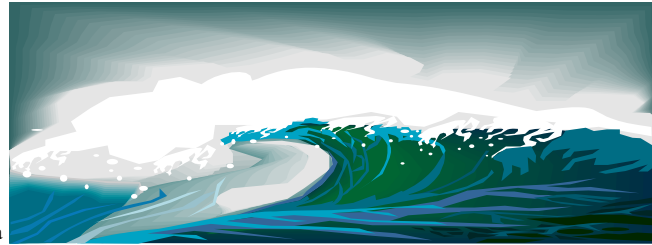




The *February 2023*
Anchor

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



February is here! February has always been special to me for several reasons. I love Valentine's Day. My mom is born on the 4th. Jennifer and I had our first date in February 1994. I remember, when I was in school I used to love the month of February because it was the short month. That meant a few days closer to summer break. As I am getting older and the winter weather makes my bones hurt, I am glad we are a few days closer to warmer weather.

This month, I thought I would share with you some interesting thoughts on the Bible. One of the greatest joys I have in my life is Bible study. I absolutely love it. There's something special about breaking down a story in the Bible to read about the culture and manners that are found in the story as well as what theological message God wants us to know. The older I get, the more I know that there is much more to learn about the Bible. I've made it a passion to try to learn the Bible inside and out. I'll never know it all, but I sure want to try.

One of the things I find most interesting in Bible Study is learning things I did not know. Here are some facts about the Bible that you may not know that I found online at overview-bible.com/bible-facts. One, did you know that the Bible was written in three languages? Those languages were Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. The Bible was written on three continents – Asia, Africa, and Europe. The longest book of the Bible is Jeremiah. The shortest book is 3rd John. It is also believed to have about 185 songs in the Bible as well.

While these fun facts alone do not mean much, they make digging into the Bible that much more fun. You can read the entire 3rd John in a minute or so. If you've never read a full book in the Bible, start there. In fact, it will take you longer to read this article than that book.

For the last few months, we have been studying the book of Judges on Wednesday nights. This has been eye-opening to say the least. We watched as the people of God, drifted away from Him into a deep snarl of sin after Joshua died, and sin grew as people did what was right in their own eyes. If you have never looked at the book of Judges you should give it a read sometime. We leave that study thinking about our world today. We are only a few generations away from our children and grandchildren forgetting the Lord. The more they stay away from church, the more they do not miss it. Eventually, church becomes something they used to do. This opens the door for sin to swell in our lives as our heart becomes hardened.

This is one of the reasons Sunday School is so important. Our Sunday School should be double the size it is. Ours is doing what so many others are doing, and that means hanging on. We are fortunate to have about 40 people each week. The number of kids we have are limited. We have some classes with no children. Sunday School is where we learn the stories from the Bible that initiates our foundation of learning about who Jesus is. Where we can ask questions, sing songs, learn to pray, and how to honor Him. Without our young people learning this, they have no idea what God wants or expects from us.

I would encourage all of us, to take a strong look at Sunday School and consider getting our kids and grandkids there. There are many fun facts, great stories, and wonderful wow moments tucked away in our Bibles. I can still remember how those little felt people. I can still remember the big blue storybook Bibles. I can even remember my Sunday School teacher's name. Those stories might be the difference in our young people clinging to the Word as adults or simply forgetting God (and maybe not on purpose) – like they did in Judges. I love Bible Study. Perhaps, it was Sunday School nearly 50 years ago, that planted seeds that I didn't know existed. Maybe, it was those seeds that make me love the Bible, like I do today.

In His Service,

Pastor Toby





Goodness! We gave had a great month! We ended the year with a New Year's Eve party with food and games. The kids participated in Family Game Night and had a lot of fun. We have eaten at Taco Bell and Wendy's once each this month and cooked the other 8 times.

Our numbers have been increasing. We have had as many as 19 at our meetings with an average of 15 for January. We continue to pick up new youth. This month we have been studying Moses in the book of Numbers.

In February we will be traveling so I am renting a van to take the Youth to WVBC Senior High Convention that will be held at South Parkersburg Baptist Church in Parkersburg. So far 10 of us will be attending on Saturday, February 25. We all look forward to joining other youth across the state for this convention. Marshall BCM Band will be the Worship Band for the group. Afterward, we will go out for a big dinner before coming home.

Some other fun activities we are working on are the Chocolate Competition. We will announce when that will be so everyone can come and help judge. Also, we are planning a St. Patrick's Day spaghetti dinner for everyone on March 19. We hope to have a little entertainment that evening too.

Many thanks to all who have helped and supported the youth. It means a lot to the kids and me.

Blessings,

Ann

Mayberry FBC



Fun at Winter Jam!



Young Adults on the Move!

The Young Adults Group are off to a busy start for the year and are excited to begin their study in Apologetics. We are using the book by Lee Stroebel "The Case for Christ" and the Bible to become more grounded in answering the big questions. It is our desire that the group will grow closer to the Lord and stronger in His word as we fellowship and learn together. We continue to invite others to join with us.

In January, we

- Started a Pins and Patches program to encourage faithfulness and spiritual growth with group members
- Attended the *Winter Jam Christian Concert* in Charleston
- Had a group game night
- Worked CommUnity Kitchen
- 'Kicked off' the '**SOUPER BOWL**' campaign for local food missions project
- Sent cards of encouragement

In February, we plan to

- Continue programs and card ministry
- Complete the '**SOUPER BOWL**' Food Drive Campaign on February 12
- Begin a 'Tract Ministry' for full church participation (available in vestibule)

We appreciate the prayers and support from our church family.



Attention FBC Youth Group!

SENIOR HIGH CONVENTION

February 24-26, 2023

South Parkersburg Baptist Church

**Early Registration will be paid by FBC.
Contact the office by February 6**



Hebrews 10:23-25

Grades 9-12

Speaker: Chris Campbell

Worship: Marshall BCM Band

\$40 per person

Overnight housing available: Please contact jill@wvbc.org by February 10th with your group's details.

register online at wvbc.org/ministries/youth

Contact Ann or the Office to register

Spring Children's Rally

For children currently in grades K-5, 6th grade is optional.

Saturday, March 4, 2023

At Parchment Valley in the Greenlee Activities Center

Adventure with God Awaits in the Great Outdoors

Early registration and T-Shirts will be paid by the church.

Please contact the office by February 9

HAPPY CAMPER



"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."
 Philippians 1:6 (NIV)

COST: \$13.00 (if postmarked by February 13th) **\$25** (if postmarked after February 13th or at the door.)

Schedule

9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:30-9:50 a.m.	Welcome Instructions Singing
10:00-10:40 a.m.	Lesson 1
10:45-11:25 a.m.	Lesson 2
11:30-12:10 p.m.	Lesson 3
12:15-12:45 p.m.	Lunch
12:45-1:10 p.m.	Singing
1:15-1:55 p.m.	Lesson 4
2:00-2:40 p.m.	Lesson 5
2:45-3:00 p.m.	Singing Closing

MISSION PROJECT

FAITHFUL FOSTERING FOSTER CLOSET

Grafton, WV

Small Duffel Bags

Twin Sheets

Underwear & Socks

Shampoo & Conditioner

Deodorant

Please choose items geared toward children and younger youth.

Gift Cards \$25 or \$50 to Walmart

T-shirts:
Pre-sale only. No t-shirts will be for sale at the Rally. Cost \$11.00 each and must be pre-ordered and pre-paid by February 13th.



Contact the Office

Game Night! What Fun!!



Big n Little





Ice Cream too!!



2023 ANNUAL BIBLE CONFERENCE

Saturday, March 4th
Parchment Valley Conference Center

**THE BOOK OF GALATIANS: THE GOSPEL FOR ALL
FEATURING: DR. LEE SPITZER**



REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Email Address: _____
Church: _____

**Note: Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies students are eligible to receive course credit for participating. In order to get credit, mark the program you want credit applied to:*

- Congregational Transformation (3-Year Program)
 General Studies (2-Year Program)

REGISTRATION FEE

- \$25 Bible Conference Attendee Fee
 \$12.50 Bible Conference Attendee Fee (Pastor)
 \$27 Additional Fee for Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies (BWSCS)
 \$37 Additional Fee for BWSCS Couple

LUNCH OPTION (SELECT ONE)

- Boxed Lunch—Turkey Boxed Lunch—Ham

ABOUT DR. LEE SPITZER

Dr. Spitzer is an affiliate professor at Northern Baptist Theological Seminary and serves as the Historian for the Baptist World Alliance. He also previously served as the General Secretary of the American Baptist Churches USA. He was also the keynote speaker for both the WV Baptist Historical Society and the Pastors4Pastors event at the 2022 WVBC Annual Meeting.

SCHEDULE

9:00 AM	Registration (Hill Hall)
9:30 AM	Conference (Hill Hall)
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Conference (Hill Hall)
3:00 PM	Dismissal

QUESTIONS?

With questions about registration or schedule, contact the WVBC office at **304-422-6449**.

REGISTRATION ENDS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

Registrations includes snack and lunch.

Make checks payable and mail to:
West Virginia Baptist Convention
P.O. Box 1019
Parkersburg, WV, 26102

Or register online at: www.wvbc.org

Honoring One of Our Own





Loving on a Servant



Saying 'Thank You'





Hugs from Family & Friends





Proud Family



Old Friends



Thank you John Stephenson



What's Up?



Our next Red Cross Blood Drive will be on Monday, February 6 from noon to 5:00.

Give the gift of life - be a donor.

Some ways to help even if you cannot give blood is to help with registration and hospitality.

Meet new friends and chat with old ones as you help people you may not know with this service.

You can call the office to get registered or go online yourself to register at redcrossblood.org.

Movie Night!



Join us as we watch a great family movie **The Tiger Rising** on February 10 at 7:00. Enjoy a free evening with friends, snacks, pizza and drinks.

rightnow MEDIA



FREE ACCESS TO +20,000 BIBLE STUDY VIDEOS

Every person at our church has free access to biblical video series for adults, youth, and kids—now streaming on your favorite device.



Get Free Access

1. Text FBCRW to 49775 to receive an invite link via text.
2. Create your free account.
3. Download the app for your device and start browsing!



Mayberry Bible Study



We are having a great time on Mondays at 10:00 with our Mayberry Life Application Study. We have 4 more scheduled in February. Please come and enjoy the down home welcome and fellowship. And see what Andy, Opie, Barney and Aunt Bee have to teach us about life.

Congrats Skyler Varney!



We want to congratulate Skyler Varney on her graduation from WVU Parkersburg with a degree in Business Administration AAS last month. She is now employed by Harris & Holmes Law Office.

Way to go Skyler!

CommUnity Kitchen Help



The Young Adults (Grace Shirley above) took time on a Saturday to give back a blessing by helping out with the CommUnity Kitchen.

If you would consider helping with your family, group or friends, please sign up on the office side door.

Engaging with Missions

Sarah McCloy blessed us with information of her upcoming mission to Japan.

Anyone who would like to give toward her ministry, can go to:

www.internationalministries.org
and click GIVE

There will be a commissioning service for Sarah at Hill Hall at PVCC on March 5 from 4:30-6:30. The cost is free but if you are interested in attending, please register so they have an accurate number of attendees. Register at wvbc.org and click on "Sarah McCloy's Commissioning Service".

Let's be a part of her day!





The Love of God

In February we are flooded with images of love - candy hearts, valentine cards, commercials to entice you to remember your loved one with a gift - and more—just to reach someone’s heart.

How great it would be if more people focused on the love of God. Can you imagine the changed lives, the renewed families, the outreach to our fellow man?

I love the hymns that tell so much about God’s love. One of my favorites that we seldom sing:

*The love of God is greater far
than tongue or pen can ever tell;
it goes beyond the highest star,
and reaches to the lowest hell.
The guilty pair bowed down with care
God gave His son to win.
His erring child He reconciled
And pardon from all sin.
Could we with ink the ocean fill,
and were the skies of parchment made;
were ev’ry stalk on earth a quill,
and ev’ry man a scribe by trade;
to write the love of God above
would drain the ocean dry;
nor could the scroll contain the whole,
though stretched from sky to sky.*

Refrain:

*O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure—
the saints’ and angels’ song.
Frederick Lehman*

This February, let’s focus on the Love of God so rich and pure. Let us share that Love of God to everyone we meet.

Then we’ll see how hearts truly change.



CIRCLE 24 Hour Prayer Vigil

Matthew 21:22

“And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”

Mark 9:29

“And he said to them, ‘This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer’.

Mark 11:24

“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”

We have strong prayer warriors in our midst who believe that God hears and will answer our prayers.

On Friday, February 17 starting at 5:00 p.m., a group of ladies will be taking turns sending up a flood of mighty prayers for the needs of our people.

Their goal is to have prayers raised up to our heavenly Father for 24 hours.

If you happen to drive by the church at 3:00 a.m. on Saturday February 18 and see lights on in the sanctuary, send a prayer up of your own.

Psalm 103:1-3

***“Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy Name!
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagles”***

This & That



Roofing the Mulberry house

Workers completed work on the Mulberry Street house in January.

All FBC property now is under a new roof!

Thanks to all who support the building fund.



Hopewell Baptist Church National Men's Prayer Breakfast

February 25, 2023

8:30

This year's prayer breakfast offering will support the American Baptist Men Scholarship Fund. This fund provides assistance to our next generation of leaders to further their education. This offering aligns with our mission of seeing more men raised up and brought into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Focus on Sunday School:



Loving Couples in the Bible

Adam and Eve - God created man in His image and gave man a wife to care for and love.

Jacob and Rachel - Jacob loved Rachel so much! He worked **14 years** for her father in order to be able to have her as his wife.

Joseph and Mary - Being told your future wife was going to have a baby that wasn't yours, would be hard for any man. But with faith in God and love for Mary, Joseph followed the words sent to him by an angel of God. He married Mary and loved her with all his heart - protecting her from the world.

Boaz and Ruth - Working in the fields, poor as can be, Ruth was seen by Boaz. He loved her almost immediately. He made sure his servants watched out for her and gave her a chance to glean as much as possible to feed herself and Naomi. That's how a Moabitess became an ancestor of the Lord Jesus Christ!

David and Bathsheba - He may have started out wrong, but David eventually made things right and married his beloved Bathsheba. Their son was Solomon, the wisest king of Israel.

Jesus and the world - *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

It's amazing what you can learn in Sunday School!

February Calendar

- Feb 2 Deaconess Meeting; School of Christian Studies
 - Feb 4 WVBC Annual Training Event
 - Feb 6 Mayberry Bible Study; Red Cross Blood Drive; Trustee Meeting
 - Feb 7 Men's Fellowship
 - Feb 9 School of Christian Studies
 - Feb 10 Movie Night
 - Feb 12 Baptism
 - Feb 13 Mayberry Bible Study; BOCE
 - Feb 16 CIRCLE; School of Christian Studies
 - Feb 17 24 Hour Prayer Vigil
 - Feb 20 Mayberry Bible Study
 - Feb 21 Finance Committee
 - Feb 22 Anchor Articles Due
 - Feb 23 School of Christian Studies
 - Feb 24-25 Senior High Convention
 - Feb 25 AB Men's Prayer Breakfast
 - Feb 27 Mayberry Bible Study
 - Feb 28 Deacons Meeting
- * Game Day every Thursday 1:00-3:00

February Birthdays



Connie Staats 2/6
Beckham Ritchie 2/10
Jennie Wise 2/11
Talia Martinez 2/12
Anna Davis 2/16
Mike Hall 2/16
Jared Torris 2/16
Carolyn Torris 2/20
Richelle Murray 2/21
Mike Graham 2/23
Dave Williams 2/27

Is your birthday missing? Tell Susan

Bible Book of the Month February 2023 Esther



CommUnity Kitchen

Feb 4 Burt Lyons
Feb 11 Need Volunteers
Feb 18 Episcopal Church
Feb 25 Burt Lyons

*Sign up for
CommUnity Kitchen 2023!*

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.



February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Nathan & Lilly Hall	2 Libby Hall	3 Mike Hall	4 Bill & Tammy Harpold, Shane
5 Jo Mahan- Hendricks	6 Kenley Hickman	7 Crystal Hicks, Tara	8 Destinijane Hicks	9 June Hicks	10 Lisa Hoke	11 Kathy Hudson
12 Bobby & Charolette Jeter, Christian	13 Margaret Jeter	14 Bob & Helen Johnson	15 Ann Johnson	16 Torren & Shealynn Johnson, Emrie, Kacie	17 Margaret Johns	18 Jason & Leigh Ann Kerns, Mason, Logan
19 Matt & Kristi King, Landon, Nate	20 Steve & Rachelle Laing, Colt	21 Randy & Sami Lawson, Jocelyn	22 Debbie Legg	23 Pam & Wayne Legg, Victoria, Samantha, Josh	24 Tom & Susan Lookabaugh	25 Burt & Deb Lyons
26 Phillip Lyons	27 Greg & Rhonda Lyons, Cameron, Kyler	28 Peg Lyons				

