

THE WEST VIRGINIA SOUTHERN BAPTIST

JANUARY 2009 VOL 39, NO. 1

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STUDENT SPEAKER: Bubba Thurman
ADULT SPEAKER: Norm Flowers
MUSIC: Jason Lovins
CONCERT: KJ-52
DRAMA: Act Two

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CONCERT: KJ-52

THE JASON LOVINS BAND



Executive Director Terry Harper

Dear Friends,

A New Year is upon us, with new opportunities and new challenges. I believe these are some of the most opportunistic times the church has ever known. Many of the institutions or agencies that man has trusted and relied upon are failing or acknowledging that they do not have the answers. What a great time for the church to step forward with an outstretched hand and offer love and support to a hurting

From the Executive Director:

world.

People are looking for support and for someone who cares. We have the hope and the purpose to share and if we do so with genuine care and Christian love, I believe we can garner a hearing.

If we make sure that our church is a loving body of believers, then when we invite those who are hurting into our fellowship, they can sense this love and they will be drawn to be a part of it.

I believe that our Lord told us to go to those who are downtrodden and those who are cast down and offer them hope. The Church of Jesus Christ has the only real hope. If we as Christians get caught up into the same negative talk and sense of despair that we see in the rest of the world, how will we have anything to offer? We must guard against it.

I know it is difficult when we listen to the news or read the newspaper and news magazines, not to be filled with despair. But in times like these we need to make sure that we maintain our devotional time. Spend time reading God's Word and read other good devotionals by Godly people. Spend more time than ever in private prayer time. This will give

your soul an anchor and when others are being tossed about by the voices of every spokesperson, folks will see that it is not so with you. At some point, they likely will ask the reason for this hope that is within you and what a wonderful opportunity that opens up for you to share the Good News of the Gospel of Christ.

I have come to the conclusion that the same God who has taken care of me for all of these years, is also going to take care of me in the future. He has proven himself trustworthy. I can count on Him. I am depending totally upon Him to take care of me regardless of what the future brings. What "blessed assurance"!

The conditions that exist have not caught God by surprise at all. It may just be that He orchestrated these events at this time to cause our country to see our need for Him and to depend upon Him. May we not fail the test! Regardless of the economic forecast or the financial times, God is in control and He really is the only one upon whom we can depend.

"The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I have hope in Him."--Lamentations 3:24

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Greg Wrigley, Editor
gregwrigley@wvcsb.org

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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**

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE STATE CONVENTION

see also page 5

Resolution On Prayer For America

WHEREAS, Our nation continues to give evidence of moral decline; and
WHEREAS, in recent years some of our elected leaders have demonstrated a deficiency of biblical values; and
WHEREAS, The Bible instructs that Israel's downfall was brought about when her kings and leaders turned from God; and
WHEREAS, Our nation desperately needs to turn back to God; and
WHEREAS, The Bible affirms that "Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD;" (Ps. 33:12).
Therefore, be it RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists, meeting in Parkersburg, West Virginia, November 7-8, 2008, encourage all our Churches to pray earnestly for revival in America as exhorted in 2 Chronicles 7:14; and

Be it finally RESOLVED, that we encourage all who claim Jesus Christ as Lord to humble ourselves before the Lord, and seek His face to heal our land.

Resolution on Appreciation for Our Troops

WHEREAS, Members of the United States military and allied forces continue to be aggressively engaged in the ongoing global war on terror; and
WHEREAS, Our troops play a vital role in preserving and protecting freedom in the United States and throughout the world; and
WHEREAS, The sacrificial efforts of our military personnel have made it possible for some nations formerly ruled by dictators to hold democratic elections ushering in a new era of freedom for the people of those nations; and be it

RESOLVED, That we, the messengers of the Thirty-eighth annual meeting of West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists, express appreciation to our servicemen and servicewomen in all branches of the military who are serving faithfully and honorably both at home and abroad; and be it further
RESOLVED, That we offer prayer, support and appreciation for and to the husbands, wives, children, parents, and siblings of our fine service members' serving in every capacity of our nation's military; and be it finally
RESOLVED, That we express pride and strong support for our American military and eagerly anticipate the day our troops return home upon successful completion of their mission.

Resolution of Appreciation for Florida Baptist Convention Partnership

WHEREAS, we the messengers of the 38th annual meeting, of West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists, express our sincere appreciation to the Florida Baptist Convention, for the 395 Volunteers who came to West Virginia to help Build God's Kingdom.
WHEREAS, we praise God for the 519 professions of faith and 139 rededications were a direct result of Florida's Baptist Volunteers.
WHEREAS, we express our sincere appreciation to the Florida Baptist Convention for their gracious gift of time, talent, and resources, which continue to advance the work of Kingdom building both in West Virginia, and Florida: be it

RESOLVED, that we the messengers, once again express, our thanks, and sincere appreciation to Brother John Sullivan, State Executive for Florida, Brother Terry Harper, State Executive for West Virginia, Brother Greg Wrigley, State Missions Director for West Virginia, and Brother Craig Culbreth, Partnership Mission Director for Florida, and Brother Gene Wilbanks, Volunteer Coordinator of Florida, and Brother Terry Vaughan, Volunteer Coordinator for West Virginia and those 595 volunteers who labor together for God's Kingdom. May God continue to bless our partnership.

The Convention also passed a **resolution expressing gratitude** to Fairlawn Baptist Church for their wonderful hospitality, and to the Convention officers and staff for their good work in carrying out the tasks of the Convention.

WOMEN'S GROUP CONDUCTS RETREAT

Seven women from Riverview Baptist Chapel Women's Group went on a retreat September 26th and 27th. They stayed at Paul VI Pastoral center. The group studied the book "The Power Of A Praying Women".

Shopping, crafts, and watching the movie "Joshua" were also part of the event.

Pictured front row left to right Adeline Charlesworth, Pat Kimball, Carrie Douglas, back row, Julia Lyons, Brenda Kemp, Cindy Casto, and Regina Zolman.



NEW RIVER BAPTIST REPORTS ON 52 DAYS OF EVANGELISM

Many of you heard about the community relationship building and evangelism emphasis that *New River Baptist Church* in Fayetteville [Allegheny Association] did last summer. Pastor George Secrist sent us a summary of the work. This was a huge undertaking. Huge blessings were received. Contact Pastor Secrist if you would like to learn more. The church decided to try something similar in 2009. Pastor Secrist writes:

"The following was done by 15 teams consisting of over 500 volunteers:

Building and repair projects – Two houses roofed, three homes painted, siding installed on one home, 10 windows replaced, ceilings in two homes painted, new carpet installed in one home, two 45-foot handicap ramps built, one 12-foot ramp built, one trailer roof patched and coated, two floors patched, one floor replaced, one home insulated, water pipes insulated at one home, 24-foot room and bath completed and made handicap accessible, cleaned up 7 yards, painted one kitchen, purchased and installed one air conditioner, painted one 40-foot deck and front porch, set an electric pole and installed a security light, sealed a driveway, cut up a fallen tree, painted two fences, removed a dump truck load of trash and hauled to landfill, painted door trim, hung two storm doors, installed 10 storm windows, tiled one kitchen.

Church repairs completed – Three showers installed, shelves installed in kitchen pantry, wiring for RV hookup, divided one large room into two classrooms, installed an emergency door upstairs, painted fire escape, cleaned and repaired eave vents, installed screens on vents to keep out bats, electrical repairs, installed siding on steeple, painted cross on steeple, painted trim in the fellowship hall, tiled bathroom floors, built storage shed.

Preparation Projects - Two acres cleared next door, \$8,500 in lot preparation, \$3,000 to purchase tent, \$1,000 to install power to tent, \$200 for additional sound equipment, \$3,700 for radio and TV advertisement, and \$3,000 for miscellaneous other items.

Outreach Programs - 100 nursing ministries, lap blankets given away, 50 prayer walks, 100 Backyard Bible Clubs, VBS with 20 children in attendance, String Music Camp with 35 students attending, 6 concerts at the mall, 3 Youth Choir Concerts at the nursing home, thousands of witnessing tracts given out, 500 homes visited, Jesus videos given away, 300 Bibles given away, bottled water and witnessing at local businesses, 60 evangelistic services, fire wood given away, free car washes, countless hours spent in prayer, 24 hour campfire for 52 days.



During the 52 days there were two major revivals and several smaller ones. There were times when the service ended and people stayed for two hours praying, confessing and repenting before God and all those present.

Over 125 rededications were made, nine conversions, one deacon ordained, one new member accepted and one angel sighted!

As you all know, we are just 12 people. When we started this ministry, we took a huge step of faith and spent over \$16,000 on preparation, advertising, tents, supplies and etc. Walking by faith is much more difficult than walking by sight, but it allows God to show His strength through our weakness! At this point it looks as though the expenses are covered!"



RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE STATE CONVENTION

Resolution on Marriage Between Man and Woman

WHEREAS, God created marriage for the good of His creation (Matthew 19:4-7). Scriptural Truth, followed by centuries of tradition, reminds us that the union of one man and one woman is much more than a contract (Genesis 1). It is a sacred, lifelong union that creates an intimate community of life and love that, in turn, supports all of society; and

WHEREAS, same-sex unions are not the same as opposite-sex unions. To believe otherwise is to ignore the uniqueness of each gender's design and undermines marriage (Genesis 2:18). The break down or weakening of the institution of marriage has devastating moral, spiritual, economic, and social effects on the whole of society. Marriage protects children by giving them an opportunity to grow up in the ideal environment: with a married mom and dad. Knowingly depriving children of that opportunity exposes our children to a great social experiment that is in no one's best interest; and

WHEREAS, marriage mirrors God's relationship with us, thus completing, enriching, and perpetuating humanity (Ephesians 5). Any other pairing disrupts that relationship and is not marriage. As ministers of the Gospel, we are compelled to defend the institution of marriage as created by God – in church and in culture; and

WHEREAS, as children of God, equally possessing the human dignity of being created in his image, our stand for marriage in no way disparages others – even if they disagree with us. As recipients of God's grace, we are committed to demonstrating the love of Christ to those living the homosexual lifestyle; therefore,

WE RESOLVE, the messengers of the thirty-eighth annual meeting of West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists, we commit to pray and humbly work toward a just resolution of this issue, which is of grave importance to the well-being of the human family; and

WE RESOLVE, as Christians, we cannot ignore our duty to speak the Truth to culture (Matthew 5:13-16). As citizens of West Virginia, we avail ourselves of the opportunity to affirm the historic, legal, and reasonable definition of marriage by making this request; and

WE RESOLVE, we will strongly encourage Christians throughout West Virginia to engage in the civic process in defense of marriage and in support of the government's leadership in defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman (Romans 13); and

WE RESOLVE, we commit to earnestly and regularly pray for our governor, our state senators and delegates, judges, and all of the leaders set in positions of human authority over us (I Timothy 2:1-2). We pray for God's wisdom to be imparted to each of them as they work to strengthen marriages in this state; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, we believe the union of one man and one woman, in the institution of marriage, is foundational to our society and cannot be compared with any other union.

Resolution for Service

WHEREAS, the messengers of the 38th annual meeting of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists, acknowledge our debt of gratitude to Brother Jacob B. Atchley and his wife Lindsey for their love of reaching the lost, in West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, he has given his time and talent to adults and youth to help them to be equipped to reach the lost in West Virginia; be it therefore

RESOLVED, we the messengers remember Jacob and Lindsey in prayer as they start their new ministry; and be it

RESOLVED, that we the messengers of 38th annual meeting express our profound gratitude for all that Brother Jacob has done to make our State Convention, "Special." His caring, dedication and gracious spirit and hard work make it easy to say our State Convention is special. "Thanks to him."

A seventh resolution concerned the state of **alcohol abuse** in America and West Virginia. It concluded: "Therefore be it Resolved, that we, the messengers of 38th annual meeting of West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists goes on record encouraging our churches to educating our members young and old on dangers of alcohol consumption."

WEST VIRGINIA CONVENTION A TIME FOR CELEBRATION AND WORSHIP

Greg Wrigley, Editor

The theme for the state convention was *Seeking the Face of God in Humility*. This was the second year of four where the convention theme will be taken from 2 Chronicles 7:14. The purpose is to emphasize the need for repentance and revival. There was a great attendance with 259 messengers and at least 62 guests.



Delton Beall, WVCSB State Director of Missions, had time to talk with Craig Culbreth, Florida Baptist Convention Director of Partnership Missions.



Dr. Steven Smith, Associate Professor of Preaching, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, lead the Bible study times.

The Executive Director, Terry Harper, preached from 2 Chronicles 20. It was a stirring message encouraging Christians to seek the face of God. Too many times we seek his hand, that is, His blessing, without seeking His face, or His presence. God desires our attention, love and devotion.

The message was a great reminder that when we acknowledge the promises of God and accent the power of God which should result in praise of God, God acts in His power and holiness in keeping with His promises.



Tim Kearney, the Convention President, was elected to a second term, without opposition. He spoke from 1 Thessalonians 2:1-4. Though



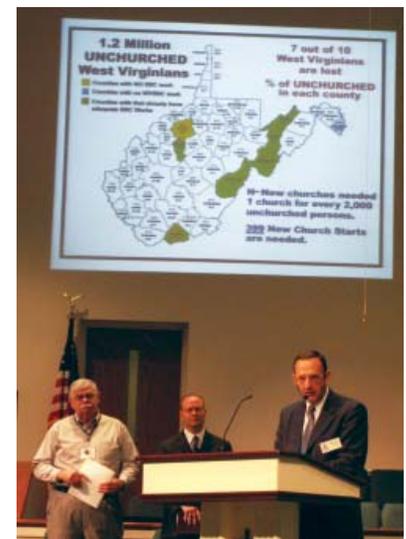
not a preacher, he did a superb job seizing the concept of "Entrusted with the Gospel." Kearney told the assembly that Christians entrusted with the Gospel should be faithful in their calling, authentic in faith, gracious in their attitude, and consistent with their claims. The West Virginia Convention had the privilege of hearing from Tom and Nancy Jones.

The Jones' served for thirty years in Africa. But their beginning roots were from the Parkersburg area. The Jones' were instrumental in starting the Grace Baptist Church, which became the parent church of the very church in which the Convention was meeting. They also had a role in helping to form the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists.

The Convention Sermon was delivered by Pastor David Mellquist of First Southern Baptist Church in Fairmont. He captured the spirit of the convention through a message dealing with how God uses people to bring about His will.



Delton and Jeannie Beall attended their first WVCSB Convention. Delton serves as the State Director of Missions.



[L to R] Gene Johnson, Jimmy Morton, and Randy Tate presented information about the status of church planting in West Virginia. Johnson and Morton shared exciting stories of God's work in their new church starts.

WEST VIRGINIA CONVENTION A TIME FOR CELEBRATION AND WORSHIP

Greg Wrigley, Editor

The pastor of the North Metro Baptist Church, Duluth, Georgia, preached the closing sermon. Dr. Frank Cox said that for the Church to be holy enthused about its purpose again, it needed to recapture three visions. These are the vision of Heaven, of Hell and of the Harvest. His message brought an exciting end to a meeting filled with many exciting and encouraging events and reports.



One of the reports came from the Credentials Committee, which recommended the receiving into the Convention of six churches. The Convention voted to receive Big Spring Missionary Baptist Church, Mallory; Lighthouse Baptist Church, Hurricane; Neibert Missionary Baptist Church, Stollings; Real Life Church, Weston; First Baptist Church, Chelyan; and Zoar Baptist Church, St. Mary's.



Another tremendous report came from our state partnership directors, Terry Vaughan (WV) and Dr. Craig Culbreth (FL). In spite of budget shortfalls to the Florida Baptist Convention, Florida Baptists' commitment has remained strong to our partnership. About four hundred volunteers worked in West Virginia in 2008. Over three hundred salvation decisions were the result of their work. Florida volunteers helped our churches with construction projects, Backyard Bible Clubs, Vacation Bible Schools, painting, clowning, revival meetings, cookouts, singing, evangelism, and many other events.

A church start was the result of the people from First Baptist Church, Eagle Lake, Florida, working in the Upper Ohio Valley Baptist Association. Through a revival meeting in an existing church, a block party, and Backyard Bible Clubs, 92 decisions were made for Christ. Over 70 of these were from a neighborhood in which we had no church. The Association Missionary, Mike Watson, has done the follow up work with these people. The congregation went from non-existent to 24 in attendance in 8 weeks. Three people have been baptized. Watson is continuing to visit and work with this new work.



Jacob Atchley reported that our baptisms are up from last year. He also stated the two block party trailers have had a combined use of 52 events. We also heard that Atchley was resigning from the Director of Evangelism/Student Ministry post in order to become the Church Planting Strategist in the TriCounty Baptist Association. His burden and his vision is to plant a church-planting church. His goal is to grow a church, raise up leaders who will then go to a nearby area and plant a likeminded church.

The Resolutions Committee reported seven resolutions for the Convention to consider. All seven were received and confirmed by the Convention.

All of the existing officers were reelected to their positions: Tim Kearney, President; Seth Polk, Vice-President; Todd Hill, Second Vice President; and Helen Mellquist, Clerk. [L to R in picture to right]



The Thirty-Ninth Session of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists is scheduled to be held at Westmoreland Baptist Church in Huntington, West Virginia, November 6-7, 2009.



[left] Dr. Cox spent some time with Randy and Debbie Spurgeon and with Terry Harper.

[right] Terry Harper had a chance to visit with Frank Cox. Dr. Cox has served at the North Metro Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia, more than twenty-five years.



OTHER EVENTS MEET NEAR THE STATE CONVENTION TIME

State Executive Board



Bob Miller (L) meets with Delton Beall to talk about some Disaster Relief ideas.



(above two pictures) Some of the people who serve on the Executive Board.



(above, L to R) Delton Beall, Jacob Atchley, Seth Polk, and Randy Tate. The Executive Board voted to put Atchley in the church planter position in the Tri-County Association.



(left) Don Knotts and Helen Mellquist talking before the session.

Serendipity Training



Rick Howerton (R) from LifeWay Christian Resources, led a training conference on how to use *Serendipity* materials in small group settings. The class consisted of student leaders and church planters from across the state.



Ministers' Wives Meet

About thirty ministers wives met in a preconvention session for fellowship and inspiration. Each lady was presented with a gift from the organization and from Fairlawn Baptist Church, the host church.

Helen Mellquist (R) brought the group into order for the meeting. She brought greetings and introduced the program. She also introduced the guest speakers for the day, Tom and Nancy Jones.

Helen introduced Denise Varndell (L), who brought greetings from the host church. Denise's husband, Greg, is pastor at Fairlawn. Cheryl Harper thanked the ladies for coming. She also gave some words of encouragement. She offered to be of assistance in any way she could as the ladies ministered alongside their husbands in the churches.



Phyllis Watson (L), wife of Mike Watson, Association Missionary in Upper Ohio Valley, brought words of encouragement and testimony. She also presented special music.

The women got a warm greeting and a gift at registration. (below)



(above, L to R) Helen Mellquist, Cheryl Harper, Tom and Nancy Jones, and Lynn Sommerville.

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: Marty Turner is pastor of Mountaineer Baptist Church in Morgantown. He is a young church planter who heard the Lord calling him to plant a church. This new congregation is a part of Monongahela Baptist Association. They are currently in the process of buying property for this new work. **Pray** for the Lord's provision and blessing upon this congregation.

Ministry focus: Missions Trips/Teams — WV Churches planning mission trips and enlisting team members for the summer and Mission Teams coming to WV from across the US.

Scripture: *So shall my Word be that goes forth from My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void. But it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I send it.* (Isaiah 55:11, NKJV)

Weekend Prayer Focus: Schools in your neighborhood, pray for the teachers, administrators and especially the students.

Resources: Begin the new year using your Bible and a hymnal as your prayer books to guide you in petition and intercession prayers.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Campus</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Chapel</u>
Jan. 5	Allegheny	Charleston Area	Westview, Caesars Mtn	HarborLight
Jan. 6	Coalfields	Concord Univ.	Westview, Martinsburg	Harvest Time
Jan. 7	Greater Huntington	Marshall Univ.	Wharton	Hope, Richwood
Jan. 8	Immanuel	Mt. State Univ.	White Sulphur Springs	The Journey
Jan. 9	Monongahela	WVU Morgantown	Williams Creek	Lighthouse, Charleston
Jan. 12	Mountain State	Bluefield State	Willowbrook	Lighthouse, Ivydale
Jan. 13	Pioneer	Charleston Area	Witcher	Living River
Jan. 14	Potomac Highland	Concord Univ.	Zoar, Burlington	Marland Heights
Jan. 15	Tri-County	Marshall Univ.	Zoar, St. Marys	New Life, Arnoldsburg
Jan. 16	Upper Ohio Valley	Mt. State Univ.	Abundant Life	Oak Creek
Jan. 19	Allegheny	WVU Morgantown	Altizer	Pipestem
Jan. 20	Coalfields	Bluefield State	Amazing Grace	Solid Rock
Jan. 21	Greater Huntington	Charleston Area	Ansted	South Wheeling
Jan. 22	Immanuel	Concord Univ.	Avondale	So. Bapt. at Salt Rock
Jan. 23	Monongahela	Marshall Univ.	Baker Heights	Abundant Hope
Jan. 26	Mountain State	Mt. State Univ.	Beaver Creek	The Bridge
Jan. 27	Pioneer	WVU Morgantown	Berean	Carpendale
Jan. 28	Potomac Highland	Bluefield State	Berkeley	Centerpointe, Hurricane
Jan. 29	Tri-County	Charleston Area	Big Spring	Chinese Mission
Jan. 30	Upper Ohio Valley	Concord Univ.	Blackwolf	Crossroads, Birch River
Feb. 2	Mountain State	Marshall Univ.	Bluwell	Faith, Winfield
Feb. 3	Pioneer	Mt. State Univ.	Borderland	Faith Fellowship, Athens
Feb. 4	Potomac Highland	WVU Morgantown	Bradshaw Mountain	Freedom, Charleston
Feb. 5	Tri-County	Bluefield State	Brenton	Friendly
Feb. 6	Upper Ohio Valley	Charleston Area	Brooksville	Gateway

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM WEST VIRGINIANS ON THE MISSION FIELD

Hello dear Prayer Partners:

We have big and surprising news. I (Tasha...38) am 10 weeks pregnant! Yes, we were completely shocked. Our children had been praying for another baby in the family, so the Lord answered their prayers. Please pray for a good pregnancy and healthy baby.

Our time in Costa Rica is almost complete. We will be flying to Uruguay on Dec. 14 and will land at 5 in the morning on Monday, Dec.15. Please pray for a good flight and that all our luggage and family will make it there safely and that all will go well once we get to Montevideo, Uruguay.

Please continue to pray for opportunities to share God's love with others and pray for our neighbors, Sidney Glazer, and Dr. Paco & Patricia Zamora. We have shared the gospel with them, but they have not received Christ. It is in His hands.

We love you and pray for each of you, too. Thank you for your love and prayers!

The Ever-Increasing Clary Clan

Henry, Tasha, Hugh (14), Mark (8), Elise (6) and baby (in the making!)

News from West Virginia Churches



Pastor Kimball and Pastor Ryan honored by Riverview Baptist Church, Wellsburg, on October 12, 2008.

Pastor Lawrence Kimball had the privilege of baptizing four in October.

Faith Baptist Church in **Mason** held a ten-day series of revival meetings led by a team from Life Action Ministries. The High Attendance Sunday service was an exciting service of celebration which included *Show a Difference for Christ*. Families and individuals demonstrated how they strive to show a difference for Christ. The local gospel group *Eternity* presented a concert, and former state senator Steve Harrison was the guest speaker. The children's church group and youth group each gave presentations, as well. **Ron Branch** pastors the church.



White Sulphur Springs Baptist Church held its 50th anniversary on June 22, 2008. Guest speakers included **Robert Vass**, Chairman of the Deacons, left. In the center is Rev. **Lewis Brooks**, former pastor and, right, Rev. **Delbert Walker**, former pastor.

The theme for the anniversary was "Yesterday's Dream--Today's Lighthouse--Tomorrow's Vision." Special music was provided by Rev. Lewis Brooks, The Woodrum's, Thomas and Dewey Taylor, Connie Vance and Andrew Vass, and a group from the First Baptist Church in Fairlea.

The church was founded by the late Mrs. **Hoda Linkous**. The first meeting of a group interested in starting a Baptist church in White Sulphur was held in her home on June 30, 1958. Construction on the present building began in May, 1966. The first service was held on December 11, 1966, with the Rev. **Nathaniel T.**

Brummit as pastor. The Dedication service of the new building was held on May 7, 1967.

George Bennett is the last charter member of the church. He was presented a plaque honoring his faithful attendance.

Second Baptist, Martinsburg, welcomed three new members recently. The WMU raised \$451 at their annual bake sale at the Apple Harvest Parade. Funds raised benefit the Christmas Adopt a Family Project. A covered dish dinner was held in celebration of Pastor **Malcolm Cadd's** birthday and to thank him for his service to the church.

Abundant Hope celebrated two baptisms and one profession of faith recently. They held a Fall Festival, featuring costumes, games, hotdogs, and lots of candy. Sara Sutherland told the gospel story while carving a pumpkin. It was a great time of fellowship and ministry opportunities. **Paul Harris** serves as pastor.

Eastwood Baptist is rejoicing over the salvation of a high school youth. Pastor **Brady Lipscomb** spoke at a men's retreat in Michigan. The church and daycare are participating in the Operation Christmas Child shoebox project this year for the first time. **Hugh Summers** shares pastoring duties at the church.

Hamlin Baptist Church enjoyed a host of guest singers in October: The Godsmen, The Brighterside Quartet, and the New Christian Lights. The choir visited two local churches in support of their revivals. The church held a Prophecy Conference. Instructors from the Tri-State Bible College taught each evening. A Pastor Appreciation Day program and lunch were held for Pastor **James Caldwell**. The WMU and Puppet Praise Team hosted a "block party" for residents of a local apartment complex. The puppet team also sang at the annual Lincoln County Fall Festival and visited some area churches.

Lincoln Baptist had the joy of witnessing a recent baptism. Revival services were held with visiting singers and preaching by Dr. Ronald A. Fullerton from Sutter Creek, California. Milton Clem is the pastor.

Preaching at revival services at **Locust Grove Baptist** were WVCSB staff members: **Terry Harper**, **Jacob**

Atchley, **Shay Osborne**, and **Greg Wrigley**. Special music was provided by Mrs. **Kathy Plymale**, Mrs. **Frances Skeens**, **Randall Robertson**, and **Joyce and Fred Tanner**. One young soul accepted Christ and was baptized the following Sunday. The church hosted a pep rally and devotional for the Spring Valley High School football team before one of their games. The church honored Pastor **Randall Robertson** and his family at a spaghetti dinner on Oct. 26.

The **Baptist Student Union at Marshall University** had an exciting fall semester. They started off by helping students move in and followed up with a free outdoor concert featuring the BSU praise band. The work put in that first weekend gave them an opportunity to meet many new students who have since gotten involved with the ministry. Other events throughout the semester have included an evangelism scavenger hunt, the Ignite missions retreat, Labor Day cookout, and a partnership with Marshall's student activities board for an all day cookout and music festival. Weekly ministries have included a coffee giveaway every Monday morning, ultimate frisbee in the quad, and a weekly worship service. Ten small groups meet throughout the week, including one that specifically reaches international students. **Shay Osborne** is the Marshall BSU Director.

Church of the Good Shepherd, **Sonny Palmer** pastor, participated in the Fall Convocation at Salem International College on November 6 by handing out gift baskets and information about their church to new students. The gift baskets were provided by **Wayside Baptist** and prepared at the Mission Fair. Wayside's pastor is **Don Knotts**.

New Creek Baptist baptized two people recently. **Thomas Roatch** is the pastor.

New Life Baptist in **Weston** received a phone call Sunday morning Oct. 26 from a soldier in Afghanistan who called to say thanks for the care package the church sent him. He attended New Life as a child. The church was blessed with eight new members in October and November. **Dave Riddle** is pastor.

First Baptist, Bluewell, has baptized two and added three new members recently. **Jim Milam** is the pastor.

News from West Virginia Churches

The Bridge, Tom Carpenter pastor, had a celebration for Christmas in October with a mission team from Georgia. They had 79 children from the community and over 175 people in attendance. The following week they hosted a street gospel sing and then ended the month in revival.

Burke Memorial has called **Butch Honaker**, along with wife **Sandy**, as pastor. Butch had served as Interim Pastor.

A team of nine from **Northgate Baptist** traveled to Rio Verda, Mexico, where they reroofed part of the missionary's house, did some painting, and made curtains. They also had the opportunity to take hygiene packs to the Palma Indians that live in the mountains and do not have the Bible translated in their language. **Mountain State Association** gave \$500 to help purchase supplies. **Craig Stevens** is pastor.

First Baptist, Nemours, has called as pastor, **George and Layne Brown**.

Silver Springs Baptist has a new youth pastor, **Zack Hall**. **Gerald McKinney** is the pastor.

Freedom Baptist in **Charleston** has witnessed seven baptisms, eight new members, and four salvations since October 12. **Jimmy Morton** serves as pastor.

Dan Howard, pastor at **Old Fields Baptist Church** reports: "Like many food pantries the one operated by our church has recently experienced a lot of use. Because of this our food stock was very low. We knew that we didn't have near enough food to meet next months needs. We also would not receive our food truck until after we had completed our monthly food distribution in November. We calculated what we would need to complete the boxes in October and fill them in November. We called on our church family to help. That is when God began to show us who really was in control. We had decided to buy 3 bushel of apples at a local orchard and divide them among 70 households. The day we purchased the apples a lady called to donate to us 2 pickup loads of apples. But God wasn't through. A couple in our community came to our Sunday evening service because their church was not having service that evening. They read in our bulletin that we were

giving out food the next Tuesday. They decided they wanted to help. The next day they showed up with 14 cases of canned goods. Several people felt led to donate money as well as food so that we could buy things we need. In the past 2 weeks we have collected over \$2500.00. A local branch of a WV company does a food drive each year. This year they are going to donate the food to us. Tomorrow I am going to pickup 700 cans of food and a check for \$250 from them. The couple I mentioned earlier showed up yesterday with a case of crackers, 3 cases of helper meals, 2 cases of Mac-Cheese and several other things. Today they came to tell me that their church is going shopping to bring another \$500.00 worth of sugar, flour and whatever else that money will buy.

To top off His marvelous work, we had 2 adults saved Sunday morning and Wednesday night a 10 year old boy. God is Great!"

West Charleston Baptist Church tried some different ministries to the community this Christmas. "We began on November 30 with 16 people from WCBC showing up to make dozens of Christmas cookies. Each person took a bag of cookies to give away to someone—a sweet way to share the love of Jesus."

"For the Wednesdays of Advent, we had special activities for the community. On December 3, we invited the neighborhood to a dinner followed by a reading of that great work of theology—The Best Christmas Pageant Ever. On December 10, our children and teens did a Christmas Play and on December 17, the dance ministry presented its annual Christmas Recital."

"In addition, we set six days in December to go to local stores and wrap gifts as a way of showing the love of Jesus. We also offered free child care one day for parents in the community who wanted time to do Christmas shopping. There was also an evening when we went into the neighborhood, singing Christmas carols and sharing gifts with our neighbors." **Norm Cannada** is pastor.

NEED HELP PLANNING A SUMMER MISSION TRIP? Contact Delton Beall, State Director of Missions, for some ideas and information: 304-757-0944 ext. 105.

Baker Heights had over twenty people ministering at the Rescue Mission this past month. The youth performed their evangelism skit, and the ladies baked pies. In addition, the church began an outreach thrust to be more intentional in reaching their community for Christ. They ask for your prayers for boldness to take the Gospel message to those around them.

Hedgesville held her first outreach to the hunters at Sleepy Creek on November 1. A second trip is planned for December 6.

New Vision welcomed her first new members, John and Janie Stuart on November 16. Praise the Lord! Also, on November 23 New Vision had her highest attendance since the first Sunday on August 17. Thirty-four people were in attendance that day. Finally, the church enjoyed a Thanksgiving dinner at the Frank and Cheryl Pilcher home on Sunday evening, November 23.

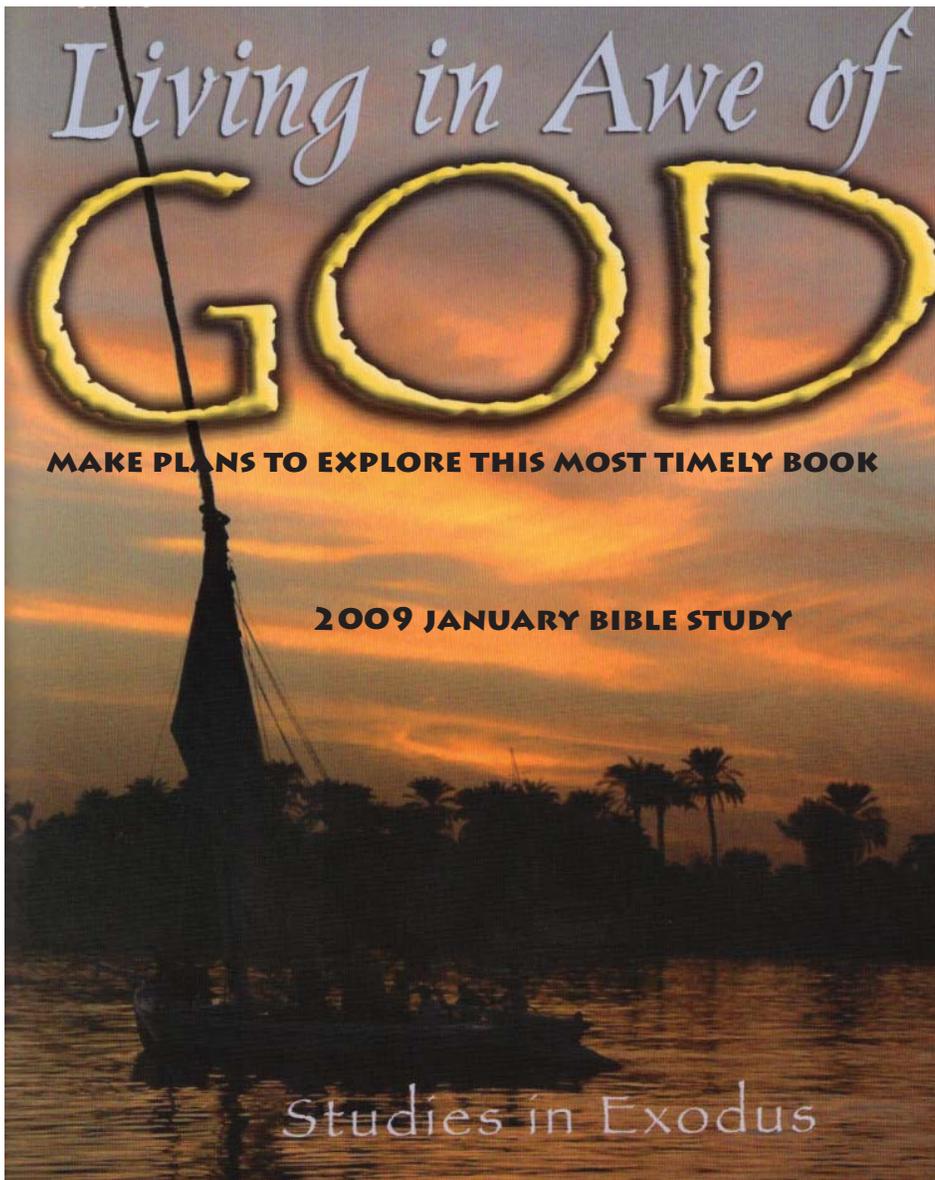
Second Baptist Church began a soup and sandwich luncheon and Bible study for senior citizens in November. The group met on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month and will continue to do the same in December.

South Berkeley observed an annual Game Night on November 1. On the sixteenth, the church was excited to ordain Mike Tucker as a new deacon. The church once again participated in Operation Christmas child.

Westview has added a new part-time staff position! In November the Westview family voted to accept *Paige McCauley* as their Children's Ministry Director.

Tri-County Association: GOOD NEWS FROM A FAR COUNTRY! or, at least the WVCSB office. *Jacob Atchley*, State Director of Evangelism, will be leaving his post in the WVCSB office to move to the Tri-County area in the Spring of 2009 in order to start a church. Praise the Lord!!!

NEED A SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION PLAN? TRY
<http://www.triapologia.com/files/2009BibleMemorization-ESV.pdf>



SEMINARY OFFERS REVIVAL PREACHERS TO CHURCHES

By Benjamin Hawkins

FORT WORTH, Texas (SWBTS)

Students from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary are available to lead spring revivals, March 15-28, 2009.

By sending students to preach revival meetings, Southwestern's Spring Evangelism Practicum makes it possible for churches with less than 100 members or limited resources to hold at least one revival meeting per year. Churches unable to host students March 15-28 may also choose to invite student preachers on either May 10-13 or May 17-20.

For more information or to host a seminary student preacher for your church, visit the Southwestern Seminary Web site at www.swbts.edu/SREP. During the practicum, churches are responsible for housing, meals and, in some cases, limited transportation, such as that to and from the airport and the church.

Or, contact: Dr. Thomas White, Vice President for Student Services and Communications, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 817.923.1921 ext. 7300;

Email: twhite@swbts.edu Web: www.swbts.edu

WVCSB Calendar

January

- 4-7 - January Bible Study
- 11-13 - Staff/Missionary Update
- 17 - WVCSB Executive Board Meeting
- 23-24 - Youth Evangelism Conference

February

- 12-14 - Facilitator Training
- 12-14 - Basic Training I
- 13-14 - Basic Training II
- 21 - Men's Ministry Planning Meeting
- 22 - Volunteer Recognition Sunday
- 23-27 - Deacon Training Conferences
- 27-28 - WMU Officers' Council
- 28 - State VBS Clinic