

IN THIS EDITION ...

Page 1
**July 30 State Executive
Board Proceedings**

Page 2
Letter from the Exec.

**Great Commission
Bus Tour in the
Monongahela
Association**

Page 3
Editor's Notes

Page 4
G.C. Bus Tour cont....

**NAMB Evangelistic
Media Campaign**

Page 5
Hurricane Katrina

Pages 6, 7, 8, 10, 11
**WV Churches and
People in the News**

Page 9
Prayer Resources

Page 12
**Coming Events in the
Mountain State**

State Executive Board Calls New Missionaries Hears Reports, Prepares for November Meeting

The state Executive Board met July 30 instead of on their normal September schedule. Their agenda was full with four missionary recommendations, an overview of the work of the Futuring Group, a recap of the Youth Evangelism Conference and Super Summer, a presentation of the budget, approval of changes in the Church Annuity Plan and the Convention Annuity Plan, approval of guidelines for scholarships for persons attending Southern Baptist training at Ridgecrest, and an overview of the plans for the annual convention to be held in the facilities of the First Baptist Church of Fairlea, November 4-5.

The Board unanimously elected four persons to serve in mission positions, two who have begun service already, two who will begin October 1. Greg Wrigley was elected to fill the role vacated by Leon White who took early retirement as the state Missions Director. He began service the Tuesday after Labor Day. Jimmy Morton was approved as a Church Planter at Freedom Baptist in Kanawha City. He has already begun service.

Bob Underwood was approved and will be on the field Oct. 1 as a Church Planter in the Wheeling area. He has served for around a decade in the Logan area, starting a church there, and for a time as the associational missionary for the Coalfields area while he was starting the New Covenant Fellowship in Logan.

Mark Joseph, who has served in missions in the Kansas-Nebraska area was called as a resort minister for the Canaan Valley/Snowshoe areas. He will also pastor the Canaan Valley Baptist Church beginning October 1.

Wrigley comes to West Virginia from our partner state, Florida where he served the last four years as an associational missionary for

the Black Creek Baptist Association in Orange Park. For over nine years prior to his service as an associational missionary, he was pastor of Orange Avenue Baptist Church in Green Cove Springs, Florida.

Other church leadership roles Wrigley has filled include twelve years in five other churches or institutions including at McConnell Memorial Baptist in Hiawassee, Georgia as Associate Pastor for Education and Outreach, at Fellowship Baptist of Chickamauga, GA as Minister of Education and Activities, at Walnut Grove Baptist, La Fayette, GA as Pastor, at Coolidge Memorial in Coolidge, GA as Pastor, and at Brewton Parker College in Mt. Vernon, GA as Director of Religious Activities and Instructor of Religion.

A man of varied interests and talents, Wrigley has led mission teams to Conemaugh Valley and Philadelphia, PA, to WV three different years, to Indianapolis three different years and to metro New York. His hobbies include hunting, fishing, gardening, model rockets and free lance writing. His wife Claudia is a teacher. Daughter Sarah is in college and Stephanie is a Junior in high school.



Shown above l to r: Sarah, Stephanie, Greg and Claudia Wrigley. Greg is the newly elected WV Missions Director as of September 1.

Letter From Our Executive Director/Treasurer



Recent and Upcoming Speaking Engagements:

September 25,
Wayside in Franklin
October 2,
Salem Baptist,
Richmond
October 16,
Faith, Dailey
October 23,
Cross Lanes

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

John W. Adams, Editor
johnadams@wvcsb.org

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

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

My Dear Friends:

The fall of the year is upon us and it is always an exciting time. We have associational meetings to attend and we are gearing up for the annual state convention meeting. It is also a time for new starts in Sunday School and for a new church year. I hope that in your church you will ask God how many baptisms he wants you to have for this year. Set a goal and strive with all that is in you to meet it. As one fellow said, "If you aim for nothing, you will hit it every time". Goals help us to strive to do more than we think we can do. Set a goal that is high and ask God to give you the ability to meet it and then do your part.

The President of the Southern Baptist Convention has challenged us to baptize one million people this year across the Southern Baptist Convention. We can do that, but it will take all of us doing our part. I believe that it would be honoring to the Lord. We must witness more faithfully and then we must get those that accept Christ to church and encourage them to make their profession public and then be baptized. Each year there are many people who accept Christ who do not follow through with baptism. Baptism is the first act of obedience for a believer. While baptism does not save us, it is an act of obedience and we need

to teach new believers that. They cannot begin to obey Christ until they obey him first in this fundamental issue of believer's baptism. You may know of someone who has accepted Christ, who has never been baptized. You will do them a great service if you will encourage them to follow through with believer's baptism.

This is the one thing that all of us who know Christ should share in common. We may be from different walks of life and from different backgrounds, but the one thing we share is that we know Jesus and we have obeyed Him in believer's baptism. The scripture says that there is "One Lord, one faith and one baptism". (Ephesians 4:4) Encourage someone you know today to follow through in obedience to the Lord's command and be baptized. It will be a blessing to you to witness it and it will be a great blessing to the one who is baptized. It is always a blessing to obey the Lord.

I will be attending as many of the associational meetings that I can get to and I look forward to seeing many of you at that time. May God richly bless you as you continue to serve Him.

Sincerely,
Terry L. Harper

Great Commission Bus Tour Plans Near Completion

Southern Baptists have grown in numbers and various other ways because we know the value of being partners in Great Commission ministries. That's what the Cooperative Program and partnership missions is all about.

That's also the heart of a new work project the Monongahela Association is coordinating, scheduled to take place October 5-6 in areas of the association where new works are needed and where a partnership effort will be required to make it take place.

The event is sponsored by the WVCSB, NAMB and Monongahela Association and will bring pastors and lay people from inside and outside of WV together to tour targeted areas, to pray together, to worship together, and to catch a vision of how God might want them to partner with other people in a church planting and nurturing process.

Coordination for the process has been managed largely through a Monongahela steering committee with assistance and encourage-

ment from Randy Tate of the WVCSB. Most of the paperwork and phone calls have been handled by James and Jerilyn Smith, associational missionary and wife for the Monongahela Association.

In responding to a question about the challenges and rewards of coordinating this project and working with a volunteer steering committee, James Smith replied, "Since we started meeting a couple of months ago, there has been a wonderful spirit among us. We have enjoyed being together, challenging each other, and praying with one another over the tour and personal needs. The main challenge when we started the process was for us all to have a God-given vision beyond our own churches and God has caused that to happen. I really enjoy serving along side the many volunteers in this association. They are so cooperative and enthusiastic. They are the cream of the crop!"

Continued to page four..

Looking Up When Tragedies Get You Down

By the time the print version of this edition reaches our mailboxes, we will have been exposed to thousands of images and dozens of news stories about the catastrophic impact of Hurricane Katrina on the lives of people in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. Although most of us reading this story live in WV, we will all see ways this historic storm impacted us.

Whether we have viewed images of New Orleans immersed in the waters of Lake Ponchartrain, heard the plea for help from a person separated from family members, or seen the devastation to entire communities along the Gulf Coastal region, our senses have been bombarded by the sheer volume of widespread hardship and its companion, debilitating grief.

There have been times when we have had to turn off the news reports because we felt ourselves being sucked into an abyss of hopelessness. At such times we often remember that the displaced thousands cannot turn off a news report and retreat from the horror they so recently endured. They will live with some form of grief the rest of their lives. Post traumatic shock will plague many every time it rains or the wind blows.

Those of us in West Virginia are familiar with disasters. Whether it is a mining accident that claims the lives of our family members and friends, overnight changes in our economic situation because of mine closings and other industrial shutdowns, or the more common floods, we have lived through our share of disasters.

The Hurricane Katrina disaster has been all of the above and more. Not only have the victims lost loved ones, their possessions, and their jobs, the New Orleans residents must be wondering if they have permanently lost their city. The massive evacuations are now being punctuated with the first waves of relocated displaced persons.

The whole nation has been shaken by a mighty wind. Its impact may be too much to bear for many of the direct victims of Katrina's wrath.

Hopefully, all who felt victimized by Katrina have been driven to their knees by the results of this storm because the Only One who is able to handle this problem, this logistical nightmare, this ocean full of grief, is God.

God is both the Creator of the laws of nature that bring about hurricanes and the Healer of broken hearts when we face tragedy. He is the One who helps us find meaning in life when nothing around us makes sense.

God is there on the scene before FEMA, the Red Cross, and Southern Baptist disaster relief workers arrive. He will stay on the job long after human efforts have ceased.

Red tape will frustrate the efforts of man from now until the end of time. God's response is immune to red tape.

Human administrators will bungle the response process repeatedly because they are human. God's response will always be perfect and right on time.

Mountains of rubble and human anguish will appear insurmountable to all human agencies. God will remain stable. Remember, his Son told us to address such issues with faith in God, not ourselves. Listen to Him, "And Jesus said unto them, ... If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. (KJV, Matthew 17:20)

God is in the mountain moving business and this country has some mountains that need to be moved. People of faith need to live their faith.

As some pundit has already worded it, "We are good at talking about our walking with the Lord. It's time our walking became consistent with the way we are talking."

Human activity apart from God's activity is usually busy work. We need to call on the Mover to move some of the mountains our country is facing.

Be aware that God usually uses people of faith to accomplish the mundane issues related to moving mountains. That means we could end up getting our hands dirty helping people in addition to sending funds for disaster relief.

Imagine for a moment the mountains that only a faithful God can move. There is the mountain of shelter needs created by the displacement of around a million people. Most of the residents of New Orleans will not be able to move back to their previous residence for months, if ever. The Mississippi and Alabama coastal communities who felt the full force of



Katrina's 20-25 foot storm surge have been partly or completely flattened. Virtually entire communities will need to be rebuilt to address the shelter needs.

Another mountain to face is the emotional load carried by displaced persons. Churches and individuals are looking for ways to provide both shelter and emotional support. Don't miss the story on page 5. It includes ways to respond.

Another mountain to face is the clean up process. Whether we are viewing Biloxi or New Orleans, all of us can see enough debris to realize that moving rubble is going to be a mountain size task. It will take the efforts of the both the public and private sectors of society to address the problem. Southern Baptists have always responded with a huge force of volunteers to assist with clean up, mud out, chain sawing, and whatever physical labor is needed to move the mountains following disasters. I believe we will again.

The list of mountains is endless. However, I want to close by reminding you of the mountain of fear facing all of us. We sometimes think, if this could happen to them, it could also happen to us. It is true. We are all frail creatures of dust. God invites us to trust Him, to love Him, and to let Him cast out our fears. May it be so for all of us!

G. C. Bus Tour, continued from p. 2, and Media Campaign Info.

Continued from page 2 ... G.C. Bus Tour Plans ...

Other members of the Monongahela Steering Committee who have worked with the Smiths in the planning process include Mike Allen, chairman, Don Knotts, Shane Suiter, and Terry Bullough. In addition to these local leaders, denominational support has come from Terry Harper, Leon White and Randy Tate of the WVCSB, and Mark Hobafhovich and Fred Hewitt from NAMB.

Those participating in the tour will begin the process around midday October 5 and will travel south from Morgantown ending up at the Wayside Baptist Church in Buckhannon for supper and worship. They will then spend the night in Clarksburg before touring other nearby ministry areas the next day. Following their time together, the participants will have opportunities to commit to sponsorship of one or more of the areas they have toured.

Participants were largely enlisted through personal referrals by Terry Harper, NAMB, and partnership coordinators in Florida, SC, NC, and Virginia. As of press time, approximately 20 out of state people were committed to ride along on the tour with the additional persons signing up closer to the actual event a possibility.

NAMB will pay for lodging and airfare of out-of-state guests and other incidentals related to this Great Commission tour. The project is among the first of its kind in the nation.

This paper posed the following question to James Smith recently: "If your dreams for this bus tour came true, how would the counties and churches in-

cluded in the Monongahela Association be changed?"

Smith replied, "At the 2004 spring meeting of the association, messengers approved our vision statement. In June of 2004, several teams conducted a church probe to discover where we needed new churches. Soon we were introduced to the bus tour idea by Fred Hewitt of NAMB.

"When the tour takes place, in the short timespan of two days we will take pastors from all over our convention and association to various locations where new churches are needed. From exposure to the needs in our area, we pray they will want their church to help start a church in one of our 10 counties.

"We are praying that God will move in all of the participants hearts so they will see beyond themselves and their own ministries and will develop a vision to build the Kingdom of God.

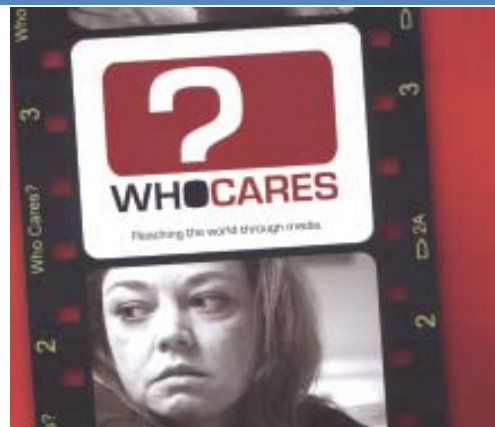
"With over 222,000 unchurched in our 10 county radius, we must have a vision from God to reach people with new churches. People all around us are dying and going to hell everyday. We must address their lostness with the Gospel so they can be saved by God's amazing grace.

"I would ask your readers to pray about what their part might be in starting new churches. One of them might be the laborer the Lord wants to use to start a new church."

Can out of state churches actually make that much impact on the spiritual climate of West Virginia? We posed this question to Smith: "Have out-of-state teams made lasting contributions in the Monongahela Association? If so, in what ways? Can you name specific churches that are alive and well at least partly because of out-of-state financial support, mission teams, construction teams, etc.?"

Smith replied, "We have been recipients of many out-of-state teams who have conducted VBS, backyard Bible clubs, construction projects, door-to-door census work, block parties, etc. They have helped with several established works. A couple of years ago when Charity Baptist Church where Homer Ham is pastor was doubling the size of their building, groups came from all over to help in their construction process."

Here's hoping the cooperative nature of Southern Baptists continues until Jesus comes!



NAMB Prepares Resources for Evangelistic Media Campaign

"Who Cares" is an evangelistic campaign using one of eight television commercials that can be aired in all national and cable networks. The crisis issues that the commercials focus on include unwanted pregnancy, divorce, suicide, economic loss, drug addiction, loneliness, porn addiction, and time management.

While the use of these commercials will be free to Southern Baptists, air time on networks or cable channels will likely not be. If a local station agrees to use them during a "public service" time slot, they would be free. Otherwise, fees for airing the short, attention getting film clips will likely be based on the going rates for advertising in your viewing area.

For a one time \$75 fee, churches or other Southern Baptist entities will be able to tag the commercials with a message identifying the film clip with a local contact point. Otherwise, viewers who see the messages who want to talk with someone who cares will be referred to the website, www.seewhocares.com after which they will be ministered to according to a well-scripted plan of email responses leading to a Gospel presentation.

For further information including the opportunity to view brief clips from the commercials, go to the following website. Note that it is slightly different but similar to the one above: www.seewhocares.org

This campaign will launch in October but is designed to be used at any time local churches or entities wish to utilize it.

Disaster Relief Measures in Response to Hurricane Katrina

Katrina 'Ground Zero' Spans Entire Nation SBC Launches Housing & Church Initiatives

By Tim Yarbrough

ALPHARETTA, Ga. (BP)--"What we are now calling 'ground zero' covers the continental United States, as the dispersion of Hurricane Katrina survivors is bringing this disaster to each of our communities," said Jim Burton, director of volunteer mobilization at the North American Mission Board.

"This is an extraordinary opportunity for Southern Baptists to rise to the occasion and model our passion for missions to the world."

Over the Labor Day weekend, NAMB President Robert E. (Bob) Reccord announced two initiatives designed to help damaged SBC churches recover and to offer assistance to people displaced by the storm.

"Adopt a Church is a plan to ask healthy and blessed SBC congregations across North America to adopt SBC congregations that have been badly damaged or destroyed," Reccord said. "This will be a commitment of anywhere between one to two years. All manner of help will be needed: mission trips, rebuilding trips, care packages, appropriate financial support, and encouragement for the staff who have been through numerous challenges."

Houses of Hope will give Southern Baptist members and churches the opportunity to minister to displaced Katrina victims directly.

"[W]e are asking churches with facilities that can be converted into temporary housing for evacuees to become Houses of Hope," he said. "Our encouragement would be to begin with an initial commitment to house evacuees for 30 days, with a subsequent review for an extension if needed and appropriate," Reccord explained. Details of both programs can be viewed at www.namb.net.

Reccord participated in a meeting with President Bush the morning of Sept. 6 in which disaster relief efforts and priorities were discussed.

"The president acknowledged the importance of faith-based groups in the immediate response to this crisis but also in the important role we can play in the long-term emotional and spiritual recovery that must take place," Reccord said.

Other attendees included leaders from the Red Cross and Salvation Army, groups that

partner with Southern Baptists in providing meals and other critical services in the wake of disasters.

"[The president] told us one of the biggest things needed now is hope, and he called on us to be the hope-givers," Reccord said.

The meeting ended in prayer as all of the participants and the president held hands and asked for God's guidance in carrying out their disaster relief efforts.

More than 3,000 Southern Baptist disaster relief volunteers are now engaged in the Katrina response effort. Two hundred thirty-five mobile disaster units have been activated from as far away as California and Virginia and 34 states in between. Southern Baptist volunteers have prepared more than half a million meals.

(Editor's Note: West Virginia disaster relief response has been ably coordinated by Terry Vaughan, our partnership and volunteer coordinator. As early as September 7, a team was on its way with a mobile kitchen unit and supplies provided by the generosity of West Virginia Southern Baptists. Additional volunteers were trained the same week expanding our ability to respond with qualified volunteers. Office staff in Scott Depot had already fielded dozens of inquiries from persons wondering how they or their organization could help.)

Now is the time Southern Baptists can make a difference for Christ in literally thousands of peoples' lives, Burton said.

"We know churches and associations across the convention are making gallant efforts to shelter hurricane survivors. NAMB recognizes this is new territory for each of us. We are working with the American Red Cross and others to create guidelines that help churches and families make good decisions about their participation," he said.

"Obviously the Houses of Hope initiative will be one of the best opportunities in our lifetime for the church to be Jesus' hands and feet. Certainly we have a biblical mandate and pattern from the New Testament to help people in need. Now is the time," Burton said.

Volunteers, Burton said, are serving hero-

ically in very challenging circumstances.

"Our units are creatively facing logistical challenges of re-supply. I'm very proud of the efforts taking place in the field. It is hard for most of us to understand the challenges faced by disaster responders. That's why we need to be in constant prayer for them as well as the survivors of this hurricane," he said.

"Between the heat, the destruction and logistical challenges, they are laboring to be light during a very dark time in the region."

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief -- the third largest volunteer relief organization in the United States -- prepares the majority of meals distributed through the American Red Cross in a disaster. Southern Baptist Disaster Relief has more than 600 mobile disaster response units and 30,000 trained volunteers. State Baptist conventions recruit and train volunteers from Southern Baptist churches. NAMB coordinates multi-state and international responses by Southern Baptist Disaster Relief.

Contributions to offset direct costs of the disaster relief response may be sent to the WV state convention offices. Staff there will forward them to the North American Mission Board. Mark your contribution "Katrina Disaster Relief" and mail them to The WVCSB, One Mission Way, Scott Depot, WV 25560. Donations also may be made by calling NAMB at 1-888-571-5895. All disaster relief contributions sent to Scott Depot will go directly to NAMB with no administrative charges deducted.

West Virginia Churches and People in the News

Borderland had an average attendance of 60 at Vacation Bible School. They are praising God for volunteer teams from Tennessee, Florida, North Carolina and South Carolina who have helped with expansion of the fellowship hall/education facilities. Volunteer workers are still needed to help with sheet rock and finish work. **Andy Kohari** is the pastor.

Bradshaw Mountain, Bob Blevins pastor, celebrated its 4th Anniversary in June with a full house and a wonderful service. Work on the parsonage/apartment is nearing completion, but a small team of experienced volunteer carpenters could be used.

Chattaroy held Vacation Bible School in July, with an average attendance of 53 and four professions of faith. The church suffered minor flood damage in the fellowship hall on August 19. Several church members had their homes and yards flooded. The church is

sponsoring a ministry booth, giving away water, Bibles, and tracts during Williamson's King Coal Days in September.

East Williamson welcomes **Bob Norman** as its new pastor. Bob has pastored churches in nearby Pike County, KY. Music Director **Randy Rhodes** and several from the Youth Group worked with Olivet Baptist Church, Long Island, NC, the last week of July conducting a Mission VBS at the Red Jacket Kiwanis Club near Matewan. Approximately 60+ local children and youth attended each day, with several making professions of faith. A new semester of FAITH and the Kidz Choir begin in September. A special thank you to **Mike Kohari** for his faithful supply preaching over the past several months.

Vacation Bible School was held in July at **Gateway Chapel, Julian**, with an average attendance of 35 and one profession of faith. **Dan Dantzler**, pastor of sponsoring church **Peytona**, is leading services on Sunday afternoon. **Peytona** held VBS and a Backyard Bible Club in June, resulting in a total of five professions of faith. There have been eight mission teams with 170 people assisting over the summer with construction, door-to-door outreach, and evangelistic Bible studies.

Members of **Gilbert Creek, John**

Thompson pastor, enjoyed a swimming outing at Chief Logan State Park recently. A Mission Team from Easley, SC, helped conduct two Backyard Bible Clubs, resulting in six professions of faith. Among the opportunities for missions projects are housing repairs in several locations.

Horsepen saw good attendance for the Celebrate America Block Party in August. Attendance in Sunday School on August 28 was 62, a healthy increase over the previous month's average of 45. New windows have been installed in the old part of the building. **Michael Hatfield** is the pastor.

Living Stone baptized two people recently, and assisted four area children with back-to-school clothes. The Youth Works teams that stayed at Burch Elementary School all summer connected with Living Stone and helped with Kidz Clubs and worship services. Pastor **Britt Moore** leads chapel services for the Matewan High School football team and coaches.

First Baptist, Princeton, needs a mature individual to oversee and work in the Church Nursery. Must be available Sunday mornings, and Sunday and Wednesday evenings. Send resume to First Baptist Church, ATTN: Personnel Committee, 1116 Mercer St., Princeton, WV 24740.

OLA COX STATE

MISSIONS OFFERING

"GO LIGHT YOUR WORLD"

Let your light so shine before men,
that they may see your good works, and glorify
your Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 5:16 kjv

WV 2005-2006 Goal - \$105,000

Pioneer Association Takes Mission Team to Pittsburgh July 23-30

More than 55 volunteers from five churches in the Pioneer Baptist Association took their love for Jesus to Pittsburgh on the annual association mission trip July 23-30. This year marked the sixth year Pioneer Association members have gone on a mission trip together. Previous trips included Charleston, SC, Niagra Falls, Wilkes Barre, PA and Cleveland (twice). In Pittsburgh, the team stayed at Lakeside Baptist and worked primarily with two new works — Hope Chapel and Inner City



Above: Two of the mission team are shown renewing the ceiling in the church basement.

Tabernacle of Faith. At Hope Chapel, which has been in its rented building on Pittsburgh's West End for less than three months, Pioneer volunteers went through the neighborhood doing surveys and giving away homemade raisin bread and lightbulbs. The group also led a "Ramblin' Road Trip" Vacation Bible School with about 20-30 people in attendance. Inner City Tabernacle recently purchased an old Jewish Synagogue in the East Liberty community of Pittsburgh. A Pioneer construction team



Above: Kelly Norvell, wife of the pastor at Cathedral of Prayer, Charleston. Her husband, Kevin, is pictured in the photo at the top of the right column.

Left: Some of the evidence of the building's former Jewish usage is still visible in the architecture and writing on the exterior walls. The crowd is shown celebrating on the front porch.

Right: The basement project was monumental but, when finished, was a pleasant space to meet and serve the Lord.



worked to renovate the basement fellowship hall area, working on the flooring, ceiling and the walls. In addition, they also led a dance camp for 30-40 kids each day and a sports camp for about 40 each day at Inner City.

The team also helped with a Block Party on July 28 at Inner City Tabernacle, providing hot dogs, cotton candy and sno cones in addition to games. The highlight of the block party was a performance by students in the dance camp in front of the church as about 250 people in the community watched. Churches which participated included Foundations Community Church, Good Shepherd Baptist, Witcher Baptist, Cathedral of Prayer and West Charleston Baptist.

Photo right: Norm Cannada, team coordinator, is shown cooking for the team.



Above: These four children were important team members on the Pioneer mission trip.

West Virginia Churches and People in the News

Coalfields Association missionary Mike York, left in the photo to the right, and newly elected State Missions Director **Greg Wrigley**, right, recently participated in the baptism of **Emily**, center, and four others in Laurel Creek behind the **HarborLight** church in **Oceana**. Although Wrigley did not start his job in Scott Depot until September 6, this August 7 baptism ministry was appropriate for him. As an associational missionary himself, his first mission trip to Oceana was in 2002 and he had a seven member team there from Florida helping the church the week of the baptism. **Hal and Juanita Wales** from West Monroe, Louisiana will be coming to serve at Oceana to follow up the



ministry so ably conducted by MSC volunteers, **Willard and Margaret Wilson** who returned to South Carolina to care for his aging mother in August.



July 17, **First Baptist, Brandywine** commissioned five youth and four adults to go on mission to Altoona, Pennsylvania. (See photo above.) While there they did cleaning, painting, VBS, an evangelistic block party, a concert, distributed Bibles, tracts, and *Left Behind* videos. Fifty-seven people attended the block party. Three youth who attended VBS have been baptized. The mission was conducted with First Southern of Altoona.

First Baptist, Princeton, **David Dockery** pastor, hosted John Adams August 24 & 25 for a series of different meetings. The photo to the right is from a meeting of some “young at heart” seniors who met for lunch and listened to a presentation on estate planning. While with the congregation, Adams was also able to speak at their midweek Bible study time, assisted the pastor and Sunday School direc-



tor with a study of their education space and spent a couple of hours in Sunday School worker training.



Terry Harper, third from the left, and Barry Fleming, far right, pose with men who worked with the Brushfork congregation in a recent building addition. They dedicated the facility August 28. Harper was their guest in the a.m.



IGNITE 2005

An Evening of Worship

The collegiate ministries sponsored by the WVCSB will share in an evening of worship

October 21 at the Fairlawn Baptist Church in Parkersburg. The night's activities will include worship, teaching, give-aways, great music and

refreshments. For additional information, contact (inside WV) Jacob Atchley at 800-411-5758, ext. 103 or (outside WV) 304-757-0944, ext. 103.

West Virginia Prayer Focus

A View from the Northern Panhandle.

I'm excited about this coming church year. SBC President Bobby Welch has challenged us to "Witness, Win and Baptize One Million." His slogan: *Everyone Can.*

My heart was blessed when I read Johnny Kelly's article in the last edition of our magazine in which he assured us that God loves us. Wow! What a Savior.

Now we need to go and let the whole world know about God's love. We are all aware that God proved his love for us when His Son took our sin upon Himself and died on the cross.

Brothers and sisters now we need to prove that love to those who are not acquainted with Jesus. They need to experience the love of Jesus through us as we love

them unconditionally just as Jesus loved us.

They too will respond as we did when they encounter the love of Jesus for them in us.

We all say we love West Virginia. Do we love its people enough to tell them about Jesus.

Have you told anybody lately that Jesus loves them and you do too? (John 3:16)

I wonder in closing, are you and your church prayerfully forming a strategy to carry the love of Jesus to those in your part of WV?

Just a thought. Remember Bobby Welch's challenge, *Everyone Can.*



Above: Ron McCoy, pastor at Cameron Baptist is second V.P. for the WVCSB this year.

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

New Work: Pray for the Great Commission Bus Tour in the Monongahela Association October 5-6. Pastors and lay people will tour areas of the association where new work is needed to help them discover where God might want them to partner.

Ministry Focus: Pray for the ten associations to have unified focus, for their missionaries, their volunteer leadership teams, and their annual meetings, one of which will occur September 24, the other nine of which will occur in October.

Prayer Resource: Discover prayer requests from international missionaries at <http://imb.org/compassionnet/>.

Weekend Prayer Focus: While the dates listed below correspond with the days the state convention staff will be praying together, we know many of our readers are daily prayer warriors. On weekends we encourage you to consider concerted prayer for your pastor as he preaches, for your lay leaders as they lead in church ministries, and for generosity in the giving habits of your congregation as your church raises necessary funds for its needs and world mission causes.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Campus</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Chapel</u>
Oct. 3	Pioneer	Marshall Univ.	Fairlawn, Parkersburg	Hope, Richwood
Oct. 4	Potomac Highland	Mt. State Univ.	Faith, Dailey	Lighthouse, Charleston
Oct. 5	Monongahela	WVU Morgan.	Faith, Mason	Lighthouse, Duck
Oct. 6	Mountain State	Bluefield State	Faith, Rupert	Marland Heights
Oct. 7	Tri-County	Concord Univ.	Faith, West Union	New Beginnings, Pt.Pleasant
Oct. 10	Upper Ohio Valley	Marshall Univ.	Faith, Weston	New Beginnings, Wayne
Oct. 11	Allegheny	Mt. State Univ.	Fellowship	New Hope, Mullens
Oct. 12	Coalfields	WVU Morgan.	First, Bluewell	New Hope, Petersburg
Oct. 13	Greater Huntington	Bluefield State	First, Brandywine	New Hope, Madison
Oct. 14	Immanuel	Concord Univ.	First, Burlington	New Life, Arnoldsburg
Oct. 17	Pioneer	Marshall Univ.	First, Ceredo	Oak Creek
Oct. 18	Potomac Highland	Mt. State Univ.	First, Craigsville	Shining Light Community
Oct. 19	Monongahela	WVU Morgan.	First, Fort Ashby	Solid Rock
Oct. 20	Mountain State	Bluefield State	First, Hinton	South Wheeling
Oct. 21	Tri-County	Concord Univ.	First Huntersville	The Bridge Community
Oct. 24	Upper Ohio Valley	Marshall Univ.	First, Princeton	Camden Flats
Oct. 25	Allegheny	Mt. State Univ.	First, Chester	Carpendale
Oct. 26	Coalfields	WVU Morgan.	First, Fairlea	Chinese Mission
Oct. 27	Greater Huntington	Bluefield State	First Southern, Fairmont	Christian Family Fellowship
Oct. 28	Immanuel	Concord Univ.	First Southern, Grandview	Dorsey Street Community
Oct. 31	Pioneer	Marshall Univ.	First Southern, Nemours	Faith, Winfield

West Virginia Churches and People in the News

Charity, Wyatt, averaged 48 in attendance in their VBS this summer. Nine of those were youth who had their VBS during a weekend “lock-in,” and were then able to help with children’s classes during the regular VBS. Four people accepted Christ. **Homer Ham** is pastor.

Faith, Dailey, where **Mike Allen** is the pastor, averaged 75 attendees and 35 workers for VBS. They started with a light supper each night and had a time of music and the Word for teens and adults while children were in VBS. Also, in conjunction with VBS, they had a soccer clinic that averaged 60 attendees per day. There were 190 people for family night and approximately 50 professions of faith were made during the week.

Grace Fellowship, Steve Edwards pastor, celebrated its Homecoming on August 28, including a luncheon after the morning service. A small addition is being built onto the sanctuary to house a baptistry and dressing rooms.

A mission team from First Baptist of Bern, GA, helped with VBS at **Kingwood** and **Rowlesburg**. **Kingwood** had an enrollment of 91, an average attendance of 80, and four decisions to accept Christ. **Rowlesburg** had an enrollment of 139, an average attendance of 110, and nine decisions to accept Christ. **Ken Lake** is the pastor at Rowlesburg. **Kingwood** is hosting a farewell open house reception on September 25 for pastor and wife, **Ricky and Amy Persons**, who are moving to Southeastern Seminary where Ricky will begin work on a doctorate.

New Life, Bridgeport, held its first VBS without the help of outside volunteers. It was also

their first outreach from the building on Hwy. 76, where they meet on Wednesday evenings. **Doug Murray** is the interim pastor.

Southern, Philippi, where **Jeff Simms** is pastor, reported seven decisions for Christ during VBS. The deacons are starting the Deacon Family Ministry Plan this month.

Jon Maish, student ministry director at West Virginia University, reports the ministry will now be known as **Mountaineer Campus Ministry - sponsored by Southern Baptist Churches**, in hopes of distinguishing them from other student ministry organizations. They have a new place to meet, and kicked off the school year with The Shockwave Pizza Bash. 500 flyers were distributed to students with information about the event. Jon asks for prayer that God would use **MCM** to reach students on campus for Jesus Christ.

Calvary, Chapmanville, is rejoicing over a baptism last month and two salvations at “Ramblin’ Road Trip” VBS. **John Freeman** is pastor.

Congratulations to **Fairlawn, Dunbar**, who have called **Walter Godby** as their new pastor.

Crosspoint Community had a baptismal service in a member’s pool and baptized seven, including an entire family of five. An attendance record of 170 was set the fourth Sunday of July. “Camp Survivor” summer camp was held at Heritage Farm, with 94 K-8th grade campers in attendance for four days and three nights. The campers enjoyed horseback riding, rappelling, swimming, hiking, games, crafts, and awesome worship and music, as well as a daily Bible study led by a discipleship team from Child Evangelism Fellowship. Seven kids committed their lives to follow Christ and will be baptized soon at Heritage Farm. **Greg Lucas** pastors at Crosspoint.

First, Ceredo, Rodney Hale pastor, added two members by transfer of letter, and had three professions of faith at VBS. 325 attended the VBS kickoff, which included rock climbing, petting zoo, antique cars, food, clown, and singing group Unmerited Favor. Average attendance for VBS was 85. The youth of the church held a style show for the Funagers cookout. The Funagers also took a trip to Jenny Wiley park for a luncheon and theatre. The Waugh Family from Catlettsburg, KY, sang on July 31. Rev. Carroll Roberson will be the evangelist at the September 11-15 Revival.

The “Ramblin’ Road Trip” VBS at **Hamlin** had an enrollment of 115, with an average attendance of 93. The children contributed \$600 to the Missions offering. The Youth were in charge of the morning service on July 31, during which they used the puppets, and afterwards prepared and served dinner for the congregation. An enjoyable evening service that day included the Happy Valley Four quartet, and concluded with one young man receiving Christ as his Savior. **Jerry Rose** is the pastor.

Lincoln is rejoicing over a baptism in July, and asks for prayer as they search for a pastor.

Westmoreland, C.J. Adkins pastor, had a VBS enrollment of 177 and eight professions of faith. Over \$400 was received in offerings for the mission church in Dumaguete City in the Philippines. Two have been baptized and baptismal services were planned for every Sunday in August. Rainbow Kids Youth Choir presented a musical in August, and the Senior Group “BALL Team” attended LaComedia Dinner Theatre.

First Baptist, Princeton, is seeking a part-time Children’s Ministry Coordinator, experience preferred, to organize various children’s programs and events. Send resume to Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church, 1116 Mercer St., Princeton, WV 24740. **David Dockery** is their pastor.

Edgemont Baptist dedicated their new family life center August 28. The photos below show the building and pastor Ken Owens’ family.



West Virginia Churches and People in the News

Grace Baptist, Fayetteville, Delbert Walker pastor, hosted a mission team from Pump Springs Baptist Church in Tennessee in July. The team helped them with VBS, cleared off a lot for a new building, and staffed a block party at the new church site.

Isaban, Mason Perry pastor, celebrated their 56th homecoming September 11 with a message by **Don Deel** and special music by the New Life trio.

Lilly Grove, Ricky Pennington pastor, celebrated their 53rd homecoming August 28th.

Lorton Lick, Shawn Bragg pastor, enrolled 81 in their VBS and averaged 68 in attendance. Five persons made decisions for Christ.

Memorial Beckley, Paul Blizard pastor, dedicated their new Jim Franklin Christian Life Center on September 11.

Mt Calvary, Beckley, Wayne Nutter pastor, baptized one in July.

Northgate, Beckley, Craig Stevens pastor, sent a youth mission team to Jamaica in July to do construction and VBS projects.

Shawnee, Ronnie Richards pastor, averaged 110 in a VBS with partnership help from Antioch Baptist Church. They also gave away T-shirts and school supplies and rejoiced to see 23 professions of faith. They baptized a number of these August 28.

Willowbrook, Emery Marchant pastor, baptized 3 in August and ordained **Jerry Sweat and Gene Law** August 14.

Brad Thompson, Guidestone Financial Resources, will conduct three update conferences during the days prior to this year's meeting of the WVCSB. On October 31 he will be at **Freedom, Nutter Fort,** November 1 he will be at the **convention offices** in Scott Depot, and November 2 he will be at **Immanuel Baptist** in Princeton. All meetings will begin at 9:00 and end at 11:30 with refreshments provided. The sessions will cover current retirement planning issues and options for allocating retirement funds. There is no charge for attending the meetings. Pastors, staff, and lay people who work with church budgets should attend.

Shawn House, associational missionary for the **Tri-County association** has accepted a call as associate pastor at Hope Baptist Church in Starke, Florida. He began his service there in early September.

Mt. State Association is conducting an Evangelism Conference October 10 at First,

Princeton. Their associational missions offering raised a record \$12,012.72. Associational missionary **Don Deel** will be teaching church history each Thursday in September from 6:30-8:30 at Lilly Grove Baptist as part of the WV School of Practical Learning. **Jennie Hughes,** their associational S.S. director coordinated training for 63 at a meeting held at Immanuel Baptist August 15.

The **Immanuel Baptist Association** September newsletter reported that **Hillcrest, Spencer pastor Barry Miller** baptized 9 persons in the last few weeks. The newsletter also celebrated excellent VBS reports from several of their churches in addition to a nice photo spread of recent senior adult trips hosted by **missionary Dick Howie.** Among construction projects completed or in progress the newsletter reported on a new parsonage at Pt. Pleasant, a new picnic shelter at Son Valley Camp and the association's own mission trip to assist a Coalfields Association church, Borderland Baptist, with a 26' by 50' addition to their building. Other good news from Immanuel association included a noteburning celebration at Community, Grantsville, now debt free, and the involvement of associational people in the Wirt County Fair.

New Creek, Thomas Roatch pastor, rejoiced to see 9 saved and 4 baptized in July and Aug. Their mission at Bismark is conducting Saturday morning worship and Bible studies.

Twenty-five members from **Silver Springs, Gerald McKinney pastor, and Oak Creek, Bryan Frazier pastor,** traveled to Hundred, WV to assist the **Solid Rock** congregation, **Larry Holtz pastor,** with construction and community outreach projects. Silver Springs recently called **Wes Belcher** as their Youth Pastor. **The photo below** shows the Silver Springs group while on their mission trip.



In late August **West Ripley's pastor Jack Miller** was approved to serve as the chaplain for the 130th Airborne unit in Charleston. Congratulations!

Pastor Tom Rentfrow, Abundant Life, Triadelphia, is shown below participating in the



church's VBS program. Yep, pardner, he's roping a little pony and decked out in his western duds. The focus this particular day was on Yellowstone National Park, one part of the LifeWay Ramblin Road Trip across the US.

SPECIAL NOTE

The 35th Anniversary of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists will be celebrated as part of the annual convention to be held at First Baptist, Fairlea November 4-5. Persons who have moved away and who will be coming back to WV to share in the celebration should contact Terry Harper at the state offices as soon as possible. The program committee would like to know you are coming so they can make plans to recognize you as being present for the festivities. You may email him at terryharper@wvcsb.org or call him at 304-757-0944, extension 104.

How to Develop a Healthy Single Adult Ministry In Your Church

October 3—1:00 PM—October 4 —11:30 AM

WVCSB Office Bldg, Scott Depot

- A step by step process for beginning and maintaining a healthy Single Adult ministry.
- Challenges and issues facing Single Adult Leaders.
- How to empower single adults to reach and minister.

**Registration Fee: \$5.00
per person**

Motel list provided when you register.

To register:
email Tom Young at
tomyoung@wvcsb.org
or call 1-800-411-5758, Ext. 116



Guest Leader- Mary Willis

Mary is a Bible Reaching/ Teaching consultant. She has served on church staff as Minister of College and Single Adults, Minister of Education, Minister to Adults, and Minister to Senior Adults. She lives in Morris, Alabama with husband Bill, who is retired. Mary has most recently served at First Baptist Church, Columbiana, AL as Interim Minister of Education.

WVCSB Calendar

October is Cooperative Program Month

October 3-4
Single Adult Min. Trng.
in Scott Depot

October 9
World Hunger Sunday

October 13
New Minister Orientation
Scott Depot Offices

October 16
Bivocational Minister Day

October 21
Ignite 2005: An Evening Of
Worship for College Students
at Fairlawn, Parkersburg

November 3
WVCSB Exec. Brd.
Pastors' Conference
Ministers' Wives Conference

November 4-5
35th Annual Meeting of
The West Virginia Convention
of Southern Baptists at
First Baptist of Fairlea