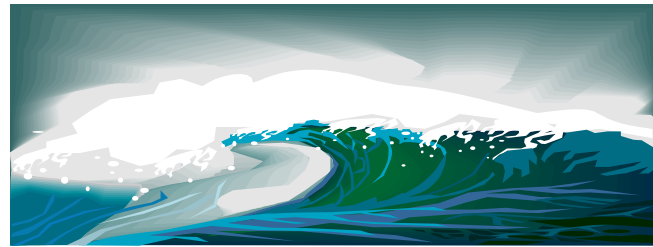




The *March 2019*  
**Anchor**

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](http://www.fbcravenswood.org)**

As the month of March is upon us, and Spring draws near, let us all take time to reminisce on the goodness of God and His blessings upon each of us. The Bible tells us in Philippians 4:19 that *God will meet all of our needs according to His riches in glory.* This means, the God who owns everything, and knows everything, has promised to meet your needs. What a blessing to all of us. This is knowing that our God, who loves us immensely, has made us promises in which we can rely. Isaiah wrote in 41:10, that we do not have to be afraid or dismayed when it comes to the promises that God has made to us. He writes, *“I will strengthen you and help you.”* He goes on to add, *“I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”* Our Lord is concerned with our well-being so much that He has promised to travel this life with us, so that we are never alone. He will help us to stand, when we cannot. As you have heard me say many times in our services, that the Lord will only be as close as to you as you allow Him to be.

We see the word “blessing” often referred to as a “thing,” or “things” but, it also means “God’s favor and protection.” He is the giver and sustainer of life. What this means to me, is that I have God’s favor and protection, as a child of His. Say it with me, **“I have God’s favor and protection.”** We are loved so much by God that He was willing to send His one and only Son, Jesus, to die on a shameful death on the cross, for no other reason but for our sins – my sins and yours. This is something that we should cherish in our walk with the Lord, knowing that while we were still living in sin, Jesus died for us.

Of course the other definition of a “blessing” is indeed “thing(s) conducive to happiness or welfare.” This is why we sing, *“Showers of Blessings”* or *“Count Your Blessings.”* We are so fortunate to have been born in America where freedom rings. In this nation of plenty, we all have access to food, water, shelter, medicines, and many other things that make our lives enjoyable, or makes us happy. These are all blessings. We know that all good things come from above – from the Lord. Can you say, you have been blessed in this life? I can.

During the month of March, take some time to thank the Lord for His blessings. **You have God’s favor. You have His love. You have things, that make you happy. We are a blessed people.** To be honest, we should live more like a blessed people. What do I mean? Let’s put forth an effort to be happy, be thankful, and be grateful for what we have. Knowing we are a richly blessed people, with God’s favor, should bring contentment to our lives, which we all need. Let’s continue to be the church that God has called us to be. Let’s show love, mercy and grace to others. The world needs us to rise up and love one another. May we be **THE CHURCH** that God has called all of us to be.

In His Service,

*Pastor Toby*

Captivate has been having a great time with Bible studies! We finished the study of Jesus Time in Rome and Greece. Now the youth is studying in Genesis - the stories of Abraham.

During the month of March, the church is collecting for the America for Christ Offering. Boxes were given out to all the Sunday School classes and will be returned the last Sunday in March. The youth have volunteered to roll all the coins so they can be counted.

Jaquita (Jo) Hendricks brought in an outside manger scene that the kids are going to paint.

It may be early, but we have started work on the Easter Sunrise play already. John (Nikki) Nicholson is helping me write the script that we will be using for the play. It's not too late for any youth to join and be in the play. The more the merrier!

We have started having a Junior Usher for morning worship service. This month's Junior Usher is Zack Graham. Thanks to Jon Moore for his help with our youth!

Our attendance is staying strong with as many as 21 youth attending! The kids are great and I really enjoy leading them.

Thanks to everyone who is such a big support of the FBC youth department. We couldn't do it without you!

Blessings,  
Ann



### Monthly Meetings & Activities

- Mar 1 America for Christ Offering begins
- Mar 2 Bible Conference at PVCC
- Mar 4 Trustee Meeting @ 6:00  
Deacon Meeting @ 7:00
- Mar 7 Game Day @ 1:00
- Mar 8 Movie Night @ 7:00
- Mar 9 Children's Spring Rally
- Mar 10 Seniors Adults Trip to Play in Pburg  
Daylight Savings Time begins
- Mar 11 BOCE
- Mar 12 Temple Challenge @6:00  
Men's Fellowship @ 6:30
- Mar 14 Game Day @ 1:00; Temple Challenge
- Mar 18 VBS Planning
- Mar 19 Temple Challenge @ 6
- Mar 20 Purim begins  
Anchor Articles & Ideas Due
- Mar 21 Game Day @ 1:00; Temple Challenge  
CIRCLE @ 7:00
- Mar 24 Social Committee Planning Holy Week
- Mar 26 Temple Challenge @ 6
- Mar 28 Game Day @ 1-3; Temple Challenge

### Nursery Workers

- Mar 3 Jane Moore
- Mar 10 Leigh Ann Kerns
- Mar 17 Connie Staats
- Mar 24 Sami Wagoner
- Mar 31 Lauren McGoskey

### Children's Church

- Mar 3 Eugene Morgan
- Mar 10 Jen Wagoner
- Mar 17 Richard Massey
- Mar 24 Deb Lyons
- Mar 31 Leanne Thompson

### CommUnity Kitchen

- Mar 2 Broken Chains
- Mar 9 Wagoner Family
- Mar 16 Lions Club
- Mar 23 Andrea Crow
- Mar 30 Freewill Baptist & Nazarene Churches

### Bell Ringers

- Mar 3 Isaac Adkins
- Mar 10 Connor Ritchie
- Mar 17 Ryley Thompson
- Mar 24 Hannah Wagoner
- Mar 31 Mason Kerns

### Deaconess for Communion

Deb Lyons

### Junior Usher

Zack Graham

### Focus on Sunday School:



March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb...or the other way around.

We hear that old wives' tale a lot this time of year. The future is uncertain about the weather and many other daily items in our lives.

Hmmmm. What does the Bible say about lions and lambs?

God closed the mouths of the lions to protect Daniel and allow him to witness to the king.

Jesus is the Great Shepherd and we are His lambs.

Psalm 34:10 The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

John the Baptist said, Behold the Lamb of God, in reference to Jesus

Whether March is coming in like a lion or lamb, it doesn't really matter.

Learning about Jesus and all the Bible stories so dear to us is important-  
That's what matters!

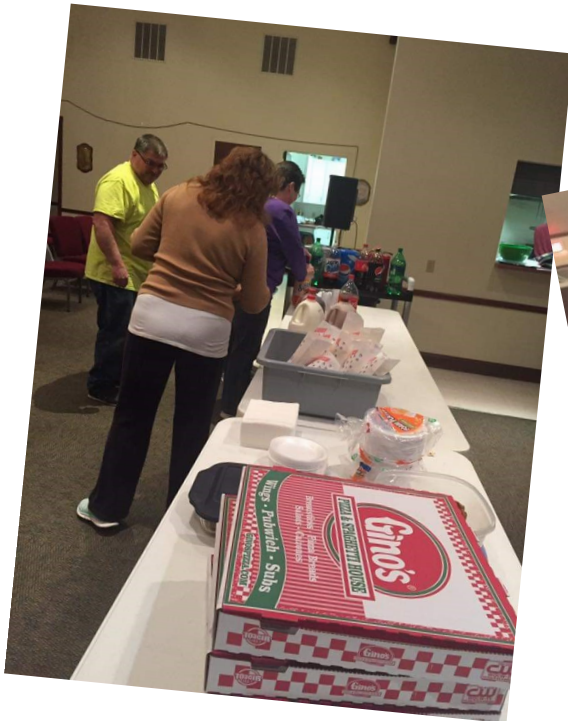
*Attend Sunday School this week!*



## 2019 Annual Men's Prayer Breakfast



**Movie Night at FBC**  
Our next Movie Night is March 8 at 7:00.  
Come out and enjoy an evening with others.



## News Around FBC



We mourn the loss of our brother in Christ, **Jack Bailes**.  
But we celebrate his life in heaven!



Congratulations to **Taylor Woods**  
the new Head Soccer Coach  
for the Riverside High School  
boys soccer team!



**Destiny Thomas** was recognized as  
an *Honorary Secretary of State*  
for exemplary public service to the  
State of West Virginia.  
**Congrats Destiny!**

## ABWM Love to Go

The Women were able to raise \$669.81 for Love Gift and CeCe's Friends at their Love To Go in February. Thanks everyone who participated in any way with this event!



## Trustees at Work

Our trustees are busy behind the scenes working on things around the church. Everything from hiding wires and lines in the office to brightening up the Fellowship Hall with lighting both inside and out, to arranging repairs for furnaces, air conditioners and more. It takes a lot of work to keep an active church like ours going.

*Many thanks to our Trustees for your dedication to the Lord!*



Gary Balser and Richard Massey worked on the ceiling tiles in the office.



John Wagoner helps out with replacing light bulbs in the chandelier.

# INTEGRITY

God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness. Acts17:30-31

There's a verse I heard once that has forever stuck in my mind; "I will learn from my mistakes, repent of my sins, and walk with integrity as a man answerable to God. Question is; how we respond when it happens is the real test, for the response can have an effect on our relationship with God and others.

I've learned a wise man learns quickly from his errors and adjust his path to get back on track. I can't remember how many times I vowed I would not let my childhood dictate my outcome in life. There were paths I could have easily taken. I've always tried to fail forward, becoming wiser after each mistake and to take the steps not to stumble into the same ditch twice. I also have seen in my life, foolish men who fall backwards, refusing to learn, always tracking their own footprints. What a waste of experiences and always seems to trap them again and again. "Like a dog that returns to its vomit is a fool who repeats his folly" (Proverbs 26:11) Darn...did I just quote that.

So if we are going to live with integrity, we must tune our ears to both the lessons of our own life and the wisdom of others. I've learned to humble myself and admit I don't have it all together and ask God to give me wisdom each day to make the best decisions possible. When we do, He promises He will pour it on us "generously" and not make us foolish for asking (James 1:5

I've learned over my short time on earth; something I truly believe God has put us here to learn what it takes to be with Him. Whether it's fighting off an unhealthy habit, seeking marriage counseling, or requesting direction concerning our finances, we should never be afraid to ask for help from others. Everyone needs it. And victory comes to those with many advisors (Proverbs 24:6). Life is a prep course for HEAVEN.

My question; when you look at your life, what do you see? For me, it was a turmoil that I absolutely refused to let it take control of me. My only connection to God at the time and what wonderful things He had in-store for me was Sunday School only. I was always allowed that privilege. So that right there proved; God moves in mysteries ways. So from a young age I learned to work on a history of learned not a history of fail. I've learned a mind-set that each time I failed, that once is more than enough and quickly adjusted my course not to relive the wreckage. I've learned INTEGRITY....

Submitted by: Burt Lyons



## Up and Coming at FBC



### Painting Classes

Carolyn Brown has started another painter class on Thursdays from 6 to 8.

All those who have participated before or those who are new to the art are welcome to come and learn while enjoying the fellowship of others.

The cost of the class is \$20 to pay for the supplies you need.

You will need to bring a jar with a lid, a smock or old shirt, a container for your brushes, and excitement.

**Everyone is welcome to join in!**

### Ash Wednesday

It seems hard to believe that Easter is just around the corner but Ash Wednesday - a Christian holy day of prayer, fasting and repentance is the first Wednesday of March (March 6).

Ash Wednesday marks the six weeks of penitence prior to Easter and is the beginning of Lent.

Our church will be hosting the Holy Week Services the week of April 15 through April 19 this year. The Social Committee will be meeting the week of March 24 to prepare our involvement and begin planning our part of the meal (Wednesday of Holy Week).

Soon the flowers will be blooming and the trees will bud. *Let this be a reminder of our Savior's resurrection!* I love Easter!!

### VBS Planning

It's never too early to get organized for our annual Vacation Bible School!

This year's organizational meeting will be on **Monday March 18 at 7:00.**

Leanne Thompson is the director this year, working with our BOCE Children's Representative, Jessica Morgan.

Everyone who is willing to help out, please plan to attend this meeting and bring your ideas and love with you.



### Don't Forget to Set Your Clocks! March 10 @ 2:00 a.m.



**Benjamin Franklin** first had the idea of Daylight Savings time as a way to save Americans money on their use of candles, wicks and oil for their lamps.

During the World Wars, DST was used to save money for the war effort. At the end of 1945, so came the end of Daylight Savings Time.

However, in the 1970s, then President Richard Nixon put through the DST as a way to conserve energy during an energy crisis.

Not every state uses DST, but we here in West Virginia do so set your clock and don't forget Sunday School!

# Attention: Young Adults Interested in Summer Paid Internships

By Donna Snyder

*Are you interested in spending your summer in paid ministry? Before you begin planning for your 2019 summer break, check out the possibilities within the ministries of the West Virginia Baptist Convention and how you can grow through the opportunities available!*

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WVBC-internship2019>

Use the direct link (above) to let us know which area of ministry you are interested in serving and how we can contact you for the summer of 2019.

## Internship Details:

- *Internships are done in churches and associations within the West Virginia Baptist Convention.*
- *Targeted candidate age range: 18-30*
- *Interns are paid similarly to what young adults are paid when working at the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen for a summer.*
- *Housing for non-local candidates is provided by hosting churches.*
- *Interns will be provided with a mentor by the church (mentors receive training and assistance from the convention staff).*

*West Virginia Baptist Convention*

# *Bible Conference*

*featuring*

*Dr. Trent Eastman*

*“A Shadow of the New Creation” The Book of Exodus*

*-Israel’s Deliverance*

*- The Establishment of the Covenant*

*- The Tabernacle*

**March 2, 2019**

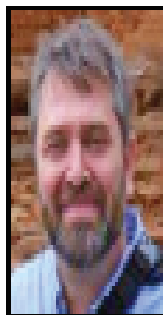
*Parchment Valley Conference Center in Hill Hall*

*Conference Fee: \$15.00 per person*

*Registration Deadline (with money enclosed): February 25, 2019*

*Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., instruction will start at 9:00 a.m. and the event will end at 3:00 p.m.*

*Fee includes lunch and snacks.*



***Guest Instructor: Dr. Trent Eastman, Pastor, New Baptist Church, Huntington and Adjunct Professor, Palmer Theological Seminary***

*Trent Eastman has been lead pastor of New Baptist Church (Guyandotte) since its inception in 2008. Prior to the creation of New Baptist Church, Trent pastored Beverly Hills Baptist Church, one of the churches merged to form New Baptist Church. Before coming to Huntington, he served with Food for the Hungry International in Kenya and Bangladesh (January 1991 to December 1999).*

*Trent received his Doctor of Ministry from Asbury Theological Seminary of Wilmore, Kentucky in the spring of 2016. He completed his Master of Divinity at Palmer Theological Seminary of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 2002. Currently, Trent chairs the Guyandotte Baptist Association Ordination Council, is a member of the West Virginia Baptist Campus Ministry Board and serves as a mentor assisting Doctor of Ministry Students. Trent is also a member of the International Society of Theta Phi, an honor society for scholars in the field of religion and outstanding religious leaders. Periodically, Trent serves as an adjunct professor for Palmer Theological Seminary's extension program in West Virginia.*



## DASH FOR THE 'STACHE



**What:** 5k Run/Walk Race  
Fundraiser

**When:** April 13, 2019 at 2:30 PM  
(Registration begins at 1:30)

**Where:** McDonough Park in Vienna, WV  
**Race Registration Cost:** \$25

T-shirts are available for \$10 if registration is received by April 1, 2019.

**Come join us for the 2019 Dash for the 'Stache 5k fundraiser race!** All proceeds from this race will go toward the Sunny Day Leadership and Activities Center at the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen. This facility includes a fully equipped gymnasium and classrooms where campers and camp rentals can play and learn throughout the year, regardless of weather!

The race course will be mostly trail and parking for the race will be located across Rosemar Road from McDonough Park at the Vienna Rec. Ballfields (Rosemar Rd., Vienna 26105). Awards will be given to the first male and female to cross the finish line and for costumes and ones wearing the most Camp Cowen gear.

The race day afternoon will also include a chance to **shave or save the famous Rob Ely mustache.**

All race registrants will have their name included in the shave or save drawing. Additionally, for each \$100 donation given and postmarked by April 6th or given at the race, that donor will have their name added into the drawing.

**Pick up a Registration Form on table in the Women's Corner !**



## HOW LONG CAN YOU STAY?

"How long can you stay?" was the tearful plea  
From a lonely love-starved child.

"Can you run with me and play all day,  
And talk with me a while?"

"How long can you stay?" said my aging friend.

"Could you stay here thru the night?"  
As I looked into her year-dimmed eyes,  
I whispered, "I just might."

"How long can you stay?" the mother asked  
Of the daughter there by her bed.  
With love in her voice and tears in her eyes,  
"As long as you need me." she said.

"How long can You stay?" I asked my Lord.  
T'was a question He'd heard often before.  
"I came here for you before you were born,  
And I'll stay thru Eternity, then MORE."

October 7, 1993 8:00am  
Carolyn H. Brown



## YOU'RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE A CULTURE

Last fall, we were blessed to start Bible studies with Pastor Toby. We've had excitement and laughter as we've learned about the Bible and God's people.

Our first study was on the book of Esther. We enjoyed hearing about the choice of the new queen, her name change from the Jewish Hadassah to the Persian Esther as she went through the timely process of becoming the new queen.

Her cousin Mordecai wanted the knowledge of her heritage to be protected from enemies. As we learned, this secret was very important; her obedience to the Lord was also of great importance to saving her people.

Haman, the Agagite, believed himself to be a wonderful, powerful person. He weaseled his way into the graces of the great Xerxes but **not** into the grace of the Lord. His evil intent grew daily as he planned to commit genocide of the Jewish race.

*Enter the chosen Queen Esther!* With the counsel of her cousin Mordecai, with prayers from her people, with wisdom from the Lord, she was able to expose the tyrant Haman for who he really was and save her race!

To this day, the Jewish people remember these days with the festival Purim each year. It is filled with cheers for Queen Esther and jeers for the evil Haman; with the reading of the book of Esther; and celebration with food.

On Wednesday, March 20, instead of Bible Study, we will review the culture of the Jewish people by celebrating Purim. Everyone is encouraged to come and hear the scriptures read and enjoy the fellowship of others who love the Lord. We will be offering some cultural food as well as good old fashion Baptist treats.

# AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2019



CULTIVATING  
LEADERS  
EQUIPPING  
DISCIPLES

## HEALING COMMUNITIES

Galatians 6:9-10

Your gifts to the America for Christ Offering impact thousands—through ministries with marginalized children, mission trips that transform lives torn asunder by hurricanes, resources that cultivate Christian leaders, chaplains who bring comfort to hospitals and nursing homes, and much more.

Let us not become weary in doing good!

Who: American Baptist Home Mission Societies

What: America for Christ Offering 2019  
“Healing Communities”

When: March 30 through March 31, 2019

Where: First Baptist Church  
Ravenswood, WV

Why: To support American Baptist Mission and Ministry across the United States and Puerto Rico

Examples of Ministries supported:

- Weirton Christian Center (community outreach ministries)
- Addressing childhood poverty
- Evangelism and church transformation
- Ministry profiles and placement services
- Prisoner re-entry ministries
- Judson Press
- And much more!

Our Goal: \$950.00

*Please give as you feel led. Offering envelopes are available in the church pews.*

**Thank you!!**



## WOMEN AND GIRLS' CAMP 2019

**Date:** April 5-7, 2019

**Directors:** Kasey Stevens and Maci Villers

**Email:** [womenscampwv@gmail.com](mailto:womenscampwv@gmail.com)



**CAMP COWEN: Women 18 years of age or older**

**Camp Cost: Full Weekend Registration: \$45**

**Saturday only Registration: \$30 for lunch and dinner OR \$20 no meals**

**THEME: WELCOME**

**(Learning how to be hospitable in loving others into the family of God)**

**Registration forms available on table in Women's Corner (outside of office)**





**TEMPLE CHALLENGE**

**CLASSES BEGIN**


**TUESDAY, MARCH 12**

**6:00 – 7:00 PM**

**FELLOWSHIP HALL – FBC**

**(Cost: \$5.00 / session)**

**Bible Book of the Month**  
**March 2019**  
**Galatians**



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**


**March Meetings**  
**3/4**  
 Trustees—6:00  
 Deacons—7:00

**3/11**  
 BOCE—7:00

**3/18**  
 VBS Planning meeting

**3/24**  
 Social/Fellowship Planning  
 for Holy Week

**March Birthdays**



**Kathy Frazier 3/2**  
**Amy Williams 3/3**  
**Gusta Arrington 3/4**  
**Helen Johnson 3/4**  
**Amy Perdue 3/7**  
**Zach Graham 3/21**  
**Tina Wolfe 3/24**  
**Ross Mellinger 3/27**  
**Rhonda Ritchie 3/29**  
**Sharon Adkins 3/30**

**Is your birthday name missing?**  
**Tell Susan**

**Adult Game Day!!**  
**Every Thursday**  
**1:00 to 3:00**




**Men's Fellowship**  
**March 12**  
**@ 6:30**



**Movie Night!**  
**Yea!!**

**March 8**  
**at 7:00.**





**Children's Spring Rally**  
**March 9**

**March 10**  
**The Game's Afoot!**




**Senior Adults to Parkersburg**

**March 20**




**Come celebrate**  
**A different culture**

**Bible Conference @ PVCC**  
**March 2 @ 8:30**



**Women's CIRCLE**  
**March 21 @ 7:00**  
**@ the Fellowship Hall**  
**Host: Sandy Confer**



**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.



# March



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> John & Rose Stephenson	<b>2</b> Tom & Bev Stephenson
<b>3</b> Stephen & Leanne Thompson, Ryley	<b>4</b> Randy & Carolyn Torris	<b>5</b> Jared Torris	<b>6</b> Kindsey Torris	<b>7</b> Dale & Anna Vanderlaan	<b>8</b> Dorothy Varney	<b>9</b> Quinter Vought
<b>10</b> Toby & Jennifer Wagoner, John, Aaron & Hannah	<b>11</b> Sami Wagoner	<b>12</b> Janyce Watkins	<b>13</b> Megan Watkins	<b>14</b> Susan West	<b>15</b> Dan & Amy Williams, Cody, Kenley Hickman	<b>16</b> Nick Williams
<b>17</b> Dave & Dena Williams	<b>18</b> Jordan Williams	<b>19</b> Josh Williams, Sarah Lycans	<b>20</b> Mike & Cara Williams, Deshone, Marcus	<b>21</b> Kerry Wines	<b>22</b> Jennie Wise	<b>23</b> Tina Wolfe
<b>24</b> Beth Wood	<b>25</b> Kevin & Abbi Woods	<b>26</b> Taylor Woods	<b>27</b> Geraldine Wright	<b>28</b> Brandon & Ashlee Wyant, Connor, Beckett		

*“ For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. ”*

*Song of Solomon 2:11-12*

