

THE WEST VIRGINIA  
**SOUTHERN BAPTIST**

April VOL. 42, NO. 3

*A Cooperative Program ministry gladly sharing the truth and gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and the stories of our Lord's work in and through the churches of West Virginia Southern Baptists.*

*Live Sent*



*Tasha Clary, IMB Uruguay  
West Virginia Native*



*Kerri Johnson, NAMB Bronx, NY  
West Virginia Native*



*David George, WMU Foundation  
Foundation President*



*Jason Dukes, Orlando Pastor/ Author  
Live Sent, WMU Book of Year*

**Missions Celebration  
& 2012 Annual Meeting  
of West Virginia WMU**

*April 27 missions dinner & auction 6:00 pm*

*April 28 missions celebration 9:00-4:00\**

*\*Kids on Mission Care infant - 5 years pre registration required*

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



*A ministry of West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists & the Cooperative Program*



**Executive Director Terry Harper**

This has already been a busy year in our State Convention work here in West Virginia. I traveled in January to Indianapolis to meet with other Executive Directors from our Region to deal with issues related to our work with NAMB.

I met with our Florida partners in discussion of our work together and the help that the Florida Convention provides to West Virginia. In February, I traveled to Scottsdale, Arizona, to meet with all other state Executive Directors and to participate in discussions about our work. I will go to GuideStone in Dallas, Texas, for a briefing next week. And later this month Delton Beall and I have been invited to travel to Washington, DC, for a meeting regarding reaching our nation's capital for Christ. We

**THE WEST VIRGINIA  
SOUTHERN BAPTIST**  
(USPS 097-990)

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Published nine times per year by  
The West Virginia Convention  
of Southern Baptists  
Number One Mission Way  
Scott Depot WV 25560-9406.

[www.wvbaptists.org](http://www.wvbaptists.org)

**Note: No paid advertising or  
subscriptions accepted. This  
paper is fully funded by Southern  
Baptists in West Virginia.**

**Periodicals Postage Paid  
Scott Depot, WV 25560  
and additional mailing offices**

**POSTMASTER:**

Send address changes to:  
The West Virginia Southern Baptist  
Number One Mission Way  
Scott Depot, WV 25560-9406

## From the Executive Director:

have an interest in this critical area of our world as the Panhandle of West Virginia is just outside of Washington. The last stop of the commuter train from DC is in Martinsburg, WV. So, we need to consider, along with our neighboring states, how together we can reach this mega metropolitan area for Christ.

We had a most profitable retreat this past weekend with our Bi-Vocational Pastors and their wives. It was such a blessing to spend time with these dedicated servants who give so much to serve Christ and His church. I will be meeting later this month with our Program Committee to begin, already, the preparation for the annual meeting of our state convention in November. I will also meet with Dr. Steve Davis, our Vice President from NAMB for this region, to discuss our future budgets and what support we can expect from NAMB. So, while in some ways the first quarter is not quite as hectic as the rest of the year, I have certainly not been idle during this the early segment of our year.

Our Executive Board of the Convention met on January 14 and voted to hire two new Church Planting Strategists. These men will join the three who had already agreed to transition to this job from the Associational Missionary position. Already they are busy meeting with Pastors that they do not know or have not met and they are meeting with possible candidates who have an interest in church planting. The two new men hired are Jim Drake from Mountain State Association and Tony Inmon, who is currently with the IMB, serving in Uruguay. Most of us know Jim, as he has been the Pastor of Brushfork Baptist Church in our convention. Tony has served as a Church Planter Trainer in Montevideo, Uruguay, and before that he served as a Church Planting Strategist with Southern Baptist

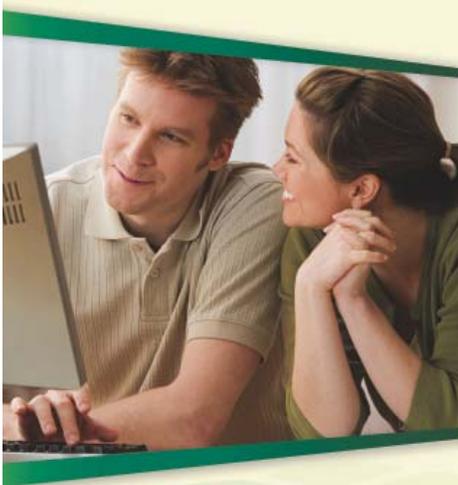
Conservatives of Virginia. In addition, Tony has served as a Church Planter and a pastor. He is a graduate of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Delton Beall had worked with him earlier in the Virginia Convention when Tony was a church planter. We look forward to his arrival on the field in early April.

I regret to inform you that last week I received the resignation of Aimee Scalf. Aimee has served quite well as our Director of WMU/Community Ministries. She has a desire to go back to North Carolina to live close to her brother and sister-in-law in order to enjoy their children as they grow up. She has done a great job and will be terribly missed. Please pray for your state staff as we are all working with a full plate at the present time. We are already short the Evangelism Director; however, Greg Wrigley, has been carrying this responsibility along with his many other duties. Now, we will be without this additional staff person. Please pray that the staff will know what should be our priorities. Each member of our staff is so dedicated and they all want to serve the churches, so it is hard for them to back away when renewal time is needed.

We are all here to serve our Associations and Churches, so call upon us when we can be of help. We all know that we can do more together than we can separately, so let's continue to join heart and hands to get the work of the Lord accomplished in this wonderful state. God bless you as you serve in your place of responsibility and thank you for all you do for the cause of Christ.

***Dr. Ken Hemphill will be at Freedom Baptist Church, Nutter Fort, speaking on the Sunday School and Kingdom Impact. Saturday afternoon, April 21, 1 to 3 PM. everyone is invited.***

**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**



## Take the 2012 SBC Church Compensation Survey today...

The bi-annual SBC Church Compensation Survey is underway. Sponsored by your Baptist state convention, GuideStone Financial Resources and LifeWay Christian Resources, the 2012 survey is again online. In 2010, almost 12,000 church employees participated, and we're counting on you to make this year's survey a success.

- The survey takes less than 10 minutes to complete.
- Your individual results are kept anonymous: Results are reported at the state or national level for churches of similar size and budget.

For more than a decade, the SBC Church Compensation Survey's results have been used by church finance and personnel committees to establish competitive compensation packages for ministers and support staff. Your participation will help make this year's survey the most complete yet. Ministers, secretaries and maintenance/custodial staff are invited to participate. Take the online survey today.

Visit [www.GuideStone.org/CompensationSurvey](http://www.GuideStone.org/CompensationSurvey) by May 31, 2012 to take the online survey.



## WVCSB Calendar

### April

- 1 - SBC Seminaries Sunday
- 6 - Good Friday (Office Closed)
- 8 - Easter
- 14 - WVCSB Executive Board Mtg
- 15 - Life Commitment Sunday
- 15-20 - Baptist Doctrine Study
- 21 - Youth Sing Celebration
- 21 - Sunday School Builders
- 22 - Cooperative Program Sunday
- 27-28 - WMU Missions Celebration

### May

- 5 - Children's Bible Drill Youth Bible Drill
- 6 - Senior Adult Sunday
- 13 - Mother's Day
- 13-19 - Christian Home Week
- 19 - Children's Music Day
- 20-26 - Baptist Association Emphasis
- 28 - Memorial Day (Office Closed)

### June

- 8 - Men & Boys Golf Tourney
- 16 - Crossover, New Orleans
- 17 - Father's Day
- 17 - Baptist Men's Emphasis
- 17-18 - National WMU Annual Mtg, New Orleans, LA
- 19-20 - SBC Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
- 24 - Mission: Dignity Sunday

### July

- 1 - Citizenship & Religious Liberty Sunday
- 4 - Independence Day (Office Closed)
- 15 - Serving Your Community Sunday
- 22 - Missions Camp Volunteer Orientation
- 23-27 - Missions Camp

### August

- 5 - Social Issues Sunday
- 6 - Association Missionaries Update
- 6-8 - Shepherding the Shepherd
- 12 - Student Evangelism Day
- 13-18 - Music Training Week
- 18 - Foundation Directors Mtg

## GPS---God's Plan for Sharing---use Attractional Events

What is an attractional event? It is any unique or special event that people come to. That is pretty simple. It may be something planned by another group, like a county fair, that you can participate in. It may be an event you plan, like an archery shoot. It may be an event that happens every year, like VBS. Any event that attracts people that you can use as a place to share the gospel.

There are many events that you can target to use the GPS strategy in order to share the gospel with lost people in your community and to bring them in to the church.

We have some support materials here at the office. Call to ask for some. Or, we can probably help you get what you need.

We have some funds to help you conduct or support the event. Contact Greg Wrigley for details. [800-411-5758 xt 118 OR [gregwrigley@wvcsb.org](mailto:gregwrigley@wvcsb.org)]

Call Sarah Whitfield with questions at NAMB---770-410-6390, or [swhitfield@namb.net](mailto:swhitfield@namb.net). Or call Dick Church with questions about resources, 770-410-6318, or [dchurch@namb.net](mailto:dchurch@namb.net).

Get your "Find It Here" banner out. There will be a national media emphasis from NAMB in March and April.

Work the GPS strategy:

5 weeks before event---pray intently for the community and the event

2 weeks before event---conduct a prayer walk [drive] in the area you especially want to impact

1 week before event---go door to door in the area distributing gospel tracts, invitations to the event, and sharing the gospel with as many as possible

Conduct the Event.

for at least 6 weeks after the event--assign people who attended the event to a Sunday School class so the class can do follow up contacts.

You can use this plan for any event. But it can be especially effective for events which by nature draw people anyway. Use the energy that is already built into the event: Easter, Vacation Bible School, revival meetings, Christmas, high attendance days in Sunday School.

Contact us if we can assist you in any way with your plan for reaching your community for Christ. [gregwrigley@wvcsb.org](mailto:gregwrigley@wvcsb.org) 304-757-0944 xt 118



Randy Spurgeon (L) stands with Roy Lee Saint, with the Florida Baptist Convention. Saint led the deacon retreat training held at the state convention office. Roy has taken several assignments over the years during the Florida partnership. He has always brought good teaching mixed with good humor and delivered with a humble spirit.

About 70 people from 13 churches enjoyed the time together.

## Supreme Court Sides with Churches in Ministerial Exception Employment Case

WASHINGTON (BP) -- In a landmark decision for churches, the U.S. Supreme Court has for the first time ruled that a "ministerial exception" allows congregations and religious groups to hire and fire ministers free of federal employment discrimination laws.

The unanimous ruling Wednesday (Jan. 11) in a case closely watched by religious liberty organizations involved a teacher who had been fired from an Evangelical Lutheran Church school in Michigan. The teacher, the equivalent of a minister in the school's employee classification, sued the school after she was fired, and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in her favor.

Although the case only involved one employee at a Christian school, the constitutional principle in the case could have impacted churches. Observers considered it one of the most significant religious freedom cases to reach the high court in decades.

The Sixth Circuit's decision worried religious groups who feared that a ruling against them would strike a blow to their hiring freedoms. The Southern Baptist Convention's Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission and International Mission Board signed a brief urging the high court to side with the Lutheran school.

The Supreme Court, with no dissenters, said that the First Amendment is clear in preventing government interference.

"The Establishment Clause prevents the Government from appointing ministers, and the Free Exercise Clause prevents it from interfering with the freedom of religious groups to select their own," Chief Justice John Roberts wrote for the court.

The two clauses are found in the section of the First Amendment pertaining to religious liberty: "The Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

Although lower courts had sided with the ministerial exception, the Supreme Court had never ruled on the matter.

"We agree that there is such a ministerial exception," Roberts wrote. " ... Requiring

a church to accept or retain an unwanted minister, or punishing a church for failing to do so, intrudes upon more than a mere employment decision. Such action interferes with the internal governance of the church, depriving the church of control over the selection of those who will personify its beliefs. By imposing an unwanted minister, the state infringes the Free Exercise Clause, which protects a religious group's right to shape its own faith and mission through its appointments.

Roberts added: "According to the state the power to determine which individuals will minister to the faithful also violates the Establishment Clause, which prohibits government involvement in such ecclesiastical decisions."

In his 22-page decision, Roberts set forth historical background, noting that the Puritans fled to New England in order to "escape the control of the national church." After the First Amendment was adopted in the late 1700s, Roberts said, the federal government made clear its understanding of the amendment's meaning. For example, when the first Catholic bishop in the U.S. asked President Jefferson in 1806 who should be appointed to direct the affairs of the Catholic Church in the Louisiana Territory, Secretary of State James Madison responded that it was an "entirely ecclesiastical matter" for the church to decide. Roberts also quoted an 1872 Supreme Court opinion in which the justices refused to decide whether slavery or anti-slavery factions controlled Walnut Street Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Ky.

The Becket Fund for Religious Liberty represented the Lutheran school.

"The message of today's opinion is clear: The government can't tell a church who should be teaching its religious message," said Luke Goodrich, deputy national litigation director at the Becket Fund. "This is a huge victory for religious freedom and a rebuke to the government, which was trying to regulate how churches select their ministers."

The case was Hosanna-Tabor Evangelical Lutheran Church and School v. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

-----*Michael Foust is associate editor of Baptist Press.*

*Original article can be found here, <http://www.bpnews.net/bpnews.asp?id=36937>.*

The **John I. Snedden Scholarship Fund** was established in 1979 by the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists. The scholarship was to honor John Snedden for his many years of work in helping to organize and then to lead the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists.

At the 2010 state convention, the messengers approved combining the RAY SLAUGHTER SCHOLARSHIP FUND with the Snedden Fund. This was done with the prior approval and recommendation of the Immanuel Baptist Association, which had started the Slaughter Fund for the same purpose many years ago, to honor the devoted ministry by Ray Slaughter on behalf of the churches.

The purpose of the SNEDDEN-SLAUGHTER SCHOLARSHIP FUND is to provide scholarship money for students in college or seminary who are preparing for service in a church vocation.



The interest from the Fund is used to provide the scholarship monies. A Selection Committee chooses the winners of the grant. Each spring, a letter describing the Fund and an application, is sent to each pastor. Each pastor then passes the information along to qualifying students who may want to apply.

The Fund has increased from about \$12,500, to a little over \$16,000. This is a reflection of the additional Slaughter funds and some gifts made to the Fund. Even though there has been an increase, the total amount is still small. This greatly limits the amount of money that can be awarded each year.

"I would like to see the principle at \$200,000, or more," said Greg Wrigley, the office director for the Foundation. "That would give us about \$10,000 each year that we could divide among the applicants, instead of four or five hundred dollars. With the cost of education, it would be nice to make a real impact on the assistance to young people preparing for the ministry."

Anyone interested in contributing to the Snedden-Slaughter Scholarship Fund can contact Greg Wrigley at 304-757-0944, ext 118, or at [gregwrigley@wvcsb.org](mailto:gregwrigley@wvcsb.org).

----*applications will be sent to the pastors for distribution soon----*

'Global Baptist' Led the Top 20 Name Suggestions

Feb 24, 2012

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) -- The task force that studied changing the name of the Southern Baptist Convention received 586 distinct name suggestions, with "Global Baptist Convention" leading the way and "Great Commission Baptist Convention" -- similar to the informal name that was chosen -- ranking in the Top 5, an analysis shows.

The task force was appointed last September by Southern Baptist Convention President Bryant Wright, and it asked for name change suggestions on a website, Pray4SBC.com. The task force presented its recommendation Feb. 20. As part of that recommendation, the Southern Baptist Convention would maintain its legal name while adopting a non-legal descriptor, "Great Commission Baptists," for churches, entities and organizations that wish to use it. The label is purely voluntary. The Executive Committee approved the recommendation, and SBC messengers will vote on it in June.

The task force received 1,151 name change suggestions with 586 distinct suggestions (that is, not counting duplicates). An analysis of the names by Roger S. (Sing) Oldham, vice president for Convention Relations for the SBC Executive Committee, showed:

- 71 percent of the 586 distinct name suggestions included "Baptist."
- When counting duplicates, 86 percent of the 1,151 suggestions included "Baptist."
- 19 of the top 20 and 49 of the top 50 distinctive suggested names included "Baptist."
- 105 names were suggested by two or more people.

The most frequent suggestion involved various forms of "Global Baptist," used in such suggested names as Global Baptist Convention, Global Fellowship and Global Baptist Network. A total of 148 people suggested 36 various combinations that included "Global" and "Baptist."

The analysis showed that the top 5 suggested names were:

1. Global Baptist Convention (85 suggestions)
2. International Baptist Convention (58)
3. United Baptist Convention (30)
4. Evangelical Baptist Convention (25)
5. Great Commission Baptist Convention (23)

Compiled by Michael Foust, associate editor of Baptist Press.



# THE 2012 LIFEWAY SIMULCASTS



BRINGING TODAY'S TOP SPEAKERS TO YOUR CHURCH AND SMALL GROUPS



PRISCILLA SHIRER



JOE GIBBS



SHERWOOD PICTURES



TONY DUNGY



BETH MOORE

- GOING BEYOND WITH PRISCILLA SHIRER • MAY 4-5, 2012
- GAME PLAN FOR LIFE WITH JOE GIBBS • MAY 26, 2012
- MEN OF HONOR WITH SHERWOOD PICTURES (creators of Facing the Giants, FIREPROOF, and COURAGEOUS) • JUNE 15, 2012
- ALL-PRO DAD WITH TONY DUNGY • AUGUST 2012
- LIVING PROOF LIVE WITH BETH MOORE • SEPTEMBER 15, 2012

LIFEWAY.COM/SIMULCASTS

EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. SALES TAX APPLIED TO EVENT COST, IF APPLICABLE.



Looking for a summer camp for your children or youth? Check into Camp Monongahela

**YOUTH CAMP** – June 9-13  
(for those who have completed grades 7-12)  
Camp pastor - Jonathan Eubank (Youth Director at Real Life Church, Weston)

**KIDS CAMP** – June 13-16  
(for those who have completed grades 3-6)  
Camp Pastor - Tony Cicenias (Children's Minister at First BC, Kenova)

**Theme:** IGro      **Location:** Camp Barbour (4H camp of Barbour County)

**COST**---if Registration forms are received by May 30:  
\$50 for 1st camper in household  
\$45 for 2nd camper in same household  
\$40 for additional campers in same household

Late registration will be received only through Monday, June 4th & will cost an additional \$5/camper. Registration Forms will be available in April

For more information, contact the Monongahela Baptist Association at (304) 622-4520 or monbaptist@gmail.com

The WVCSB is helping to bring Jonathan Kirk back to West Virginia for a whole summer! This team of talented young men and women will be touring our state in hope of "Spreading the Gospel through the Mystery of Illusion."



Their programs are perfect for VBS, Youth Rallys, Outreach Events, Summer Camps, and just about any other event you can imagine.

In addition to their illusions, they also have gifts in music, preaching, and teaching, and they would love to help out as Summer Camp Counselors, Guest Speakers, and Worship Leaders.

To find out how you can have the Team come to your church this summer, please contact Jonathan directly.

Available---

Sunday, June 10-Friday, August 3

You provide lodging, meals, travel expense, and honorarium, while he is with you.

The WVCSB will help provide for some expenses.

**CONTACT JONATHAN DIRECTLY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS**

Jonathan Kirk  
10610 Warrensburg Rd  
Midway, TN 37809  
Office (423)552-1785  
Fax (864)292-8844  
Magic\_man\_kirk@yahoo.com

In addition, the state convention is working with North Greenville University to bring a student mission team to our state again this summer. If you are interested, contact Kim Koletka at the state convention office, at 304-757-0944 ext 100; or kimkoletka@wvcsb.org or Greg Wrigley at 304-757-0944 ext 118; or gregwrigley@wvcsb.org or, find the application form on the convention web site, complete the form, and send it to Kim, either by email or mail, which is Kim Koletka, One Mission Way, Scott Depot, WV 25560

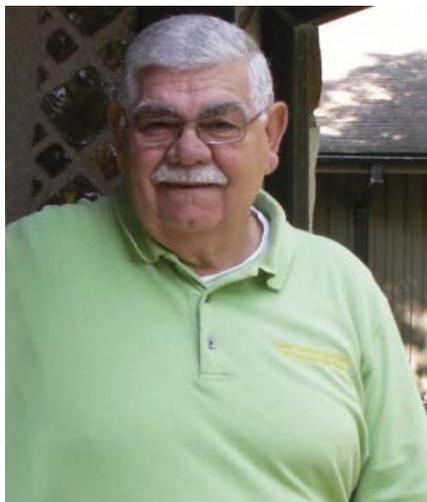
### WVCSB PASTOR DIES

On Sunday, February 19, Pastor Gene Johnson went home to be with the Lord. Gene suffered a massive stroke while he was in Huntington, WV. He was taken to Cabell Huntington Hospital, but never recovered. He was 66 years old.

Six years ago, Johnson and his wife, Peggie, started a new church in the new community of Glade Springs Resort. He had been a pastor, youth pastor, and a minister with youth and single adults, in churches before moving to Glade Springs.

God used the Johnsons to accomplish amazing things at Glade Springs. People were saved, homes restored, ministries started, and many lives changed and encouraged through their ministry.

Gene is survived by his wife, Peggie, their daughters Regina and Amanda, and four grandchildren.



### STATE VBS CLINIC AT FREEDOM BAPTIST, NUTTER FORT



In the top picture, Marie Davidson demonstrates how to do some of the crafts discussed in the VBS material. In the center picture, Deanna Morgan shares information and ideas about the snack items described in the books. In the above picture, Jennie Harbor gives out snacks and talks about the better ways to make them. The Expo on Friday night was a new element to the state clinic.

In the picture below, Nathan Ertel (L) gets Randy Spurgeon to help demonstrate some simple ways to share the truths of the gospel with children.



### 13th Annual Men and Boys Golf Tournament June 8, 2012

MEN AND BOYS GOLF TOURNAMENT

MINGO BOTTOM Golf Club, from I-77, take exit 170, SR 14 East toward Elizabeth. Follow about 10 miles, turn left onto Wells Fork Road; Registration forms and \$40.00 per golfer are due by May 31. (Includes 18 holes, lunch, prizes) Tee Time: 8:00 a.m. (arrive by 7:30) Club--304-275-3378; 238 Wells Lock Road, Elizabeth



This event is open to both men and boys. There will be two flights; low score or handicap flight 1, high score or handicap flight 2. Two team winners in each flight; closest to pin, and long drive each flight.

Please be sure to include your handicap or average score.

Reservations limited to 120 participants. First come, first serve.

Please mail registration and entry fees to: Attn: Larry McDonald Fairlawn Baptist Church, 215 Fairlawn Drive, Parkersburg, WV 26101 Questions call Larry C. McDonald @ 304-863-3645

A Cooperative Program Event Sponsored by WVCSB

## MIDWESTERN ONLINE UNVEILS NEW UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM, REGISTRATION UNDERWAY

MIDWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Midwestern Baptist College, SBC, leaders unveiled a new 100-percent online undergraduate degree program on Feb. 21, with enrollment currently underway for the term beginning April 30.

Fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, the Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry degree will be added to the online program's Master of Arts, Theological Studies (MATS) degree that was launched in 2010.

The undergraduate program of MBC was launched in the fall of 2006, and recognizing the need to stay current with improvements in educational technology and online delivery, online courses were added to the program in early 2011. With the announcement that the Higher Learning Commission has granted full accreditation to the online undergraduate program, non-resident students can now complete their bachelor's degree fully online.

MBC-Online will begin with a core of nine courses for its initial terms and then introduce new classes each term going forward until the degree track is completed. To earn the degree completely online, a student would need to take 42 classes for a total of 126 credit hours. With this addition, students now have multiple choices in completing their undergraduate degree: the traditional on-campus program, the fully online program, or a blended program including both on-campus and online courses.

Classes will be offered in eight-week terms, with two terms being offered each semester. MBC-Online is currently accepting applications to the program, and enrollment is available for the upcoming Summer terms: Term A -- April 30 - June 22 and Term B -- June 25 - August 17. In Term A, the available classes will be: Introduction to Nutrition, Survey of Old Testament Literature, Christian Doctrine I, and World Literature. In Term B, the classes will be: Christian Doctrine II, Introduction to Computers, Teaching Ministry of the Church, Marriage and Family, and The Pentateuch.

"Another extremely beneficial aspect of these courses is the cost," said Dr. Rodney Harrison, dean of the School of Online Studies at Midwestern. "When compared to other online courses offered by state or private institutions, our costs are quite reasonable. One other point to note is this: the cost you see is what you get. There are no hidden fees whatsoever."

Tuition for the online courses is currently \$250 per credit hour, with each course being worth three credit hours. The only additional costs a student will incur include textbooks and any other required materials for the course.

"All of these courses are offered as part of the undergraduate degrees currently available at the college," Davis said. "Additionally, even if someone doesn't desire a degree but wishes to add to their biblical knowledge, there are great opportunities for them to grow spiritually and educationally!"

To view the complete list of undergraduate degree plans available, prospective students are encouraged to visit the MBC website at: [http://www.mbts.edu/academics/distance\\_learning/online\\_courses/BA\\_Online](http://www.mbts.edu/academics/distance_learning/online_courses/BA_Online).

To enroll for one of the classes, students can do so on the MBC-Online web page. For more information or to ask further questions, contact the MBC-Online office at (816) 414-3814 or e-mail [online@mbts.edu](mailto:online@mbts.edu).

*T. Patrick Hudson is director of Communications at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary*

# Missions Camp 2012

## JULY 23-27



### to the Finish Line... Hebrews 12:1

West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists Missions Camp 2012

### @ Parcment Valley Campground in Ripley, WV

### \$145 students completed 3rd - 12th Grade

Camp Registration Forms Due By June 1, 2012

### GOD'S GREAT OUTDOORS Ministry Conference

August 25, 2012

registration begins at 8:30 am

the conference ends at 4:00 pm

\*ideas for starting and maintaining outdoors ministries

\*ideas for how to do sportsman's dinners, outreach events, resources for ministries

COST---\$30 per person

Register and make checks payable to:

God's Great Outdoors

8193 Emerick Road

West Milton, OH 45383

phone: (937) 698-3656

email: [goutdoors@aol.com](mailto:goutdoors@aol.com)

for credit card payments, please call GGO

We will meet at

Cathedral of Prayer Southern Baptist Church

2326 Pennsylvania Avenue

Charleston, WV 25302-4136

office phone 304-346-5903

Pastor Kevin Norvell

Directions: Traveling north on I-77, go to exit 102, Westmoreland Avenue; at the bottom of the ramp turn right toward US 119; at US 119 intersection turn left [north]; church building is about 1.5 miles on the right.

Traveling south on I-77 or I-79, go just past the 77-79 intersection; go to exit 102, Westmoreland Avenue; at the bottom of the ramp turn left toward US 119; at US 119 intersection turn left [north]; church building is about 1.5 miles on the right.

Traveling east or west on I-64, exit to follow I-77 north; traveling north on I-77, go to exit 102, Westmoreland Avenue; at the bottom of the ramp turn right toward US 119; at US 119 intersection turn left [north]; church building is about 1.5 miles on the right.

ARE YOU IN HIGH SCHOOL? IN COLLEGE? ARE YOU GOING ON AN INTERNATIONAL MISSION TRIP WITH YOUR CHURCH THIS YEAR? LIMITED FUNDS ARE AVAILABL TO HELP WITH YOUR EXPENSES--CONTACT KIM KOLETKA AT THE STATE CONVENTION OFFICE. OR LOOK AT [WWW.WVCSB.ORG](http://www.wvcsb.org) TO FIND THE APPLICATION FORM. FUNDS ARE GIVEN BY THOSE WHO ATTENDED YEC.



[www.sbcannualmeeting.net](http://www.sbcannualmeeting.net) is the website with all the information needed for the SBC in New Orleans in June 2012. We didn't receive the usual paper information this year, as they are cutting down on costs by not sending the information in hard copies anymore. Contact Susan Capenter at the state convention office if you need assistance.

**SOUTHERN BAPTIST  
CONVENTION  
NEW ORLEANS, LA  
JUNE 19-20**

**Becoming a Church Messenger**  
The Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention consists of representatives, or "messengers," as they are called, from cooperating churches, who gather to confer and determine the programs, policies, and budget of the Convention. Each church may be represented by up to 10 messengers, depending on church size and Cooperative Program giving amounts, ensuring equal accessibility for small and large congregations alike.

Messenger cards which certify the information required by Article III of the SBC Constitution and SBC By-Law 8 can be obtained by any church from the state convention with which they are affiliated. Members interested in becoming messengers should contact their pastors for information on the appropriate process of approval applicable in their church. Article III. Membership: The Convention shall consist of messengers who are members of missionary Baptist churches cooperating with the Convention as follows:

1. One (1) messenger from each church which: (1) Is in friendly cooperation with the Convention and sympathetic with its purposes and work. Among churches not in cooperation with the Convention are churches which act to affirm, approve, or endorse homosexual behavior. And, (2) Has been a bona fide contributor to the Convention's work during the fiscal year preceding.
2. One (1) additional messenger from each such church for every two hundred and fifty (250) members; or for each \$250.00 paid to the work of the Convention during the fiscal year preceding the annual meeting.

3. The messengers shall be appointed and certified by the churches to the Convention, but no church may appoint more than ten (10).

4. Each messenger shall be a member of the church by which he is appointed.

From the SBC ByLaws

8. Messenger Credentials and Registration:

A. Each person elected by a church cooperating with the Southern Baptist Convention as a messenger to the Southern Baptist Convention shall be registered as a messenger to the Convention upon presentation of proper credentials. Credentials shall be presented by each messenger, in person, at the Convention registration desk and shall be in the following form:

- (1) A completed, properly authorized, official Southern Baptist Convention registration document, certifying the messenger's election in accordance with Article III. Membership, of the Constitution of the Southern Baptist Convention; but if the messenger does not have the messenger registration document,
- (2) A letter from the messenger's church, signed by the pastor, clerk or moderator of the church, certifying the messenger's election in accordance with Article III. Membership, of the Constitution of the Southern Baptist Convention; or
- (3) Some other document (which may include a fax, email or other physical or electronically transmitted document) from the messenger's church which is deemed reliable by the Credentials Committee or qualifies under guidelines approved by the registration secretary and the Credentials Committee.

**GuideStone releases 2012  
Ministers Tax Guide  
Feb 16, 2012**

DALLAS (BP) The 2012 edition of GuideStone's annual Tax Return Preparation and Federal Reporting Guide is now available.

The guide provides active and retired ministers step-by-step help in understanding the latest tax laws, along with sample tax forms to assist them in preparing their 2011 federal tax returns.

The guide was written once again by Richard Hammar, a noted CPA, attorney and published author who specializes in legal and tax issues for ministers. Additionally, the material is edited by GuideStone's compliance staff to address the tax issues that affect the greatest number of Southern Baptist pastors.

"We're privileged to provide this resource to ministers and their tax preparers," said O.S. Hawkins, GuideStone's president. "Each year, we're reminded of how thankful we are to help them successfully navigate the unique ministerial tax laws with this useful guide."

The tax guide, which also includes a special section detailing federal reporting requirements for churches, can be obtained in PDF format at [www.GuideStone.org/TaxGuide](http://www.GuideStone.org/TaxGuide). GuideStone participants can order a free printed copy by calling 1-888-98-GUIDE (1-888-984-8433) between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. CST Monday-Friday. ---Compiled by staff of GuideStone Financial Resources.

## 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 church plants by name each day. We invite our readers to pray as well.

Scripture Promise: "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." James 1:27

Ministry Focus: Shoes for Orphan Souls - Woman's Missionary Union of West Virginia is partnering with SOS during the annual missions celebration. Did you know that a myriad of diseases enter the body through even the tiniest cuts in the feet. Many orphans around the world can be given hope and the Good News of Jesus Christ through the donation of a new pair of socks and shoes. Start collecting shoes in your church today, and bring them to Cross Lanes Baptist during the missions celebration event in April. [www.shoesfororphansouls.com](http://www.shoesfororphansouls.com).

Weekend Focus: Soccer season is about to be in full swing. Every Saturday children will fill the fields, while parents, and grandparents line the sides. Sports are a great way to engage your community and make connections with your neighbors. If your child or grandchild is involved in a spring sport, ask God to show you how to use this as an opportunity to spread His loving kindness all up and down the Saturday soccer fields.

Resource: Beyond My Church: Living So That the World Might Know, Jason Dukes. Thinking beyond your church matters because the unity of the church is imperative in order for the work of God to happen in our city and in our world. And not just unity in the one local church family that you call your own. When all followers of Jesus actually love one another like Jesus loved us— living according to His ways rather than our own— then the world will see and, in turn, believe that Jesus was actually sent as the Son of God. This is the unity Jesus prayed for. It should be lived out among His followers and can only be present when God is the force holding us all together. [www.newhopepublishers.com](http://www.newhopepublishers.com) \$14.99



*Pray for your Vacation Bible School: the workers those who will attend for safety of all who attend for the convicting presence of the Holy Spirit*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Campus</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Church Plant</u>
Apr. 2	Greater Huntington	Concord Univ.	Faith, Dailey	Abundant Hope
Apr. 3	Immanuel	Marshall Univ.	Faith, Mason	Carpendale
Apr. 4	Monongahela	Mt. State Univ.	Faith, Rupert	Centerpointe, Hurricane
Apr. 5	Mountain State	WVU Morgantown	Faith, West Union	Cherry Grove
Apr. 9	Pioneer	Bluefield State	Faith Community, Wheeling	Chinese Fellowship
Apr. 10	Potomac Highland	Charleston Area	Fellowship, Princeton	The Church at Martinsburg
Apr. 11	Tri-County	Concord Univ.	First, Bluewell	Crossroads, Burnsville
Apr. 12	Upper Ohio Valley	Marshall Univ.	First, Brandywine	Dayspring
Apr. 13	Allegheny	Mt. State Univ.	First, Burlington	Ferrellsburg
Apr. 16	Coalfields	WVU Morgantown	First, Ceredo	Freedom Biker Church
Apr. 17	Greater Huntington	Bluefield State	First, Chelyan	Friendly
Apr. 18	Immanuel	Charleston Area	First, Chester	Frontier Community
Apr. 19	Monongahela	Concord Univ.	First, Craigsville	Grace, Pleasant Valley
Apr. 20	Mountain State	Marshall Univ.	First, Fairlea	Harbor Light, Steubenville
Apr. 23	Pioneer	Mt. State Univ.	First, Fort Ashby	HarborLight, Oceana
Apr. 24	Potomac Highland	WVU Morgantown	First, Hinton	Hatsal Korean, Martinsburg
Apr. 25	Tri-County	Bluefield State	First, Huntersville	Lighthouse, Follansbee
Apr. 26	Upper Ohio Valley	Charleston Area	First, Kenova	Living Hope, Petersburg
Apr. 27	Allegheny	Concord Univ.	First, Princeton	Living River
Apr. 30	Coalfields	Marshall Univ.	First So., Fairmont	Marland Heights
May 1	Greater Huntington	Mt. State Univ.	First So., Grandview	Marshall Community
May 2	Immanuel	WVU Morgantown	First So., Sutton	Ministry of Salvation
May 3	Monongahela	Bluefield State	Foxes Hollow	Mountain Ministry Chapel
May 4	Mountain State	Charleston Area	Freedom, Beckley	New Vision, Martinsburg

## News from West Virginia Churches

### ALLEGHENY ASSOCIATION

The Senior Adult Ministry of **First Baptist Church, Fairlea**, enjoyed a trip to the Smokey Mt. Gospel Jamboree in Pigeon Forge, TN, in February. In March, they celebrated everyone's birthday with a party. Games, a white elephant gift exchange and food added to the festivities. It was suggested that participants dress in costume to represent their birth month. The youth experienced a Disciple Now Winter retreat. God was able to use it in a mighty way in the lives of the teens who attended. **Kevin Prevet** is the pastor, and **Darrin Cherry** is the youth pastor.

### GREATER HUNTINGTON ASSOC.

**C. J. Adkins**, pastor of **Westmoreland Baptist Church**, had the privilege of offering the invocation at the West Virginia House of Delegates in the State Capitol on February 22. Upward Spring Soccer at the church begins in April.

### MONONGAHELA ASSOCIATION

**First Southern Baptist, Fairmont**, is celebrating the baptism of two people and **Donnie Edward, Jr.**, being licensed to preach. **David Mellquist** pastors the church.

**Scott Whitaker**, church planter of **Frontier Community Church** in Morgantown, reports they were able to work with other pastors and local churches to help about sixty singles and married people learn what the Bible teaches about Christian marriage at their Real Marriage Weekend.

**Faith Baptist, Dailey**, held an appreciation dinner for **Herman Jones** and his wife, **Paulette**, on his last Sunday as their pastor in January.

**Real Life Church** has been active as they baptized eight people in January, reached out to people in the community by giving away free coats, an invitation to a free showing of the movie "Courageous," held a fund raising dinner and auction for the Jamaica Mission Trip, participated in Lewis County Christian Alliance Unity Services, and much more. God is moving in a spectacular way! The pastor is **Rick Brown**.

Church plant, **The Bridge**, reached out to their community with a coat give away, volunteering in the local school, and a free showing of "Courageous."

### MOUNTAIN STATE ASSOCIATION

This report comes from the F30 weekend at **Immanuel Baptist Church** in Princeton: Over sixty young people and more than fifty adults engaged in

mission projects that raised 1,426 ministry items for the Bluefield Union Mission; over 2,100 canned goods for the Tender Mercies Food Bank; and \$10,072.15 for the SBC World Hunger Fund, with money still being received. Follow up is being done to determine how many salvation experiences occurred and how many individuals rededicated their lives to Christ over that one weekend. **Dan Jividen** is the pastor.

### UPPER OHIO VALLEY ASSOC.

February 19 was the last Sunday for Associate/Youth Pastor **Dustin Cowden** and his family to be at **Cameron Baptist**. Dustin has accepted a position at a church in his home state of Louisiana. The folks at Cameron wish them all the best and pray that the Lord continues to work mightily through their ministry. **Ron McCoy** is the Senior Pastor at Cameron.

**Berkeley Baptist Church** received an unexpected donation for their food pantry recently. Briggs Animal Adoption Center in Charles Town had surplus supplies that they wished to donate to other agencies. Berkeley was happy to accept the donation of pet supplies to add to their food ministry.

**Calvary Baptist Church**, Morgantown, has about 80 wooden pews they will give away.

The pews are padded.

They range in length from 8 feet to 24 feet.

You need to get them.

Call Ron Gillis for more information. 304-599-3458

### MISSION OPPORTUNITY

**Calvary Baptist Church, Burlington, Washington**, is seeking a full-time pastor for a congregation of about 94 attendees, of all ages, in a blended service. They prefer a SBC Seminary graduate with prior pastoral service in an SBC church. The man must be certain of his call of God, biblically sound in doctrine, and supportive of SBC mission programs. They want a strong preacher and leader with relational skills, who is committed to the building up of the saints to do the work of evangelism in the community. His preaching must include the reading of the Word, explaining the Word, and applying the Word to a present-day context. Personal computer and audiovisual equipment skills are essential. Familiarity with social media is highly desirable. Deadline to receive applications: April 15, 2012.

For more information or to get an ap-

plication, contact:

Mike Killien

Moderator and Chairman of Deacons

Calvary Baptist Church

PO Box 543

Burlington, WA 98233

Ph: (360) 424-7078

E-mail: mikekillien@msn.com

Anita Henry, secretary at Northgate Baptist Church in Beckley, relates that the church will have a need for a childrens and youth minister, in June. The church building is in the middle of several subdivisions. There is ample opportunity to reach young families for Christ and the church. The church website tells about the church and its activities [www.northgatebaptistchurch.com]. If you know someone who feels called into this area of ministry tell them to contact the personnel committee at Northgate.



IMB missionaries, **Henry and Tasha Clary**, with their two youngest children, Mark and Elise, helped **Edgemont Baptist Church** celebrate Christmas and to emphasize missions. Edgemont members shared Christmas gifts with the Clary family to make their holiday in the Virginias special.

---Martha Cundiff, WMU Director



(L to R) Bryan Sweeney, Tim Mihal, and Mark Jarrell, spoke at Fairlawn Baptist Church in Parkersburg on Sunday night, February 19. They are members of Almost Heaven Archers. They shared some truths of Scripture using illustrations from the sport of archery.

## News from West Virginia Churches

### CONGREGATION AND STATE CONVENTION SEES THE PASSING OF AN ERA

On 12 February 2012, **West Ripley Baptist Church** lost our last surviving charter member in **Jean Thomas**, who is now at home with the Lord. She was 83 years old at the time of her passing, having committed her life to our church and to the Southern Baptist works in our region of West Virginia.



Jean was a cousin of **Rev. John Snedden**, who in the early 1960's was a missionary to West Virginia, sponsored by the Ohio Baptist Convention. Through this relationship, Jean persuaded **Rev. Snedden** to hold a tent revival in Ripley, WV, July 21-28, 1963. As a result of that revival, Ripley Baptist Chapel was established July 30, 1963, with nine members. Later, this chapel would be constituted as West Ripley Baptist Church, in 1966.

In early church documents, when the first unit of the church was built, it was recorded that the unit would be the first of three that was envisioned at the time. We can reflect and know that West Ripley Baptist Church is today the result of the vision and dedication of that first generation of believers who attended a tent revival so many years ago, spearheaded by **Jack and Jean Thomas**.

Jean had a servant's heart and a commitment to our Lord beyond what mere words can describe. Throughout the years, she attended countless training sessions, served our community through her generosity and with compassion, helping build the physical buildings of our church and the various church starts West Ripley has sponsored. She provided insight and vision locally and statewide throughout her years.

Ultimately, Jean's greatest contribution to the Kingdom of our Lord was her dedication to teaching four generations of children in our area; many of which have now become leaders in their own churches throughout the state and region.

Without reservation, the life of Jean Thomas demonstrates what the power of the Lord Jesus Christ can do through one humble servant. May we go and do likewise.

---**Rev. Jack Miller, Pastor, West Ripley Baptist Church**

Children's Ministry Day on February 18th gave children from many regions the opportunity to learn about, pray for and engage in missions. Three churches hosted over 200 children and workers in missions education.

**Old Fields Baptist Church** had children baking cookies for residents of 2 nursing homes and 1 hospital. **Calvary Baptist in Ravenswood** had puppet shows communicating the Good News, and children made Care Kits for the local women's shelter.



**Immanuel Baptist Church** in Princeton hosted SBC International Missionary **Tasha Clary** who serves in Uruguay. Children made over 70 kits for Baptist Global Response.

Every year the National WMU creates materials to assist the local church in carrying out a Children's Ministry Day. Check out [www.wmu.org/CMD](http://www.wmu.org/CMD) to find out how your church can host a day of missions and ministry for children. [the pictures are from



Calvary Baptist, Ravenswood]



Dustin, Stefanie, Cason [being held], and Claire Cowden, resigned as associate pastor at Cameron Baptist Church, to move to Louisiana and a ministry there.

While in Cameron, Dustin helped the church accomplish and to attempt several new ministries. One area Dustin became involved was with off-campus Bible studies.

### ASSOCIATION VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CLINICS

association	date	time	place	contact person
ALLEGHENY	March 24	9 am to 12	Southern Baptist Fellowship	Warren Gilpin
COALFIELDS	March 24	10 am	East Williamson	Joy Philips
GREATER HUNTINGTON	March 26	6 pm	Altizer	Donna Lewis
IMMANUEL				
MONONGAHELA				
MOUNTAIN STATE	March 26	7 pm	Immanuel	Jennie Hughes
PIONEER	April 16	6:30 pm	North Charleston	Terrie Hannah
POTOMAC HIGHLAND	April 27	5:30 pm	Old Fields	Barb Ertel
TRI-COUNTY	April 14	9 am to 12	Westview	Gib Shade
UPPER OHIO VALLEY	April 14	11 am to 3	Open Door	Becky Whitehill



**WVCSB**  
One Mission Way  
Scott Depot, WV 25560

This event is a ministry  
of the Cooperative Program.

# YSC2012

## Youth Sing Celebration

Register now for a great time of singing, fellowship, worship, food, fun and all around good time with other Christian youth who love to sing.

Date: April 21, 2012

Location: Good Shepherd Baptist Church,  
15 Scott Lane, Scott Depot, WV 25560

Time: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Registration Deadline: April 2, 2012

Cost: \$10 per person / \$11 per person after April 2

To register, complete registration form and send to:  
Randy Spurgeon, WVCSB One Mission Way  
Scott Depot, WV 25560  
Call 1-800-411-5758, ext. 116  
E-mail: randyspurgeon@wvcsb.org

Event is planned for Youth in the 6th through  
the 12th grades. Youth keep the music they receive!

### **AIMEE SCALF MOVING TO NEW MINISTRY**

*It has been my great pleasure to serve the churches of West Virginia. From every corner, curve, valley and mountain, I have encountered wonderful people devoted to the Lord and dedicated to encouraging one another. The local church is a beautiful creation that the Lord allows us to be a part of. I am so thankful that so many of our West Virginia Southern Baptist Churches invited me into their fellowships to share, encourage and equip. Because of you my life has been enriched beyond measure.*

*I have decided to begin a new business, work and ministry in North Carolina, closer to family and where my heart calls home. I covet your prayers as I step into new and unknown territories. As I move into a new adventure in a new place I pray you will find strength in the Lord's call and the work He has given you to be a part of. I hope you will find encouragement from each other as you all seek to uplift His name and share His message of loving kindness. May the Lord Bless you, and keep you and make His face to shine upon you. Many blessings from me and a thankful heart for the time you have allowed me to share with you.* -Aimee Scalf



### **HOW CAN A PERSON BE RIGHT WITH GOD?**

There are many answers given to this question. The answers usually say people have to do something to make God happy, or to earn God's favor. It is common among most religions to say that people must work in some way to earn their salvation.

But the Bible says salvation is a gift from God. Indeed, man cannot work to earn salvation. In fact, according to the Bible, there is no plan or program or schedule of activity that a person can do to get salvation.

What does a person do? Jesus said the work was to have faith in God. That is, trust Jesus. A person can do nothing for salvation. Jesus did it all. A person needs to trust Jesus.

Believe that Jesus died on the cross for your sins. Admit to Jesus that you are a sinner, and that you need a Savior, because you cannot save yourself. Confess Him openly and publicly as your Savior and Lord. Commit to follow Him, and obey Him, and so demonstrate faith and trust in Him. Jesus is the only way.