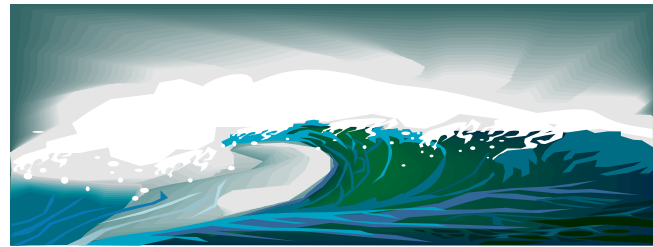




# The *August 2020* Anchor

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



Tis the season for weddings! I am reminded of the scripture in **Song of Solomon 8:6-7:**  
*"Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death, jealousy is fierce as the grave. Its flashes are flashes of fire, the very flame of the LORD. Many waters cannot quench love; neither can floods drown it. If a man offered for love all the wealth of his house, he would be utterly despised."*

Since June, three of our young women in our church have married or will marry their soulmates by the time this article is printed. Holly Gerstell married Jesse Nowery in June. Samantha Wagoner married Randy Lawson II in July. And the first weekend in August, Cari Mize is marrying Grant Chapman. These young women have been active in our church over the last several years and a constant at Baptist Campus Ministries at Marshall University. Weddings are wonderful occasions. However, if I could be honest, the pressure of planning the perfect wedding is harsh on everyone. I know for our family, trying to navigate COVID-19 and the restrictions placed upon weddings and their venues have been daunting and to be truthful almost overwhelming. I'm sure Mark Gerstell and Ben Mize can both relate to me regarding the pressures of wanting their daughter's wedding to not just be special, but perfect. COVID-19 made that tough. But we've made it through. As a church, we should celebrate these three new Christian families. May the Lord bless each of them. As I attended Sami's wedding, I think of my own anniversary this month. Jennifer and I celebrate our anniversary on August 6. Believe it or not, our wedding was super-simple, in the backyard, in dress shorts, with just a few friends and family. We probably did not spend over \$500 on the entire ordeal. We opted to spend our money on a honeymoon. To be honest, I think I would have died to have had any of the weddings these young ladies have had. In sincerity, I wish Holly, Samantha and Cari the best life can offer, and would only suggest they keep God first and foremost in their life, by establishing their families in the love of Christ, because it is His mercy that allows all of us to endure life, together.

In other news, during this month, the church will be holding a blood drive with the American Red Cross on August 10. If you would like to make an appointment to donate blood, you may do so by calling **1-800-733-2767** to schedule an appointment. If you want to be on standby if your timeslot is unavailable, please let Susan at the office know and she can call you if a vacancy occurs.

I would like to thank those volunteers who work the CommUnity Kitchen each week. Our CommUnity Kitchen is serving takeout meals on Saturdays. Until some of the spacing restrictions for indoor dining are removed, we will continue to utilize take out service. If you know someone who could use a meal, tell them about this service. It's free to anyone who needs a meal.

*Lastly, I would like to thank the family of Anne Adkins for their \$10,000 legacy gift to the church.* Sister Anne wanted the contribution to go to the church following her passing as a love gift. Her family honored that desire by presenting the church a legacy gift in that amount in her name. This generosity should remind all of us, that we too, should think about considering the church in our estate planning. We all have an opportunity to leave a legacy long after we leave. Some gifts may be far less than \$10,000, while other gifts could be far greater. Legacy gifts through estate planning allows the church to be solidified to meet needs of future congregants long after we have passed. There is no doubt these kinds of gifts make a huge difference. Anne's gift to the church was unrestricted meaning it can be used as church sees fit. As one family member told me, "Mom knew the church would know what to do with this gift, and we're fine with that." Anne's love gift demonstrated her love for you and this church. We will all miss her. Is it not amazing to know that in Anne's last days -- the church was on her mind?

In His service,

*Pastor Toby*



**OH MY GOSH! WHAT A YARD SALE! We had the best Youth Yard Sale ever!** So many of you brought in clothes and goodies for us to sell. The youth worked hard setting up and tearing down. Many thanks to our adult helpers too: Helen Johnson, Wayne Fridley, Gary and Pam Balser, Jim Speer, Nancy McCoy and Susan West. We made \$3500! Please take time to look at the pictures.

We have met each Wednesday and Sunday nights either at Tudor's or Bob and Helen Johnson's home for a pool side lesson. We are averaging about 20 youth in attendance each time. This combined Junior and Senior High youth.

Most of our 11 graduates were able attend Graduate Sunday on July 5. Bibles and gifts were given to each graduate. *Destinijane Hicks was the recipient of the first FBC \$500 scholarship.* She will be attending a culinary arts school. I've grown close to these kids over the years and will miss them. I'm hoping some will be willing to return as leaders in the Senior High group if they are available.

Later that day, we caravanned to Parkersburg in our formal attire to take pictures in the park. Thanks Abbi Woods for the great pictures! After surviving the heat in the park, we all went for a dinner at Western Sizzlin. Everyone had a great time!!

Thank you for allowing me to work with your teenagers!

Blessings,

*Ann*



One man's trash...



is another man's treasure!



Setting Up



Tearing Down





**Still cleaning!**



## Formal Dinner Day

Ann took the Senior High to Fort Boreman Park in Parkersburg for some really cool pics! (Thanks **Abbi Woods**!) This was a way for those who weren't able to dress for prom to show off a little.



Aaron Wagoner



Dylan Pautz

Meredith McHugh

After posing for pics, the whole group enjoyed a great meal at Western Sizzlin'.

Thanks **Helen Johnson** and **Nancy McCoy** for driving!



Don't we look good!!!



Destinijane Hicks

Crystal Archer



Helen & Ann Johnson



Hollie Hord

Nikki Nicholson



Victoria Legg

Samantha Legg

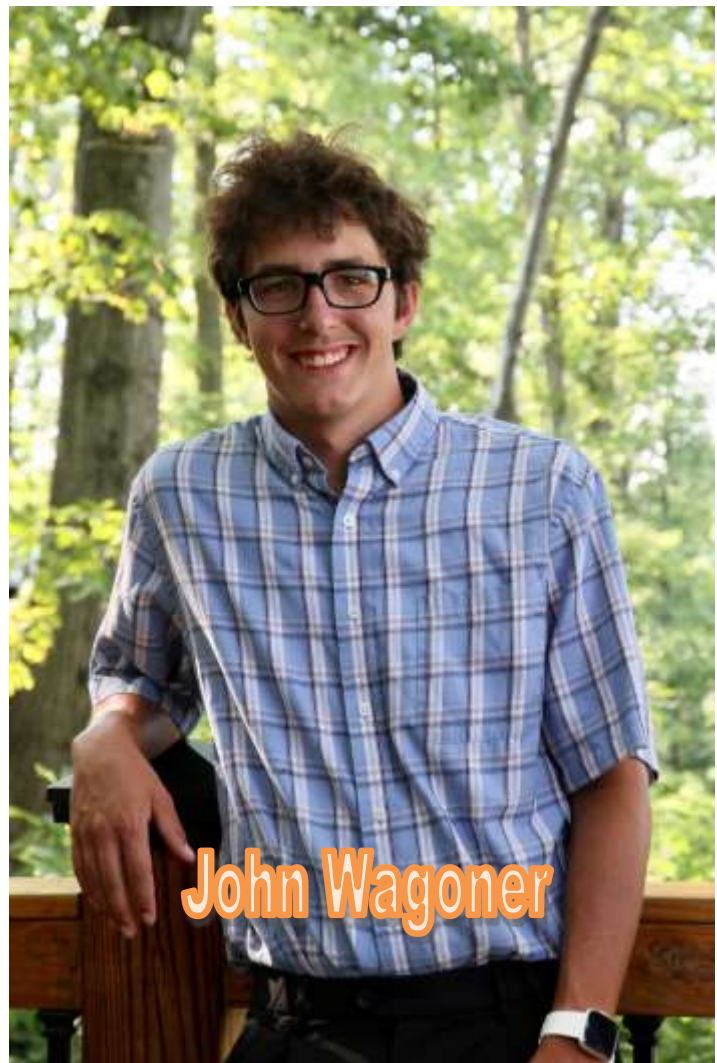


Zack Graham

Kaeleigh Grandon



Chessa Sigmon Dakota Maynard



John Wagoner



Grace Shirley Ethan Wright



Kelly Taylor Phillip Lyons

## ANCHOR ARTICLE- AUGUST 2020-

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

The FBC Finance Committee met on July 15 to review the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter reports and prepare for the upcoming 2021 budget meeting in August. In addition, the update on the Building Fund was announced to be \$22,685 (toward the goal of \$40,000). Also, the church received a generous donation from the Anne Adkins family in the amount of \$10,000. It was voted to put the money in a CD until it is determined how it will be used. All members were in attendance (Connie Staats, Toby Wagoner, Kevin Woods, Gary Balser, Bob Johnson, Andrea Crow, Jane Moore and Jo Hendricks).

The committee is requesting that all groups that have appropriated budget monies (or are requesting monies) to **please submit a BUDGET PLAN for 2021 and turn it in to the church office by August 7.** Please include the following:

**GROUP NAME:**

**PERSON(S) IN CHARGE OF ACCOUNT:**

**AMOUNT REQUESTED FOR 2021 BUDGET:**

**PROPOSED EXPENDITURES FOR 2021 (Type and Estimate):**

This will be very helpful as recommendations will be made for next year. Please be in prayer for this group as they complete this important task in the Lord's work. The next Finance Committee meeting will be on August 18.



Giving can be done in many ways.

- ♦ Mail to FBC, 215 Ann Street, Ravenswood, WV 26164
- ♦ Drop it off at the church. (we can run out to the curb and pick it up from you if you prefer not to come in)
- ♦ Use Tithe.ly on line for a quick, easy way to give. Go to our web-site and click on Online Giving to FBC.



## First Baptist Church

215 Ann Street, Ravenswood, WV 26164

Monday, August 10, 2020  
1 pm – 6 pm

Due to COVID-19 precautions, we are encouraging all donors to make an appointment for this drive.

For an appointment, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and use Sponsor Code: Ravenswood

Or call 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767)

**Schedule a blood donation appointment today:**

Download the Blood Donor App | [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

\*Offers and terms are non-transferable and are not redeemable for cash. Items are available while supplies last. ©2020 The American National Red Cross | 202001 W

Congratulations  
to  
Mr. and Mrs. Randy Lawson



## REVIVAL!

(Written by Kathy Hudson for ABWM State Newsletter, SEASONS)

**DEFINITION OF REVIVAL** according to Richard Owen Roberts:  
an extraordinary movement of the Holy Spirit producing extraordinary results

I was stunned when I read the information below on religious revival. Why? Is my vision of God too small or my faith too little in the Creator of the Universe? God, please forgive me! Before reading these stories, prepare your heart first by reading and meditating on Isaiah 6:1-8. (Repentance and forgiveness must always precede our extraordinary journey with God.)

**FIRST STORY:** "In the mid 1800s, people began to be converted at the rate of 10,000 a week in New York City. The movement spread throughout New England. Church bells would bring people to prayer at eight in the morning, twelve noon, and six in the evening. Baptists had so many people to baptize, they couldn't get them into their churches. They went down to the river, cut a big square in the ice, and baptized them in cold water. In one year (1857), more than one million people were converted. The revival crossed the Atlantic, broke out in Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales, England, South Africa, South India—anywhere there was an evangelical cause, there was revival—and its effect was felt for 40 years." (J. Edwin Orr – Baptist minister and historian)



**SECOND STORY:** It all began with a woman (Mrs. Colville, a Baptist missionary from England) unafraid to speak spiritual truth over tea. James McQuilkin, in attendance at the tea party, was uncomfortable as she spoke openly about the condition of the soul. After another guest described her Christian experience, Mrs. Colville stated, "My dear, I don't believe you have ever known the Lord Jesus." James McQuilkin quickly left the tea party knowing that what she spoke was true of him. After experiencing no peace for two weeks, James McQuilkin found peace by trusting the Lord Jesus. The following year McQuilkin felt burdened to pray for his neighbors. He asked three friends to join him. Once a week, the four men gathered at the village schoolhouse to pray for each person in their community by name (Ahogill, Ulster Province,

Ireland – September, 1857). At the same time, God was laying the same burden on many hearts and similar prayer groups started throughout northern Ireland. Pastors began preaching about revival. But widespread revival did not come. God's people still prayed for 19 more months. On the night of March 14, 1859, the McQuilkin group invited Christians to a prayer meeting at the Ahogill Presbyterian Church. The church was so crowded that the meeting was moved out into the street. Hundreds of people knelt in the mud and rain, confessing their sins and praising God. They were the first of 100,000 people God called to Himself in 1859 in what became known as the Ulster Revival. (I love this next part of the story.) There was a great spiritual movement among young people. It was not uncommon to find children and adults listening to the preaching of 12-year-old boys in the streets. The results of the revival in County Antrim (location of Ahogill) left jails empty and no crimes to investigate. A visitor to Ulster reported "thronged church services, abundant prayer meetings, increased family prayers, unmatched Scripture reading, increased giving, converts remaining steadfast." (The One Year Christian History, E. Michael & Sharon Rusten, pp. 148-149.)

**LADIES:** Are you pleased with the spiritual state of America?  
West Virginia? Your neighborhood? Your home?

**DEAR GOD, BRING REVIVAL BACK TO AMERICA IN 2020!**

What is God calling you and me to do for His Glory?  
Isaiah 6:8: "... Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

# INTRODUCTION OF SCHOLARSHIP GIRLS

AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S MINISTRIES (ABWM) of WV have selected 16 girls to receive a \$900 (50% loan / 50% grant) scholarship for this school year 2020-2021. The loan part of the scholarship is interest free and paid back after graduation once they are employed. This enables the girls to help others going to college, a sort of pay it forward arrangement. Donations from active women's groups throughout the state of WV as well as investments from legacy gifts create the rest of the funding for the ABWM Scholarship Girl Program.

These 16 girls selected for the Scholarship Girl Program through ABWM are assigned to our American Baptist churches all over the state. Each church gets at least one or more depending on the size of the church. Women in the churches then promote these girls to the church family to be covered in prayer, send cards, and any other ways to encourage college students away from home.

First Baptist Church of Ravenswood is proud to announce that one of its own was selected as a Scholarship Girl for this school year. This is her second year to be chosen for this honor. Her name is Destiny Thomas. So church family, let's love on Destiny throughout this school year. Her personal information follows:

## ASSIGNED SCHOLARSHIP GIRL #1 FOR FBC RAVENSWOOD:

**NAME:** Destiny Thomas

**COLLEGE MAILING ADDRESS:**  
University of Charleston  
2300 MacCorkle Avenue SE  
Charleston, WV 25304

**HOME ADDRESS:**  
107 Henrietta Street  
Ravenswood, WV 26164

**EMAIL:**  
[destinythomas26164@gmail.com](mailto:destinythomas26164@gmail.com)

**BIRTHDAY:**  
January 24

**FAVORITE COLOR:** pink  
**FAVORITE COOKIE:** chocolate chip  
**COLLECTS:** WWE stuff

**MAJOR:** Nursing





## ASSIGNED SCHOLARSHIP GIRL #2 FOR FBC RAVENSWOOD:

**NAME:** Jacinda Devart

**COLLEGE MAILING ADDRESS:**

Waynesburg University  
51 W. College Street  
Jacinda Devart  
Box 3127  
Waynesburg, PA 15370

**HOME ADDRESS:**

17 Keener Street  
Grafton, WV 26354  
(Her home church is Beulah Baptist)

**EMAIL:**

[jdevart119@gmail.com](mailto:jdevart119@gmail.com)

**BIRTHDAY:**

October 31

**FAVORITE COLOR:** blue

**FAVORITE COOKIE:** peanut butter & choc. chip

**COLLECTS:** world globes

**MAJOR:** Criminal Justice



(Jacinda was born in Ethiopia and was adopted and brought to America when she was 7 years old. Jacinda will be playing soccer for Waynesburg University.)

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### SUGGESTED WAYS TO REMEMBER OUR ASSIGNED SCHOLARSHIP GIRLS

1. Pray for her all the time.
2. Send cards frequently – good to hear from many people of our church family
3. Make a donation to the ABWM Scholarship Girl fund to be applied to her loan.  
Checks can be written with girl's name on the memo line and sent to:

Amy Starkey  
921 Whispering Pines Road  
Ravenswood, WV 26164

(Amy is the ABWM State Treasurer. FBC is connected!!!)

4. Care packages and gift cards are nice but optional.
5. ALWAYS PUT A RETURN ADDRESS ON EVERYTHING.



**WHEN YOU NEED HELP – WHO DO YOU CALL?**



**NOT THE GHOSTBUSTERS THIS TIME !**

**THE AB WOMEN OF WV !**

J. D. & Rhonda Reed – WV Missionaries in Bolivia, Directors of House of Hope, a ministry giving medical and dental services to people without any healthcare, needed help. The House of Hope was running in the “red” without donations stopped by COVID-19. Rhonda prayed to God for 3 days to help them. She gets a phone call from Wheaton College that they will give the House of Hope \$10,000 in exchange for 10,000 masks for their students this fall. Rhonda sent the challenge to the AB women of West Virginia and **THEY DELIVERED !!!**

Three of our women from FBC rose to this need and made masks to help people they will never meet! Why did they do that? **LOVE, LOVE, LOVE !**

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**Masks made by Gusta Arrington, Debby Bashaw, and Patti Calvert !**



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**ABWM of WV  
FIRST EVER VIRTUAL STATE CONFERENCE!  
GOING “LIVE” AT 10:00 AM ON AUGUST 15**





## *When God Opens a Window*

*By: J.D. and Rhonda Reed*

*Global Servants to Bolivia*



Growing up I often heard, and as a pastor I know I have given the counsel, “When God closes a door, he opens a window”. It is a very cliché thing to say, but in these months, we can tell you that this is precisely what has happened.

Like the rest of the world, the year 2020 has been a bust so far. After over 4 months of pandemic and the reality that it will continue at least for the near future, for many it seems like all ministry has come to a halt. Churches are reeling and people are up in arms that they can’t return to worship with their friends and family all together. We live in a different reality. It kind of seems like the reality that we had grown accustomed to ended abruptly, kind of like the door to our future was slammed in our faces.

For many of us, and for many different reasons, it is easy to see this as an apocalyptic event. How will we survive? Will we ever return to “the way things were?” So many questions, but in our looking for answers it seems that just as the old adage goes, “God opened a window”.

Our family left Bolivia on the last day in April due to the pandemic and very soon after we got back, we got a call from a colleague with an interesting question. An old college friend was in touch with her and shared that he worked for Wheaton College and they needed to provide cloth masks for every student to return to classes in the fall. He was wondering if she knew of any one needing work or a ministry that needed funds. This is where we come in.

We had been praying for an opportunity to raise money for the House of Hope and the Project of Hope Foundation for months, as the giving had been down, and with the pandemic our resources had dropped and we were in the “red”. This money would bring us not just back into the positive side, but give us a cushion we could use for the rest of the year. It wasn’t what we were hoping for, but as I said before...it was a window of opportunity.

We consulted with colleagues and friends and determined to put out the clarion call to see what we could come up with. So many of you came out in full force. Whether it was just 10 masks or one church that did over 500, it was like over 100 churches and individuals just jumped through the window to help us out.

From every part of the US, men and women, quilting groups and Sunday school classes stepped up and in just Over 2 months we were able to ask for, receive, sort, package, and send just over 10,000 masks to Wheaton College and receive \$10,000+ to go toward the ministry.

What a great blessing to be able to start out our year of US/Puerto Rico assignment with such a successful project. It is simply because people from all across the United States joined together to help one ministry meet a goal.

Now here is the question: What do you think would happen if we could capitalize on that momentum to try and do work in our communities. Churches and ministries coming together to help feed the homeless, or provide clothes for those who couldn’t buy on their own.

Maybe we could extend the hand of hospitality to those who were struggling with addiction and help them overcome it, or even to work together to care for those that are undergoing trauma due to the Coronavirus (whether physical or emotional). What could happen if we as the citizens of the Kingdom of God would actually put our King (Jesus) first and actually do what we can to bring about His will in the world?

Do you hear that? I think it sounds like another window creaking open.

### **Focus on Sunday School:**



Sunday School teaches us many things. There are exciting stories and people in the Bible. Have you heard about Ehud, the great spy for Israel?

The Israelites had turned away from the Lord at different times and the Lord allowed their enemies to overtake them. This particular time, God's people had served Eglon, the king of Moab for 18 years.

After repenting and crying out to God, the Lord raised up Ehud, the son of Gera from the tribe of Benjamin, as a deliverer. It's interesting that the Bible even mentions him being left handed. Ehud prepared a special sword, very short - only about 18 inches long. He secretly secured the sword on his right thigh under his clothes. Ehud was also given a tribute to take to the fat king Eglon.

Ehud gained entrance to where King Eglon was seated which was in a cool room on the roof. He presented the king with the tribute and let the king know he had a special secret message for him. Eglon sent everyone away so Ehud could tell him this secret.

While they were alone on the roof, Ehud told him, "I have a message from God for you". With that Ehud reached with his left hand, drew the sword from his thigh and thrust it deep into the king! Ehud escaped from the roof to his people Israel. He then led an army of Israelites to a victory over the Moabites!

*If God is for us, who can be against us?*

### **August Birthdays**



**Bobby Jeter—8/1**  
**Mary Beth Stewart—8/3**  
**Jane Moore—8/3**  
**Patti Calvert—8/8**  
**Warner Stephens—8/8**  
**Beau Bennett—8/11**  
**Holly Palmer—8/11**  
**Lincoln Ritchie—8/11**  
**Mason Kerns—8/13**  
**Amy Starkey—8/15**  
**Torren Johnson—8/22**  
**Leigh Ann Kerns—8/26**  
**Kenny Goodwin—8/29**

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

### **Bible Book of the Month August 2020**

#### **Exodus**



### **Right Now Media Link**

For over a year, FBC people have had the opportunity to enjoy Bible Studies, Children's shows, a HUGE library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want on *Right Now Media*. There is content for all ages and stages of life.

Some of you have already signed up for it. If not, I encourage you to register today. Here is the link:

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/fbcravenswood>

## 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 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Jim Speer
2 Bill & Liz Stewart Michael, Riley, Mary Beth	3 Tim & Connie Staats	4 Cole & Diana Staats	5 Ron & Amy Starkey	6 Warner Stephens	7 John & Rose Stephenson	8 Tom & Bev Stephenson
9 Ralph & Jennifer Taylor, Kelly, Logan, McKenzie	10 Destiny Thomas	11 Stephen & Leanne Thompson, Ryley	12 Randy & Carolyn Torris	13 Jared Torris	14 Kindsey Torris	15 Jody Tolbert
16 Dale & Anna Vanderlaan	17 Dorothy Varney	18 Quinter Vought	19 Toby & Jen Wagoner, John, Aaron, Hannah	20 Sami Wagoner	21 Pauline Walker	22 Janyce Watkins
23 Megan Watkins	24 Susan West	25 Danny & Kim Westmoreland	26 Dan & Amy Williams, Cody, Kenley Hickman	<b>27 Nick Williams</b>	28 Dave & Dena Williams	29 Jordan Williams
<b>30 Mike &amp; Cara Williams, Deshone, Marcus</b>	<b>31 Sierra Williams</b>					

**Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."**

**Matthew 9:37-38**

