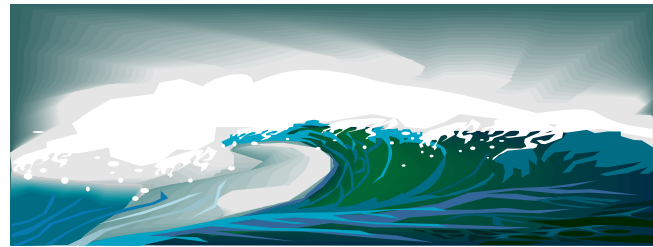




The *August 2018* Anchor

We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul...Heb.6:19a



**First Baptist Church , 215 Ann Street, Ravenswood, WV 26164 ~
1-304-273-9910 ~ www.fbcravenswood.org**

Summer is almost over, but the grass and hillsides remain covered in lush green colors due to all of the rain. There is such life and joy in seeing the brilliant colors of the flower gardens. Fields of vegetable plants are in full bloom. To me, it seems that it has rained more in the last month or so than I can remember. It's canceled outings and events, and even a church pool party. *Regardless, we still see God's handiwork, that is so beautiful and majestic, all around us.*

The lesson to us as Christians is to not allow the storms in our life, or the problems that symbolize rain in our lives, to allow us to lose focus on God's love and mercy, or the work we've been called to do. We need to know that above every storm cloud is shining light. *As the light breaks through those clouds and permeates the rain, we see rainbows - signs of God's promises - during which, we gaze in awe and wonder.*

Even while the summer months have been very hot and humid, the landscape in Ravenswood is simply alive in color. We don't see big barren patches of burnt grass. Instead, we see life.

Let us remember that beyond every trial in our life is hope. Behind every tear is a smile. *God is good and we can never forget that.* Let us bask in His wonder and in His love.

As we continue our journey toward a new pastor, let us see that greater and brighter days are still ahead. There is a field to harvest, and we have laborers.

To use a line from an old Nitty Gritty Dirt Band song, *"If we're ever going to see a rainbow, we have to stand a little rain."*

We've withstood the rain for over a year. We are still standing. It's time, we pick back up the cross and journey together, hand-in-hand, being excited about our church and the task before us. Let us forgive where we need to forgive, love more today than yesterday, and give more of ourselves than we ever have. As the scripture says in 1st Peter 1:3, ***God has given us a new birth into a living hope.*** We claim that promise.

Let's First Baptist be the church God has called us to be. We can do this together, with the power and help of the Holy Spirit. Our community is waiting. I'm ready, are you?

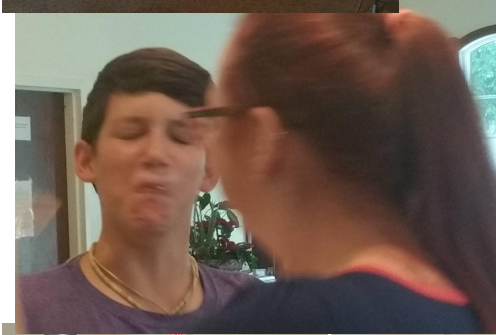
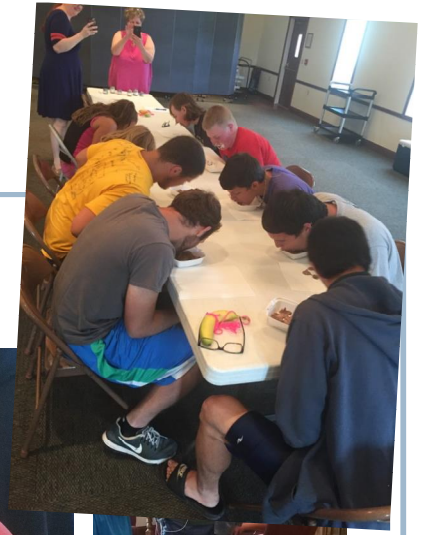
In His service,

Pastor Toby



Captivate

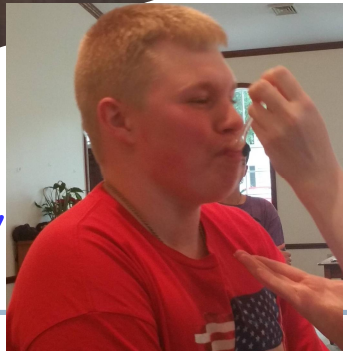
Teen Ministry of Ravenswood First Baptist



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N



YUK!



A Servant's Heart



Monthly Meetings & Activities

Aug 3-5 AB Men & Boys Camp
Aug 5 **Members vote on pastor candidate**
Aug 6 Trustee Meeting @ 7 pm
Aug 11-12 Camp Global
Aug 13 Finance Committee @ 6 pm
BOCE @ 7 pm
Deaconø Meeting @ 8 pm
Aug 14 Menø Fellowship @ 6:30 pm
Aug 18 Girlsø Day Out 6:45 am
Aug 19 Good Hope Association @ Two
Runs Baptist Church @ 1 pm
Aug 22 September Anchor Articles Due
Aug 29 Choir Practice Resumes

Nursery Workers

Aug 5 Jessica Morgan
Aug 12 Connie Staats
Aug 19 Deb Lyons
Aug 26 Leigh Ann Kerns

Children's Church

Aug 5 Bill Stewart
Aug 12 Helen Johnson
Aug 19 Leanne Thompson
Aug 26 Jen Wagoner

CommUnity Kitchen

Aug 4 Burt Lyons
Aug 11 FUMC
Aug 18 Susan West and crew
Aug 25 Kay Pursley family

Deaconess for Communion

Helen Johnson



Focus on Sunday School:



Learn: acquire knowledge or new information

Wisdom: the soundness of an action or decision with the regard to the application of experience, knowledge and good judgment

School begins in a few days and all the kids are required to attend to learn. But we need to remember there is more needed to the making of an individual than just acquiring knowledge.

Every time a scripture is read, a story is told, a song is sung, *knowledge* is gained from a different perspective. Biblical knowledge is important to open our hearts and minds to the path the Lord has for each of us.

The *experiences* received at church and Sunday School help to gain wisdom. The fellowship, the Bible stories, the messages.... All combined with shared testimonies and experiences help us react wisely in life situations.

By attending Sunday School, we receive the ability to use *good judgment* to carry out our daily lives.

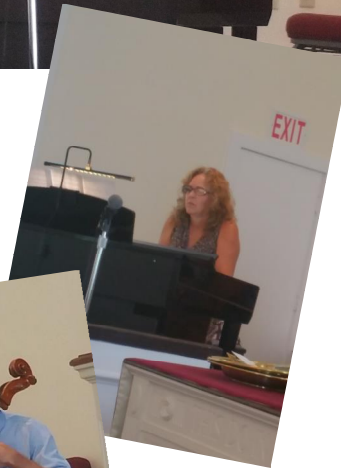
We receive wisdom.

By the way, it's impossible to outlearn God.

Attend Sunday School!



To God Be The Glory!



We have been blessed with special music this summer. We've had such a variety of songs of praise for the Lord. Thank you to everyone who has participated in the ministry and thanks to Abbi Woods, our music director, for her dedication to FBC. Thanks also to Ann Johnson for her addition of organ music to each service and filling in when Abbi is called away.

Special music will be coming to an end soon though. **Choir practice resumes Wednesday, August 29 at 7:30.** What can you do to help the choir? Pray for Abbi and the choir as we learn to tell the world about Jesus through song. **Men's voices are especially needed in the choir** - there are men in the congregation that have wonderful voices.

Choir is a very special ministry. If you are looking for your niche in our church, if God has blessed you with a song in your heart, if you are willing to dedicate an hour to practice each Wednesday evening, ***consider joining us as we praise the Lord!***

~

He says, "I will declare Your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises."

Hebrews 2:12

What's Happening In the FBC Family?



Toby was on hand at the reception for our new WVBC Executive Minister, Dr. Michael Sisson.



Congratulations Ross Mellinger!!



Liz Stewart led the way making the No Hunger Food Pantry celebration a success.



Deacon Alan Arrington takes a turn leading the Bible Study on Sunday evening.



Rose and John enjoy a little relaxation at Brad's wedding reception.



Is that Thor with Jon and Brad!?!?

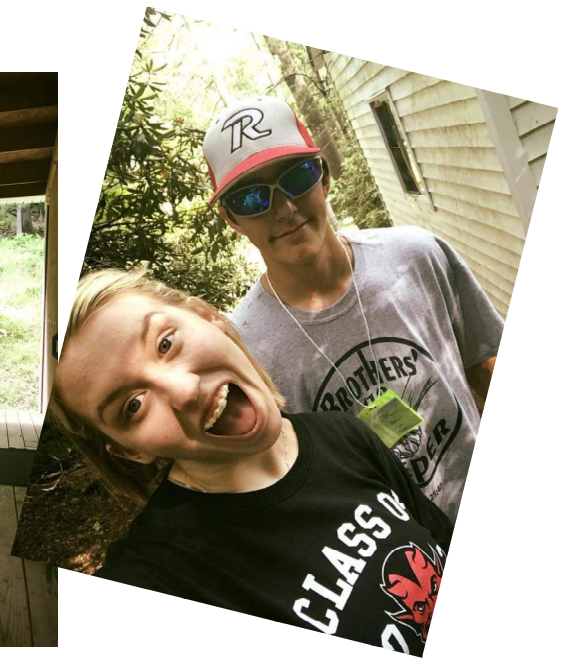


The 3 Stephenson men

More Happenings with FBC



Great day at the baby dedication for Lincoln Ritchie



John Wagoner, Aaron Wagoner and Brody Noble enjoyed Senior Hi Camp at Cowen. Sami Wagoner was the good sis that drove them.



Libby Hall shows her lamb



Nathan Hall shows his lamb



Peyton Mellinger with her pig

FBC kids at the fair

Girls' Day Out



CIRCLE had a great evening of fellowship and fun at their July meeting hosted by Rhonda Ritchie. Following the group meeting, those who were able to stay, enjoyed movie night - *The Greatest Show*.

One of the events planned was GirlsøDay Out. **All ladies are invited.** The group will meet at the church on August 18 at 6:45 am and caravan to Pittsburgh. One of the scheduled events of the day is the Duck ride.

The Just Ducky Tour's fleet consists of authentic DUKW's built in 1944 and 1945. The DUKW (popularly pronounced "duck") is a six-wheel-drive amphibious truck that was designed by General Motors Corporation during World War II. The vehicles were used for transporting goods and troops over land and water.

Today, the DUKW's are used in the hour-long exploration of the city and its history, approximately 35 minutes on land and 25 minutes on the water. The fully-narrated tour incorporates the history of Pittsburgh, the importance of the region and future of the area in a fun and fresh way. It allows riders to have fun and learn in the process!

It's a Boat...It's a Truck...It's a Duck



The cost of the Duck ride is \$25; cost of gas \$10 and then whatever else you would like to spend on food and souvenirs. ***Please contact Kathy Hudson or Susan West in the office if you would like to go.***

Savannah's Closet

There is perhaps no greater crime than child abuse. In the aftermath of traumatic abuse, child victims are further affected by their journey through foster care. Children in the foster care system are moved an average of 3 times before finding a permanent home. During these transitions from home to home, belongings, clothing, shoes, and toiletry items are often left behind. Many times children carry their belongings, what little they have, in black garbage bags. These are the harsh realities.

Foster parents and family members serving as temporary homes for these children are often overwhelmed with providing immediate needs and stretched thin waiting for clothing vouchers and the small amount of assistance available from the state.

Savannah's Closet was created help these children. This boutique style store provides new and like new clothing, shoes, toiletry items, inspirational books, and duffle bags to children in the foster care system in Jackson County. Every child who visits the boutique will be provided with all of the items needed – completely free of charge. Along with material belongings we hope to restore a small sense of dignity to these children.

We need your help. While we have been very fortunate and received an amazing amount of community support, which has allowed us to bring the store to life, but we will always require additional support and resources. To meet the need we hold various fundraisers, apply for grants and directly ask business for either monetary or supply contributions. With your help we can continue to make an immediate and lasting impact in the life of a deserving child! Since we have opened in March, we have exceeded our goal of referrals and children served. We plan to continue to do this, as a matter of fact, our referral goal has been met for the month of May, and we are currently taking June appointments. It is truly amazing!



Soon FBC ABWM will be collecting needed items for Savannah's Closet. Some items needed are diapers, wipes, baby wash, etc; shoes of all sizes *before school starts*; toiletries for teens - body wash, body spray, make up, hair products, shaving stuff, feminine hygiene; books - kids and young adult with positive message.

Watch for more information on the collection in the Sunday bulletins.

MISSION UPDATES

Chickens, chickens and more chickens.



In Genesis 1:28, God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply" – God surely is multiplying the chicken project in Mexico among the CICEM churches. First, we want to thank all who have prayed and given money toward this project. When we were first developing it, we had no idea what God was going to do.

Let me refresh your memory about the purpose of the chicken project. Five families from each the CICEM churches received 24 laying chicks, two bags of feed, fencing and a coop to protect them. The church leaders decide who is in need of this project. They choose widows, single mothers or large families that need extra help with food. This project adds protein in their diet, which is much needed, and if they have any extra eggs, they can trade them or sell them to get other food they need. In turn, each recipient donates the equivalent of one kilo of eggs back to CICEM each month to be able to duplicate this program to others. **The WV Baptists Women's Ministries raised \$26,572 for the chicken project! (FBC raised \$875!!)**

For any project you need a dreamer (Deb Myers), a planner (Keith Myers) and a lot of God. Many times Keith has said to me, "Deb, God did not call me to Mexico to build chicken coops." Then I would say, "If He didn't want the project to succeed, then He wouldn't have provided the resources." We minister in four states in Mexico, so there are various types of climates. In turn, each region has a variation of the coop CICEM has 37 churches. This is not only a project for women but for the men as well.



*Keith and Debbie Myers
Mission Matters in the Mountain State*

Ministry Vehicle

In this opportunity we want to say a HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who has been praying for us, liking our pictures on Facebook and commenting. It makes us feel like we are just down the road or the holler. We also want to say, "muchas gracias", to all the West Virginia AB Women's Ministries groups that helped finance our ministry vehicle. Since December 2017, the Toyota has seen beautiful scenery in the community, has had many fingerprints of children's hands, experienced the dusty and rugged roads of Chiapas and on several occasions Juan has used the 4x4 to get out of very sticky situations. It has given several lifts to people walking from their coffee plantations in one town to the other town several miles down the road or up the mountain. The truck has been driven by the Interim Executive Minister of the West Virginia Baptist Convention, and the kids along with Denise, have enjoyed the privilege of riding in the back.



*Juan and Denise Aragon
Mission Matters in the Mountain State
June 2018*

Camp Global 2018: Family Mission Camp

SPEAK IT! SHARE IT! SHOW IT!



WVBC Camp Cowen will be hosting this year's Family Mission Camp on August 10-12. Speak It! Share It! Show It! Acts 2:37-39 is the theme.

Missionary guests are:

Drs. Anita and Rick Gutierrez who serve in Durban, South Africa. They train and equip local churches, pastors and missionaries to combat life-style related diseases like HIV/AIDS, heart and artery disease, diabetes and malaria.

Brian and Lynette Smith are preparing to service with the Haitian Baptist Convention. Brian will work with local and visiting mission teams on construction and ongoing maintenance projects at the Eye Center. Lynette will be teaching of God's love to women, instructing in basic hygiene and self-care skills and leading creative workshops to empower women and children in their gifts of creativity.

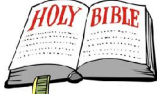


Hands on Activities include: Chiapas Connection; Puebla People and Possibilities; To Russia with Love; Bible Stories by Hand; Bread of the World; Learn Tinikling (traditional Filipino Dance); Food Fun

Anyone interested in going on Saturday, August 11, please contact the office or Kathy Hudson. Registration deadline is August 6.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Bible Book of the
Month
August 2018
II Kings**



Do you know where
this
is in the church?

Any men interested in participating in the
bocce ball team - contact
John Stephenson

August Birthdays



**Mary Beth Stewart—8/3
Jane Moore—8/3
Warner Stephens—8/8
Jackie Bailes—8/13
Mason Kerns—8/13
Amy Starkey—8/15
Torren Johnson—8/22
Leigh Ann Kerns—8/26
Kenny Goodwin—8/29**

August Meetings

8/6
Trusteesô 7:00

8/13
Financeô 6:00
BOCEô 7:00
Deaconsô 8:00

**A lady asked me what
she had to do to
become a Baptist. I
told her she had to
believe in Jesus and
own a 9X13 casserole
dish.**

Pastoral Voting

Sunday August 5, 2018

Immediately following the morning
worship service.



**Camp Global / Family Mission Camp
August 11**



**Choir Practice
Wednesday
August 29 @ 7:30**



**Men's Fellowship
August 14 @ 6:30
@ Riverfront**



**Women's CIRCLE Trip to
Pittsburghô August 18**

Good Hope Association

@

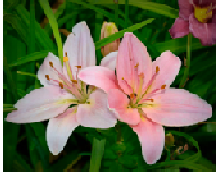
**Two Runs Baptist Church
August 19 @ 1:00**



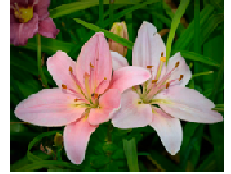
Have you checked out the prayer calendar today?

CHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR

Prayer for our fellow members is an important part of our relationship with the Lord and helps us to grow closer as a church family. Each day during this month there is a different individual or family that you are asked to include in your prayers.



August 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Jack & Anna Bailes	2 Larry & Jackie Bailes	3 Pam & Gary Balser	4 Doug & Debby Bashaw
5 Joshua Bashaw	6 Aaron & Melissa Bennett, Blake, Beau, Cass	7 Gloria Blackhurst	8 Carolyn Brown	9 Jason Brown	10 Sue Brown	11 Jamison Cooper, Dalilah
12 Linda Conley	13 Dave & Carol Crow	14 Bryan & Andrea Crow, Benjamin	15 Brandon & Anna Davis	16 Marie DeLong	17 Bryan & Andrea Donahue, Xavier	18 Gloria Easter
19 Rodney & Sheila Eskins	20 Jim & Mona Eubanks	21 Annabelle Flesher	22 Jeff & Venisa Flesher	23 Nathanael Flesher	24 Jim & Kathy Frazier	25 Mark & Susan Gerstell
26 Holly Gerstell	27 Geraldine Gregorich	28 Rhonda Hall, Nathan & Libby	29 Mike Hall	30 Jo Hendricks	31 Kyle Hickman	

Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; but I tell you, not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass in the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, how much more will He clothe you? *Luke 12:27-28*

