and for the Convention staff and arrangements committee. In addition, they also passed resolutions on prayer, expressing appreciation for Convention staff retirees Kay Boyd and Tom Young, appreciation for the troops involved in the global war on terror, and expressing appreciation to the Florida Baptist Convention for their ongoing missions partnership with WV Baptists.



Missionaries or their representatives from each of WV's ten associations led messengers in "Celebrating 300 Years of Cooperation Through the Association." As part of the opening worship for each of the four sessions of the meeting, two or more of the associations were featured. Each one approached his report uniquely. All focused on the work of God in the region featured. The intent was to allow all messengers to feel as though they had visited each region of WV.

The 2008 Convention will be held November 7-8 in the facilities of Fairlawn Baptist Church in Parkersburg.

## Participants Encounter God at WV Prayer Conference

In recent years a West Virginia Southern Baptist pastor longed to see believers from diverse areas of the world gathered together to prevail in prayer for the revival of God's people. Rev. Dan Biser, pastor of two churches in northeast West Virginia saw his dream somewhat fulfilled November 3-11 during *Prayer Conference 2007*.

Five hundred and one believers from churches in 18 states and three countries convened in the facilities of Westview Baptist Church in Martinsburg for the nine day conference. They participated in one or more of 23 sessions. Sessions were three hours in length and were generally characterized by two hours of worship and teaching followed by one hour of prayer.

Midway in the schedule Rev. Biser pointed out to participants that many of them had already been in worship and prayer more hours since the beginning of the conference than the average Christian experiences in twelve months! He was quick to warn them not to develop spiritual pride but to consider themselves

fortunate to have had the opportunity to meet with God for such an extended period of time.

Skeptics of the conference pointed out that it was too long and required sacrifices of participants that they would be unwilling to make. In fact, the length and variety of presenters may have been a key reason for its success. There were many who actually participated in the entire event. They were able to clear their calendars from other responsibilities and had the financial means to secure housing for the extended time.

Others attended all the sessions they could and encountered God each time they were there. Members of the host congregation were doubly blessed. They found themselves revived by the Presence of God and by the opportunity to serve in such a vital ministry. Their commitment and support was exemplary. Their friends in WV should be very proud of them for their service of love. Pastor Johnny Kelly and his staff served with joy throughout the event.

They were joined by the churches in the Tri-County Baptist Association in a hospitality ministry that would compare favorably with any SBC meeting in the land. They provided refreshments, snacks, and most meals for participants throughout much of the conference. They provided childcare during the entire conference thanks to the diligent efforts of volunteers led by Betty Jo Stout, a member of Westview, and a longtime preschool ministry trainer for both the WV and the Maryland-Delaware Conventions.

Host church Westview Baptist is not a large congregation. Their new auditorium would have been packed had all 501 participants attended at the same time. They average between 200 and 300 during peak attendance times. The Tri-County Association has around a half-dozen member congregations. By cooperating together and giving a generous offering of their time and energy, they exceeded all expectations for quality care of their guests.

**Continued to middle of page 4 ...**

## Executive Board Meets Prior to Annual Convention

November 1 at 10:30 a.m. Dr. C.J. Adkins (See photo below.) called to order the final Executive Board meeting of his two year tenure as President of the WVCSB. The quorum of Board members he led in a brief half hour meeting in the fellowship hall of the Westview Baptist Church in Martinsburg, accomplished four major items of business that helped set the stage for the coming season of



mission activities in the Mountain State.

Among the items of business were two actions to prepare for the annual Convention set to take place the next day. One item was the budget and the other was the 2008 calendar. Both planning pieces are recommended to the messengers for their approval in business sessions.

The Board also met and approved two couples who will work in WV in two unique ministries. Shay and Shannon Osborne (See photo in the center column.) were approved to serve as campus minis-



ters at Marshall University.

Andrew and Meghan DeHart were approved to serve as church planters in the Hurricane area. (See the photo below.)

The Osbornes will also work to develop partnerships with the churches in the Greater Huntington Baptist Association and will give heightened attention to evangelism on the Marshall campus. The DeHarts plan to use innovation and an emphasis on expository preaching to build a church to reach people in their 20's and 30's in the Teays Valley area.



### Continued from bottom of page 3 ...

Major presenters included T.W. Hunt, Henry Blackaby, Richard Blackaby, John Franklin, Greg Frizzell, Frank Page, Sammy Tippitt, Al Whittinghill, and Francois Carr. In addition to these who spoke at plenary sessions attended by all participants, two additional sessions were planned for women only and featured Elaine Helms, Tex Tippitt and Bobbye Rankin.

Each presenter was charged with the additional role of prayer facilitator. When they finished their presentation they led the group into times of prayer as individuals, as members of a small group of from 2-6 persons, and into larger groups for corporate prayers. Some of the times included directed prayer focused on specific issues while other times allowed more freedom of expression by the participants.

One constant in all prayer sessions was the clear presence of the Holy Spirit and a deeply emotional response on the part of participants. While many of the participants quietly wept in the Presence of God, the sound of sobbing was common across the beautiful auditorium. Nor did this manifestation cease when a session was dismissed. During meal and break times, individuals and small groups

kept their focus on the spiritual business that gripped the hearts of almost all persons who attended.

Ample time was allowed for testimonies which were frequent and deeply moving, at times voiced aloud to the entire group during times of corporate prayer. Perhaps most touching were the times when the sin of spiritual neglect was confessed, accompanied by emotions consistent with genuine repentance and public confession.

When interviewed for this article, Rev. Biser shared some of his feelings about the event that likely capture the feelings of the committee that worked with him to plan the logistics. "I am grateful that we were able to pull a group of people together for extended times of prayer and that when we prayed the desire for revival was so genuine. When we met two years ago in Romney for a shorter version, we had good presenters and excellent times of prayer. This event allowed a greater variety of people to participate, longer times together which translated into more intense soul-searching that went much deeper into the hearts of those in attendance, and all that led to more confession of sin which is so important in anyone's

prayer life and walk with God. I was also grateful to see the focus of our prayers kept on the Kingdom of God instead of some laundry list of things we wanted God to do for us or our families. One amazing thing to me was the way God physically strengthened me and the participants for such an extended time of prayer and intercession for revival. No one complained of fatigue although many of us were in most of the 23 sessions."

"I do not believe that God would have drawn us together in such numbers for this time of prayer if He did not know in advance what was going to happen and if He did not plan to answer our prayers for a revival in the Church and a spiritual awakening in America. I have gained hope from that perspective. The very peace that we felt in His presence is an indication that He looked with pleasure on what we were attempting to do in this gathering. He dealt with all of us in such a merciful, marvelous way that we all sensed He was drawing us toward His throne.

"However, I am sobered by the realization that our work has just begun. When you consider the amount of publicity and prayer that preceded this meet-

**Continued to top left of page 5 ...**

Continued from bottom of page 4...

ing, the fact that readers of Baptist Press were informed about this meeting repeatedly, that some 27,000 brochures were mailed out, that every 2007 edition of our WV newspaper carried information about the nature of this event, that state papers around this convention carried the information as well, it is hard to explain why even more people did not participate in this call to prayer. This may show the sad state of unbelief, unfaithfulness and busyness that keeps Christians from doing the most important thing which is to pour out your heart in confession, repentance, and abandon to a merciful Heavenly Father, the only One who can turn this disastrous spiritual coldness around.

"In a day when much of what we do in the church looks like a "franchise" of what someone down the street or in the next county is doing, this event was unique. It called us to prayer as a lifestyle. Nothing is more central to the life of a true follower of Christ. May we who attended not lose the fear of God's wrath upon our nation and upon the Church. May we continue to persevere and be steadfast in the cause of prayer."

Conferees seemed to agree that the greatest desire they took away from the event was the need for God to change them permanently. Thus the long term outcome of this event looks positive for the churches from which the participants came. Since the overarching theme or reason for being "Broken Before the Throne" was to "prevail in prayer for revival," the dream of Dan Biser will not be fully realized until a Great Awakening of the people of God sweeps across this nation, a nation that appears on the brink of disaster due to its neglect of God's Sovereignty.

## Minister's Wives Meet During Pastor's Conference

Shown below and to the right are some of the wives of WV pastors who gathered for inspiration during the recent pastor's conference that preceded the annual convention in Martinsburg.



## Baptist Student Leader Earns Univ. Award

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. (BP)--Sarah Ann Erwin, president of the Southern Baptist student group Mountaineer Campus Ministries at West Virginia University, is the 2007 Miss Mountaineer Award recipient.

Erwin was presented with the award Nov. 9 at halftime of the West Virginia-Louisville game. The honoree is selected by a panel of judges based on merit, community and campus involvement and school spirit.



In addition to her work with Mountaineer Campus Ministries, Erwin is involved in such campus organizations as Colleges Against Cancer, the Center for Excellence in Disabilities and Alpha Phi Omega.

Michel Boyer, director of Mountaineer Campus Ministries at WVU, said Erwin has helped organize the WVU Relay for Life event for the past two years.

"Sarah was instrumental in getting MCM connected with Relay so that MCM could use its photo evangelism tool, WV Snap, to take the official team photos of more than 60 registered teams and share Christ in the process," Boyer said. "It is an honor and a privilege to call Sarah Ann Erwin an MCMer and a friend."

Erwin's passion for Colleges Against Cancer stems from her own survival from cancer.

"Being a cancer survivor, I have realized that God is in total control of my life," she said. "I may not understand things at times and I may still worry about things I shouldn't, but I know that He has a plan for my life. I have also realized that life is not about me, but what I can do to please God."

Erwin said God has shown her the good that has come from her illness, as she has been able to tell many people the impact that cancer has had on her life.

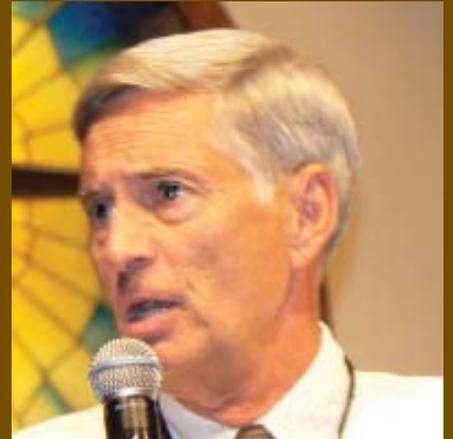
"In doing so, I have been able to also share with them how thankful I am because God has granted me so many opportunities to give Him glory through sharing my life with others," she said. "I try my best to take one day at a time and know that all that matters is what I do for God. I seek to serve Christ by serving others and am able to glorify Christ by giving back to those who have helped me along the way."

A graduate student working on a degree in occupational therapy, Erwin plans to graduate in May 2008 and return to her hometown of Delbarton, W.Va., to begin her career.

*Adapted from information provided by Mountaineer Campus Ministries at West Virginia University.*



Featured Speakers, Guests and Servants Who Were Part



of an Inspiring Annual Convention at Martinsburg, WV

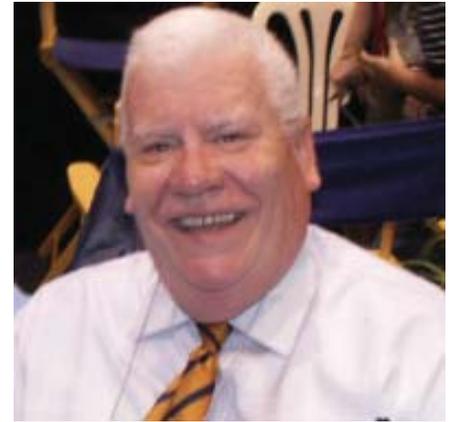


## Participants at the Recent Pastors' Conference



## Florida and WV Continue Missions Partnership

Dr. Greg Wrigley, WV's State Missions Director recently attended the annual state convention meeting in Florida to be present for their vote to extend the missions partnership relationship with WV for an additional three years. Shown in the photos below are Wrigley and Dr. John Sullivan, Dr. Cecil Seagle, Craig, Gene, and Terrie, partnership coordinators, and former WV Exec, Tom Kinchen and his wife, Ruth Ann. (photos by G. Wrigley)



## West Virginia Prayer Focus

Your state convention staff meets each working day for a brief time of prayer. We pray for missionaries, campuses, associations, churches, and chapels by name each day. We invite our readers to pray as well.

**New Work:** Journey Church, Tri County Association, church planters, Larry and Teresa Stevens. The church is currently meeting in the Harper's Ferry Middle School.

Praise and Prayer Requests:

- Praise God for two other works the Stevens have started in this area during the past two years.
- Pray for Larry and Teresa to have good health, physical and spiritual strength, discernment and wisdom as they work in the Harper's Ferry/Charles Town area.

**Ministry Focus:** Prayer for Spiritual Awakening

Praise God for the manifestation of His glorious presence during the Prayer Conference, November 3-11. Pray that those who participated will be faithful to continue the personal revival they experienced in their lives. Pray that we (the participants) will begin spontaneous prayer groups in our communities in order to seek God Himself, not for things we want.

**Scripture:** *Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.* James 5:16 KJV

**Weekend Prayer Focus:** Your church, pastor and leaders.

**Resource:** *Pray in Faith* by T. W. Hunt and Claude King (available from Lifeway Christian Resources).

<u>Date</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Campus</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Chapel</u>
Jan. 7	Greater Huntington	Concord Univ.	Indian Creek	Hope, Richwood
Jan. 8	Immanuel	Marshall Univ.	Isaban	The Journey
Jan. 9	Monongahela	Mt. State Univ.	Jackson Avenue	Lighthouse, Charleston
Jan. 10	Mountain State	WVU Morgntwn	Jeanette	Lighthouse, Ivydale
Jan. 11	Pioneer	Bluefield State	Jordan Christian Fellowship	Marland Heights
Jan. 14	Potomac Highland	Concord Univ.	Kingwood	New Life, Arnoldsburg
Jan. 15	Tri-County	Marshall Univ.	Knobley Road	Oak Creek
Jan. 16	Upper Ohio Valley	Mt. State Univ.	Lilly Grove	Pipestem Community
Jan. 17	Allegheny	WVU Morgntwn	Lincoln	Solid Rock
Jan. 18	Coalfields	Bluefield State	Little Birch	South Wheeling
Jan. 21	Greater Huntington	Concord Univ.	Living Stone	So. Bapt. at Flatwoods
Jan. 22	Immanuel	Marshall Univ.	Lochgelly	So. Bapt. at Salt Rock
Jan. 23	Monongahela	Mt. State Univ.	Locust Grove	SBC at Wayne
Jan. 24	Mountain State	WVU Morgntwn	Lorton Lick	Abundant Hope
Jan. 25	Pioneer	Bluefield State	Lost City	The Bridge
Jan. 28	Potomac Highland	Concord Univ.	Malden	Camden Flats
Jan. 29	Tri-County	Marshall Univ.	Memorial, Beckley	Carpendale
Jan. 30	Upper Ohio Valley	Mt. State Univ.	Mineral Wells	Chinese Mission
Jan. 31	Allegheny	WVU Morgntwn	Mountain View	Christian Family Fellowship
Feb. 1	Coalfields	Bluefield State	Mountaineer	Faith, Winfield

APRIL 10 - 11, 2008, CROSS LANES BAPTIST CHURCH

# THE GREAT GOSPEL COMEBACK

## 2008 STATE EVANGELISM CELEBRATION

*guest speakers:* Jerry Rankin, O.S. Hawkins, Greg Frizzell, Jeff Crook *special music:* Crimson Flood and Sounds of Liberty

more info: [www.wvevangelism.com](http://www.wvevangelism.com)

**Lilly Grove** has called **Bruce Woodson** as pastor. Bruce and wife **Jewel**, from Bluefield, VA, began their ministry December 2.

**New Hope Tabernacle** fed over 1000 on Sat., Nov. 17, and has been voted the No. 1 food pantry in West Virginia. Pastor **Philip Hunt** has been asked to be spokesman for all of WV's food pantries.

**Pipestem** has called **Roy Carter** as their new pastor, along with wife **Beverly**.

**Freedom, Beckley**, baptized a young lady in their new baptistry in September and added a new couple to their membership. **David Trump** is pastor.

**Faith Fellowship, Athens**, held revival services in October. They started WMU combined with the boys and girls weekly mission study *Children in Action* in August and now have eleven children and youth participating. **Sam Cox** is the pastor.

**First Baptist, Princeton**, where **David Dockery** is pastor, celebrated their 167th anniversary as a church in October, and also held revival services with Jimmie Jones as speaker.

**First Baptist, Hinton**, has called **Adam Rhinehart** as youth minister. **Ronnie Cobb** pastors the church.

**Silver Springs** is turning their church upside-down by changing their Sunday morning worship service time to 10:30 a.m. and their Sunday School to 6:00 p.m. The play *A Cricket County Colorado Christmas* was presented in December. **Gerald McKinney** is the pastor.

The Children's Committee at **Immanuel, Princeton**, pastored by **Dan Jividen**, gave out 5,868 candy canes with information attached about the church and the candy cane story at the Princeton Christmas Parade. Six new members have been added recently. The Youth served Thanksgiving Dinner at the Bluefield Union Mission. Each student who helped received a ticket to the fall lock-in. November also included the observance of the Women's World Day of Prayer, and the WMU ladies hosted the Fall Celebration of Community Hospices of Americas Memorial Service.

The Youth of **Faith Baptist, Mason**, took a summer trip to a Cincinnati Reds baseball game and the Creation Museum. The church choir sang during the town of Mason's Fourth of July celebration.

Backyard Bible Clubs were hosted by **Marge Stone** and **Carolyn Bird** this summer, with a combined attendance of 27. College students **Paul Boekell** and **Josh Williams** led the clubs. **Ron Branch** is pastor.

**Calvary, Chapmanville**, is rejoicing over the salvation of one young lady in AWANA. A fall ladies fellowship *Fall in Love with Jesus* was held in October, with 21 churches from Logan County represented and over 100 women in attendance. **Judy Virgin** was guest speaker. The church honored Pastor **John Freeman** with a program, his favorite food - pizza, and gifts for he and his wife **Pam**.

The teens at **Eastwood** studied creationism on Sunday nights and followed up with a trip to the Creation Museum in Petersburg, KY. The ladies collected recipes from church families for a Church Cookbook. Pastors **Hugh Summers** and **Brady Lipscomb** were honored at a churchwide Thanksgiving dinner, and each was presented with a gift. The church has a monthly ministry at the Heartland of Riverview Nursing Home.

**First Baptist, Ceredo**, held their annual Autumn Harvest Dinner and Drama Presentation. The drama was based on *Past TV Sitcoms*. Revival services featured evangelist Harold Cathey. They participated in *Operation Christmas Child* to fill shoe boxes with gifts for needy children all over the world. **Rodney Hale** is the pastor.

**Hamlin** held fall revival services with Mark Finley of Milton preaching. Gideons International was represented by speaker Jerry Lake on Oct. 21. Pastor **James Caldwell** was surprised with a Pastor Appreciation Day Program and Dinner. The WMU hosted a fall party at the local nursing home. Church members prepared shoe boxes for *Operation Christmas Child*. The Martin Luther King Jr. Male Chorus was featured in the evening service on Dec. 2.

**Highlawn** welcomed **Dr. Ricky L. Ray** as Senior Pastor on Oct. 28 with a special installation service. Dr. Ray, wife **Shanova**, and children **Jonathan and Kara**, come to Highlawn after serving churches in Tennessee and Kentucky.

Teen L.I.F.E. from **Locust Grove** held their annual hayride and bonfire devotion in October. They also held a fall party

where the youth came dressed as their favorite Bible characters. Two young people accepted Christ in AWANA. A group of AWANAs and some adults attended a Marshall University game. Pastor **Randall Robertson** and his family were shown appreciation with a luncheon in their honor. **Bill Barker** preached at revival services.

**Twentieth Street** enjoyed revival services with Randall Robertson, pastor of Locust Grove, as evangelist. There were three professions of faith and two baptisms. **John McSweeney** has been called to serve as minister of outreach. A harvest dinner was held.

**Westmoreland, C.J. Adkins** pastor, celebrated a baptism recently. The youth group made a trip to Louisa, KY, to visit **Cheryl Bledsoe** who is recovering from her injuries, and also took a large group to visit Judgment House. Congratulations to **Patrick Bailey**, son of **Jim and Kathy Bailey**, who was presented the Matthew Washington Service Award by **Doug Virgin**, Associational Missionary, on behalf of the **Greater Huntington Baptist Association**.

The WMU ladies of **Second Baptist, Martinsburg**, distributed baskets of homemade goodies to three shut-in members in September. In October home baked goods were contributed for a bake sale that raised over \$500 for Breast Cancer Research. One hundred *Jesus Loves You* balloons with a scripture attached were handed out to excited local children who were enjoying the annual Apple Harvest Parade. **Jeff Rose** pastors the church.

**Berkeley Baptist**, pastored by **George Hopkins**, held a harvest festival with about 50 children enjoying games, food, pumpkin carving, and scarecrow stuffing. Attendees were treated to an evening of food and entertainment at the first *Berkeley Baptist Has Talent* night. A Deacon Ordination service was held for **Ryan Durst**. The youth held a lock-in followed by a pancake breakfast fundraiser, with proceeds going toward the cost of snow camp. The church hosted the Morgan County Hospice Dinner, with approximately 200 in attendance. Fifteen food baskets were distributed in November to families in the community.

The WMU of **Cameron** hosted the

## News from West Virginia Churches

2007 Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer with a focus on Africa. The men had an opportunity to get their guns ready for the upcoming hunting season with the Fourth Annual *Great American Shoot-out* at **Greg Knight's** farm. A church-wide Holiday Dinner was held, followed by a play *Reason for the Season* performed by the ladies of the WELL Bible study group. A Deacon Ordination service was held December 16. Five were recently baptized. **Ron McCoy** is the pastor.

**Charity, Wyatt**, where **Dan Adkins** is pastor, was blessed with nine new members. Fall Fast was held in October as an alternative to Halloween, with approximately 35 in attendance. The Youth held a lock-in.

**Mountaineer Baptist** held revival services in November with Tim Bass from NC preaching. **Marty Turner** pastors the church.

**New Creek** is rejoicing that four children have been saved as a result of their AWANA outreach on Wednesday nights. **Thomas Roatch** is pastor.

**New Hope, Rick Price** pastor, had a Fall Harvest Party. They had a pizza party, then had each child, along with their parents, carve a pumpkin with Christian themes and logos. Afterwards, they distributed candy, scripture verses, and small Play Dough containers for the families to give away.

**New Life, Weston**, enjoyed revival services with special music by the Wayside choir, the Stanaker and Butcher families, and preaching by Bill Hunt and Steve Justice. The church dedicated the new pavilion to the Lord in memory of Deacon **Jerry Townsend**. **Dave Riddle** is the pastor.

The youth and leaders from **Southern, Philippi**, prepared a Thanksgiving meal following the worship service on Nov. 25 with all proceeds from the love offering going to the California Convention of Southern Baptists to help families who were affected by the fires. The church donated 86 *Operation Christmas Child* shoe boxes, and continue to work on welcome packets for the resort ministry of Mark Joseph. The WMU is making 30 prayer pillowcases to give to local servicemen and women going to Iraq in December. **Wade McGee**, pastor, was ordained at a special service at

Freedom SBC, Nutter Fort on Sat., November 17.

Approximately forty people attended the first *Trunk or Treat* at **Wayside, Buckhannon**. Church members dressed as Bible characters told Bible stories to children and gave them candy from the trunks of their cars. Inside the church they had games and snacks. **Don Knotts** is the pastor.

Congratulations to Pastor **Jeff and Molly Ramsey** of **Evangel, Bridgeport**, and big brothers **Andrew** and **Aaron** on the birth of **Alex Ryan Ramsey** on November 27.

The Youth ministry of **First, Fairlea**, hosts 5th Quarter events after high school football games. At a recent event, with a record attendance of 132, ten young people came forward to rededicate their lives and to pray for others. Two young people accepted Christ as Savior at a Youth Lock-In. Following a series on Creation, the youth took a trip to The Answers in Genesis Creation Museum in Petersburg, KY. **Denver Ayres** is the Youth Pastor, and **Kevin Prevett** is pastor.

The **Upper Ohio Valley Association Truck Stop** ministry continues to grow at the Truck America stop on I-70 at Dallas Pike. **Shorty and Ann Carrol, joined by Kenny Bernier, Nancy Pickens, Connie**



**Mannie** and others lead worship there from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. on Sundays. In addition, they give travel packs to the truckers that include samples of toothpaste, mouthwash, soap, wash cloths, cassettes and CD's of sermons, etc. If you would like to provide some of the giveaway items you can mail them to **Abundant Life Baptist Church at RR 2, Box 245-A, Triadelphia, WV 26059**.

**Old Fields Baptist, Dan Howard** pastor, recently conducted a Harvest Festival with close to 200 in attendance. They were pleased to see several people come

to Christ and others who rededicated their lives to Him. In addition, the Grant/Hardy Domestic Task Force chose Old Fields to receive their annual award for service. They honor someone each year whose service for the agency exceeds all others in the area.

*The West Virginia Southern Baptist* expresses its sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Rev. Floyd Smith**, former pastor of **Hedgesville Baptist Church** who died in early November in Florida after a short illness. We are also grieving the loss of another faithful servant, **Tom Hughes**, a layman from **Immanuel Baptist Church** in Princeton who has served on multiple mission projects in and outside of WV and whose long term service in the **Mountain State Association** will be sorely missed. Our hearts go out to his family and the many friends who miss him dearly.

**Indian Creek Baptist Church, Bobby Thomas** pastor, added five new members in November. November 18 they celebrated "Camouflage Sunday" with 180 people in attendance. People visited from as far away as D.C. The event was an outreach to hunters that includes a soup, sandwich and dessert dinner following the worship service. It is a big hit in the county each year they do it. The church's RA's and GA's gave away turkey dinners to needy families at Thanksgiving and are now running an in-house postal system for members. They deliver Christmas cards within the church facilities and ask the senders to donate their postage to missions. They continue to reach more preschoolers and have had to provide more space to accommodate the growth. In addition, they have recently acquired paggers for the parents to make them feel more secure when they drop off their child. The pastor is pictured below with Allen Jackson (left).



## Calendar

**January 2**  
**WVCSB Offices Open**  
**for the New Year**

**January 19**  
**WVCSB Exec. Brd.**

**January 24**  
**Supervision Trng.**

**January 25-26**  
**Youth Evangelism**  
**Conference**

**February 1-2**  
**WMU Council Mtg.**

**February 9**  
**Disaster Relief Trng.**

**February 16**  
**Men's Ministry Plng.**

**February 23**  
**Multi-Housing Ministry**  
**Training Conf.**



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