

# WV Convention of Southern Baptists

THEY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

**IN** West  
Virginia  
as **IT** IS IN  
Heaven

WVCSB  
**50**  
YEARS

1970 2020

## BOOK OF REPORTS

November 5, 2020



*Messengers and  
guests at the  
1970 WVCSB  
Annual Meeting*

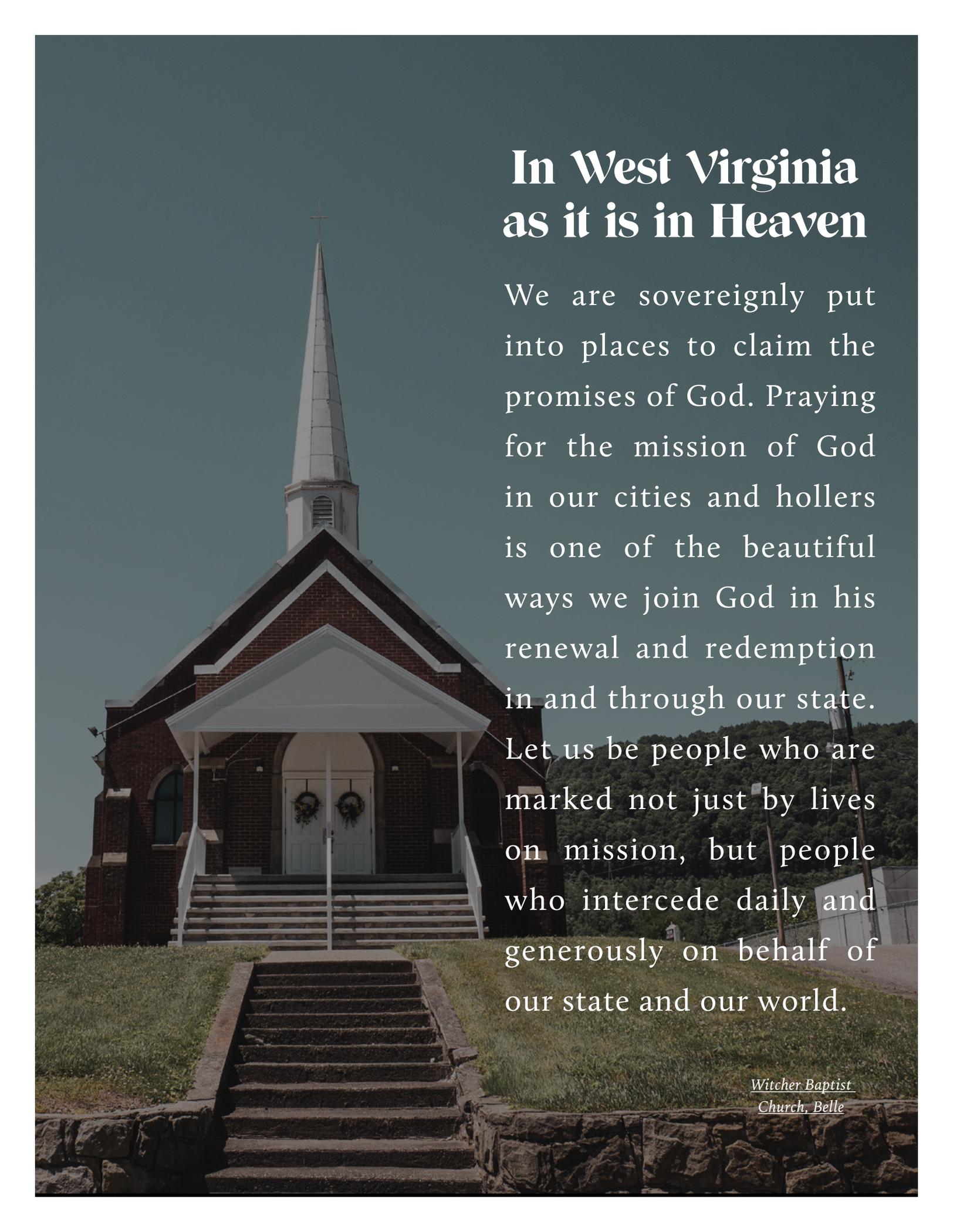
# CONTENTS

*2020*

05	IN WEST VIRGINIA AS IT IS IN HEAVEN
07	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-TREASURER
09	EVANGELISM + DISCIPLESHIP
11	COMMUNICATION + PARTNERSHIPS
11	EXECUTIVE BOARD NOMINATING COMMITTEE
12	COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES
13	2021 BUDGET
17	WVCSB CONSTITUTION
24	2021 CALENDAR

*West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists are committed to:*

**Strengthening and sending  
churches to make Jesus known  
in and through West Virginia**



# In West Virginia as it is in Heaven

We are sovereignly put into places to claim the promises of God. Praying for the mission of God in our cities and hollers is one of the beautiful ways we join God in his renewal and redemption in and through our state. Let us be people who are marked not just by lives on mission, but people who intercede daily and generously on behalf of our state and our world.

*Witcher Baptist  
Church, Belle*



*Eric prays for the next 50 years of WV Southern Baptists with former WVCSB State Execs Terry Harper, Bill Henard, and Thomas Kinchen*

*Gaye and I are overflowing with gladness to be counted among West Virginia Southern Baptists, but I am disappointed we cannot meet in person for our WVCSB 2020 Annual Meeting.*

## ERIC W. RAMSEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-TREASURER

After a warm welcome by the WVCSB Executive Board in February, I boarded a flight for Tucson, Arizona where I was able to fellowship and build relationships with other SBC state executive directors at the annual state executive retreat. In March, I set out on a planned tour to multiple corners of the state to meet as many of you as possible. However, COVID-19 precautions and shutdowns cut the tour short.

Pandemic or no pandemic, it was a must that I hit the ground running, work with WVCSB leadership to redirect toward a new future, adjust to a new financial reality, and streamline our structure while embracing a God-sized mission of multiplication.

WVCSB leadership prayed and navigated through a painful exercise of shaving away unnecessary spending, reprioritizing work according to missional objectives, and rethinking the entire budget. Just when a plan was coming together, we were notified of additional funding loss — LifeWay eliminated their state convention funding throughout the SBC. These factors necessitated that we carve deeper; a reduction of WVCSB staff was a place none of us wanted to go. However, much prayer, reviewing of duties, and understanding both current and future initiatives ultimately led to the reduction of two administrative staff. We also had to lower the hours and/or pay of the two remaining administrative staff, eliminate director staff Christmas bonuses (while maintaining bonuses

for administrative staff), and cut additional dollars from administrative overhead. Finally, custodial services, telephone services, and office supplies were decreased.

Determined to not downsize budget on the back of missions spending, we did not decrease Cooperative Program giving or missions funding of any kind. We did, however, increase proposed spending to address pastoral care and church health. The end result is a strategic, realistic, achievable budget built around three priority strategic objectives:

- Seeking missional leaders and churches
- Strengthening missional leaders and churches
- Sending missional leaders and churches

WV Southern Baptists are a gospel centered people, believing and embracing the command of Jesus. This mission belongs to the Church. God equips the Church for the work of the ministry. The WVCSB is not the Church, but a networking catalytic hub to bring us all together for the sake of the gospel. We will not give effort to merely preserving a denominational entity, but rather we will increase capacity for radical obedience and sacrifice to live out the mission of God — glorifying the one true Creator God. We see a day when every West Virginian will have access to the gospel through a healthy, biblicentric, missional local church. We pray God will work through every WV Southern Baptist church to take the gospel to the farthest reaches of the globe.



*Students  
worship  
at YEC 2020*

*It has been a strange year and none are exempt from the unknowns of COVID-19. I am reminded when circumstances change, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever” (Hebrews 13:8 CSB).*

## TIM TURNER, EVANGELISM + DISCIPLESHIP

As overwhelming as 2020 is, God is still at work. His blessings are evident to me as October 1 marked my fourth year of serving with the WVCSB. Another blessing came in 2020; I am finally a grandfather!

### A SNAPSHOT OF MY YEAR

I had the privilege of taking a team to the VBS Institute in Ridgecrest, NC in January. Though COVID squelched almost all church plans for VBS 2020, some found ways to adapt, including Good Shepherd Baptist Church, as they hosted a three night, social distanced, family oriented VBS. God is still at work.

We were just able to host YEC in March before everything went awry. Under the theme “2030,” speaker Anthony Knight challenged 685 students and leaders to consider where they might be in ten years. We counted 60 students who made a life decision for Christ. God is still at work.

To commemorate our 50th anniversary, the WVCSB is publishing a pictorial of our churches. Throughout spring and summer, I took pictures of a quarter of our 220 churches. This unusual trek took me to hollers where I met pastors and laypeople I would not have otherwise. The pandemic actually had a silver lining as I cherish exploring these forgotten places. God is still at work.

Our annual September Men and Boys Retreat (M.A.B.R.) was canceled but we refused to leave our regular campers

without a blessing. In lieu of a personal gathering, the WVCSB provided each adult with a fun survival kit to remind them of God’s hand on them and their boys. This care package included a men’s devotional, camo Bible, M.A.B.R. branded neck gaiters, and wild game jerky. We are praying for next year as we get back to Camp Caesar on September 24-25, 2021. God is still at work.

INSPIRE, our state evangelism conference, was also different this year as we made the decision to host an online event due to COVID and venue limitations. Ed Stetzer and Travis Kerns ministered to WVCSB pastors and leaders. God is still at work.

### UPCOMING 2021 INITIATIVES

**Bless Every Home:** This initiative calls Jesus followers to pray, care, and share Christ with their neighbors in their neighborhoods and communities. Be looking for more sign up information.

**Summit Student Camp, June 27 - July 1 2021:** Students will embark on a week-long journey with Jesus to discover God’s plan for their lives. The camp will be held at Parchment Valley Conference Center.

As always, I will continue to offer my help with churches through preaching or training. Thank you, pastors and leaders, for serving here in our state in the name of Jesus. *In West Virginia as it is in heaven!*



*WVCSB  
history  
interview with  
Herb Slaughter*

*West Virginia Southern Baptist pastors and church leaders, we are praying for you, we appreciate you, and we recognize the selfless men and women who have labored in faith during these unprecedented times.*

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## CLEVE PERSINGER, COMMUNICATION + PARTNERSHIPS

### 50TH ANNIVERSARY

A significant part of my convention role is telling the story of the WVCSB and celebrating where God is moving throughout our state.

Your state staff is working on a 50th Anniversary WVCSB church pictorial, “Give Us This Hill Country,” soon to be published. We’ve covered a lot of ground to snap photos of all of our churches. God continues to give us this hill country, and we are grateful for our 220 churches being a light in the darkness.

We produced an Ola Cox mini documentary this year in addition to our other Ola Cox State Missions Offering videos. I thoroughly enjoyed working on this project and learning more about WVCSB history. It was a joy talking to folks who knew Ola first hand and finding why she had the influence we learn about each fall. I pray it reminds a generation of WV Southern Baptists, “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men” (Colossians 3:23 ESV).

We recently invited all of our former state executives to a special video recording at Witcher Baptist Church, the site of the first annual meeting in 1970. The conversation included memories, lessons learned while here, funny stories, and a prayer for our next 50 years. It was truly an honor to be a part of this historic event. Segments from this gathering will be shared throughout our online annual meeting.

### COMMUNICATION

We want to tell the story of WV Southern Baptists in a way that not only makes God known in our state, but inspires and makes the world take note that God is moving through our state. I’m thankful to help create experiences for our WVCSB family - from event logistics to mailers, and anything branded, recorded, or printed in between. To that end, we launched a brand new [wvcsb.org](http://wvcsb.org) this year! We hope you will find value in this resource for your ministry.

I’ve enjoyed serving our churches as they adapt and discover new digital ways to stay connected to their congregations during this season of shutdowns and precautions - software, mics, cameras, etc. If I can be a resource to your church, please let me know.

### MISSION PARTNERSHIPS

Reinforcing our desire to see West Virginia move from a missions field to a missions force, with full support from the WVCSB Missions Committee, we are pursuing conversations with international mission partners in Iceland, Peru, and the Middle East.

Finally, on a personal note, it is a blessing to serve this convention. God has brought a great team together at the state office, and I am continually thankful he called my family to West Virginia. We appreciate your ongoing prayers and encouragement.

EXECUTIVE BOARD NOMINATING COMMITTEE //

## ALLEGHENY

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'21 JAMIE BODIFORD  
'22 AARON SLIGAR

## COALFIELDS

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'20 CALEB HORNE  
'22 TERRY SANDERS

## GREATER HUNTINGTON

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'21 TED KEOWN  
'22 BRADY LIPSCOMB

## IMMANUEL

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'21 JOE NOTT  
'22 FRANKLIN HOWERTON

## MONONGAHELA

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'20 MICHAEL BOYER  
'22 MIKE HOPKINS

## MOUNTAIN STATE

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'21 LUKE STEVENS  
'22 MARK AGNOR

## PIONEER

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'20 JONATHAN EUBANKS  
'21 MICHELLE ATWELL

## POTOMAC HIGHLAND

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'21 DALE MYERS  
'22 VERNON BEACHUM

## TRI-COUNTY

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'20 GIB SHADE  
'21 LARRY TOMLINSON

## UPPER OHIO VALLEY

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'21 CHUCK MORROW  
'22 JONATHAN MATTHEWS

**TRUSTEES:** ED ROGERS '20, CHARLIE SCHRITTER '21, LARRY BAYLE '22

**FOUNDATION DIRECTORS:** KYLE NEAL '20, MATT SMITH '20, LARRY TOMLINSON '20, MIKE KELLEY '21, JERRY SAWYERS '21, DWIGHT GOFF '21, CHUCK MORROW '22, GREG PAGE '22, RANDY SPURGEON '22

*\* The recipient of the 2020 Snedden-Slaughter Scholarship was Isaiah Pauley from Faith Baptist Church, Mason.*

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES REPORT //

## NOMINATING

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'20 LARRY GARRISON  
'20 DANNY CUNNINGHAM  
'21 BILLY DOTSON  
'21 JEFF CANTERBURY  
'22 PHIL CAMPBELL  
'22 LYNN SOMMERVILLE

## CREDENTIALS

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'20 GARY ELLER  
'21 DAN PELPHY  
'21 KYLE NEAL  
'22 CALEB HORNE  
'22 CHUCK MATTHEWS

## CONSTITUTION

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'20 BILL WINFREY  
'20 BRIAN HARMON  
'21 GREGORY GUNTER  
'21 ALLAN THOMPSON  
'22 JOHN FREEMAN

## CHRISTIAN LIFE

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'20 RYAN NAVY **(CH)**  
'20 PRESTON WHITE  
'21 LUKE ADKINS  
'21 JASON SPADE  
'22 ROY POLMANTEER  
'22 TOM BOTTOMS

## SCHOLARSHIP

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'21 CHUCK MORROW  
'21 JONATHAN CAMPBELL  
'22 BRANDON CARTER  
'22 JONATHAN MATTHEWS

Line No.	Description	Category	2021 Budget	Ola Cox offering	
	<b>Personnel/Administration</b>				
	<b>Director/Assistant Salaries</b>		305,503		
101	Executive Dir./Treasurer Salary/housing	95,000			
201	Director of Evangelism/Discipleship	81,364			
405	Director of Communications/Partnerships	81,364			
106	Office Manager	41,575			
	Administrative Secretary for Foundation	6,200			
	<b>Health and Insurance Benefits</b>		199,000		
114	Staff Annuity	34,000			
115	Staff & Retiree Insurance Benefits	144,000			
117	Social Security (Non-ordained)	10,000			
118	Social Security (Ordained)	10,000			
125	Staff Christmas Gifts	1,000			
	<b>Motor Pool &amp; Travel</b>		39,000		
	Convention Auto Travel (102, 202, 406)	30,000			
	Convention Auto Purchase (104, 204, 408)	9,000			
	<b>Facilities &amp; Equipment</b>		87,100		
108	Telephone (Land & Cell)	7,000			
601	Accounting Supplies	1,000			
603	Automated Church Services & Postage	10,000			
109	Administrative Office Supplies	2,500			
110	Utilities	12,000			
111	Insurance (Building)	8,300			
112	Building Maintenance	18,000			
113	Equipment	500			
121	Legal Assistance/Audit	9,000			
	Operations Office Supplies (206 & 405)	2,000			
130	Miscellaneous	1,000			
135	Computer Network	11,800			
137	Major Auto Expense	2,000			
138	Printing Equipment Maintenance	2,000			
	<b>Page 1 Totals</b>		630,603	0	0

Line No.	Description	Amount	2021 Budget	Ola Cox Offering	NAMB
<b>Evangelism &amp; Strengthening</b>			108,500		
123	Annual Meeting	10,000			
124	Executive Board/Committees	9,000			
126	Convention President Expenses	1,000			
141	SBC Committee on Committees	1,500			
211	Inspire Evangelism Conference	20,000			20,000
	Church Strengthening/Training	15,000			15,000
233	Campus Ministries	12,000			
250	Youth Evangelism Conference	34,000			34,000
333	Men & Boys' Retreat	6,000			6,000
<b>Cooperative Missions</b>			123,150		
139	Cooperative Program Promotion	6,000		2,500	
140	Mission Partnerships Development	6,000			
332	Disaster Relief	10,000		6,500	
	Church Revitalization	10,000		10,000	
	Church Planting Partnerships	10,000		10,000	
383	WMU President's Expense	150			
384	Women's Ministry	500			
386	Missions Education	500			
409	Missions Awareness	30,000			
621	Association Support	50,000		50,000	
<b>Page 2 Totals</b>			231,650	79,000	75,000

Line No.	Description	Amount	2021 Budget	Ola Cox Offering	NAMB
<b>Pastoral Ministries</b>			71,000		
604	Pastoral Ministries Supplies	500			
611	Church Ministers Annuity	25,000		5,500	
613	Pastor's Conference	3,000			
615	Ministers Wives Ministry	1,000			
618	Pastoral Ministries	3,500			
620	Shepherding the Shepherd	30,000		10,000	
624	Pastor Bivocational Retreat	8,000			
<b>Page 3 Totals</b>			71,000	15,500	0
<b>Summary</b>					
	Personnel/Administration Page 1		630,603	0	0
	Evangelism & Missions Page 2		231,650	79,000	75,000
	Pastoral Ministries Page 3		71,000	15,500	0
<b>Grand Totals</b>			933,253	94,500	75,000
<b>Cooperative Program (41.5%)</b>			507,960		
<b>Total 2021 Working Budget</b>			<b>\$ 1,441,213</b>		
		<b>Other Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 221,200</b>		
<b>To balance this 2021 Working Budget (Spending Plan) will require a monthly average giving to the Cooperative Program</b>			<b>\$ 1,220,013</b>		
			<b>\$ 101,668</b>	<b>Other Revenues</b>	
				Ola Cox	\$94,500
				Interest	\$18,000
				NAMB RM	\$75,000
				Registrator	\$20,000
				STS Funds	\$7,500
				Foundatio	\$6,200
				<b>Total</b>	<b>\$221,200</b>

Recent baptism service  
for Salt and Light  
Southern Baptist  
Church, Bridgeport  
(Pastor Don Knotts).  
God is still building his  
church in WV!



**CONSTITUTION**  
**West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists**

**ARTICLE I - NAME**

This body shall be called West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists, hereinafter referred to as the Convention.

**ARTICLE II - PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Convention is to assist and encourage affiliated churches and associations to fulfill the Great Commission.

**ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: This Convention shall consist of messengers who are members of and elected by Southern Baptist churches which are in agreement with the "Baptist Faith and Message 2000," as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention and which cooperate with, fellowship with, and contribute to the work of the Convention through the Cooperative Program.

Section 2: Each church shall be entitled to three messengers for the first fifty resident members or less, and one additional messenger for each fifty resident members or fraction thereof, but in no case shall any church be entitled to more than fifteen messengers. Messengers shall be elected and certified by their churches to the Convention. The Convention office shall provide special registration forms for the churches at least thirty days prior to the annual Convention meeting.

Section 3: Any Baptist church desiring to seat messengers in and thereby become affiliated with this Convention shall make application to the Credentials Committee ninety days prior to the Convention's annual meeting.

Section 4: Any Baptist church that is a chapel or mission of a Baptist church, that constitutes within the year, may make application to the Credentials Committee thirty days prior to the Convention's annual meeting.

Section 5: Watchcare status may be voted by the Convention for a church which does not meet time or other membership requirements. Members of such a church would not be eligible to hold office in the Convention, membership on committees, or vote on Convention matters, but would be eligible to receive all services available to Convention members.

Section 6: A church will be considered a cooperating church:

1. Once it has gone through the credentialing process.
2. When it has contributed financially through the Convention to the Cooperative Program within the preceding twelve (12) months.

**ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS**

Section 1: The officers of the Convention shall be a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice President who shall serve as Assistant Recording Secretary, and Recording Secretary who shall serve as Historian.

Section 2: These officers shall be elected annually upon nomination from the floor. Should more than one person be nominated for the same office, the vote will be by ballot. If a nominee does not receive a majority of the votes cast on the first ballot, a runoff shall be held between the two persons receiving the most votes. Officers shall be duly installed at the closing session of this Convention and shall hold their respective offices until their successors are elected and installed.

Section 3: No President shall serve more than two consecutive full terms.

Section 4: The President or his designee shall serve as an ex-officio member of every convention committee.

#### **ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Section 1: At its annual meeting this Convention shall elect an Executive Board which shall function for the Convention between annual meetings.

Section 2: The officers of this Convention shall be members of the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall organize itself for its work. If a member of the Executive Board should be elected an officer of the Convention, this election to office shall not affect his term of service on the Executive Board.

Section 3: The Executive Board of this body shall consist of two members from the churches comprising each cooperating association with up to a total church membership of 2,000 and one more for each additional 2,000 church members, as reported in the Convention Annual for the preceding year. The total members thus elected shall not exceed five from the churches of any one association. One Executive Board member of each association shall be a layperson, unless one cannot be secured and a pastor may be elected.

Section 4: Each board member must be a member of a cooperating, contributing church within the association in which he or she resides. After serving a three-year term a member shall not be eligible to serve again until a lapse of one year, except that the outgoing President of the WVCSB be asked to serve one additional year on the Executive Board. Election and service to fill an unexpired term of more than eighteen months shall constitute a full term.

Section 5: The Executive Board shall elect all ministry directors and permanent ministry positions, establish policies, propose an annual budget and calendar, and determine the departments and fields of work for the accomplishment of Convention work.

Section 6: An Executive Director-Treasurer shall be elected by the Executive Board. He shall be the administrative officer of the Board and shall make a full report of work committed to it. He shall be bonded.

Section 7: The Executive Board shall make an annual report of its activities and decisions to the Convention during its annual meeting.

Section 8: Executive Board members receiving financial support, or whose family members receive financial support from the North American Mission Board and/or the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists, will not be eligible to serve on either the missions or finance committees of the Executive Board.

Section 9: The WMU President shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Executive Board.

### **ARTICLE VI - TRUSTEES**

The Convention shall elect trustees. They shall hold in trust all physical properties of the Convention. After serving a full term of three years, a member shall not be eligible to serve again until a lapse of one year. The senior trustee shall be the chairperson. Trustees shall be bonded as necessary.

### **ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS**

The Convention shall meet annually at such time and place as may be determined. Special meetings may be called, and time and place of meetings may be changed by the officers of the Convention with the consent of the Executive Board.

### **ARTICLE VIII - AUTHORITY**

While independent and sovereign in its own sphere, this Convention shall not claim nor exercise any authority over any other Baptist body (church, association, etc.)

### **ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be altered or amended by the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present at any annual meeting, one year's notice having been given to the proposed alteration or amendment at the Convention.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **ARTICLE I - DECORUM OF ANNUAL CONVENTION**

Section 1: The sessions of the Convention shall be opened and closed in prayer.

Section 2: Persons attending the Convention who are not messengers but who are members of cooperating churches shall have the privilege of speaking in debate, but not voting.

Section 3: Each person shall address the moderator and be recognized when he speaks in debate or has any communication to make to the Convention.

Section 4: A person shall not speak more than twice in any single debate on the same day without unanimous permission from the body.

Section 5: When a person shall be called to order, he shall sit down until the moderator has determined whether he is in order. An appeal may be made from the decision of the moderator in this as in any other case.

Section 6: When the moderator shall desire to be heard in debate, or to be temporarily absent, the chair shall be taken by one of the officers of the convention or by some messenger whom the moderator may select if no other officer is present.

Section 7: The Convention president, in conference, with the vice presidents, shall select a parliamentarian and assistant(s), as necessary, to advise the presiding officers of the convention on matters of parliamentary procedure. The selection of a parliamentarian for Executive Board sessions shall be at the discretion of the presiding officer.

**ARTICLE II - COMMITTEES**

Section 1: Convention Committees. These committees shall be elected and/or appointed as stated below.

A. Annual Committees. The newly-elected officers of the Convention shall serve as officers of the Executive Board and as a part of the Administrative Committee of the Executive Board. The officers shall annually appoint the following committees in time to have the members' names included in the Convention annual. Annual Committee members shall serve for three years with one third of the number of committee members being elected each year.

(1) Order of Business Committee. This committee shall consist of six persons who will work with the Convention officers, staff, and auxiliary organizations to plan and propose the order of business and program for the annual meeting of the Convention. This committee shall report its proposed program to the Executive Board at the September Executive Board Meeting.

(2) Time, Place, Preacher Committee. This committee shall be composed of three members who shall (a) recommend the preacher and alternate preacher of the Convention for the next annual session; and (b) recommend to the Convention the dates and place for the annual session three years following the Convention in which the recommendation is made.

(3) Resolutions Committee. This committee shall be composed of six members who shall meet before and/or during the annual session to receive proposed resolutions from messengers, to collate and clarify the resolutions received, and to present the resolutions deemed appropriate in finished form to the Convention for action.

(4) Committee on Committees. This committee shall consist of six persons who nominate to the Convention in annual session persons to fill vacancies and serve as chairpersons on the Standing Committees.

B. Standing Committees. These committees shall be elected by the Convention and shall have six members. Committee members shall serve for three years with one third of the number of committee members being elected each year.

(1) Nominating Committee. This committee shall nominate to the annual session persons to fill vacancies in the West Virginia Baptist Foundation Board of Directors, Convention Executive Board, and Convention Trustees.

(2) Credentials Committee. This committee shall examine the credentials of churches desiring new affiliation with the Convention and the seating of messengers at the Convention's annual session. After proper examination, the committee shall recommend action to the Convention. This committee shall be responsible to examine qualifications and credentials of messengers whose seats are contested and to recommend action by the Convention.

(3) Constitution Committee. This committee shall examine the Constitution and Bylaws of the Convention and recommend changes in these documents to the Convention. Questions, proposed changes, or action of the Convention concerning these documents may be referred to this committee which shall then make recommendations for action to the Convention.

(4) Baptist Scholarship Committee. This committee shall recommend guidelines and application forms for the distribution of scholarship funds. This committee shall select the recipients of the funds.

(5) Christian Life Committee. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to study moral, social and cultural conditions of society and bring reports and recommendations to the convention as it may deem advisable. It shall report to the convention leadership current matters of public affairs relating to the realm of Christian life. It shall seek to assist churches and associations in educational programs to inform them of moral issues and Christian Citizenship responsibilities.

C. Special Committees shall be appointed and/or elected as the need arises. They shall have the number of persons deemed necessary and shall serve until their assigned work is completed.

D. A vacancy in any committee shall be declared by the committee chairman in the event of death, two consecutive unexcused absences, resignation of a committee member, or the committee member becoming a member of a church not affiliated with the convention.

Section 2: Executive Board Committees.

A. Members of the Executive Board shall serve on ministry-related committees on a rotating basis according to their term of office on the Executive Board. It shall be the responsibility of the ministry-related committees to work with convention ministers to plan, coordinate, and evaluate the ministries and make regular reports to the Executive Board and an annual report to the State Convention. Executive Board members shall be appointed to ministry-related committees by the Administrative Committee. Each committee shall elect its own chairperson.

B. The Executive Board will determine the Ministry related committees as needed.

C. Administrative Committee

(1) This committee shall be composed of the four officers of the State Convention, the chairperson of the Finance Committee, and two members at large from the Executive Board and elected by the Executive Board. The Convention President shall serve as chairperson.

(2) The responsibilities of this committee shall be:

a. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer, to recommend to the Executive Board a Search Committee of fifteen members who shall be responsible for seeking out and recommending a person for the office of Executive Director-Treasurer of the State Convention. The Search Committee shall be composed of a pastor from each association and other persons as shall give representation to various areas and interests of West Virginia Southern Baptists and shall be knowledgeable of the working of the Executive Board and the State Convention. The Search Committee shall confer with the Administrative Committee to work out details concerned with the calling of a new Executive Director-Treasurer and bring their recommendation to the Executive Board. No more than two persons from the same association shall serve on the Search Committee.

b. The Administrative Committee shall also be responsible for naming an interim Executive Director-Treasurer until a person is called to that position.

c. The Administrative Committee, the Executive Director-Treasurer, and the chairperson of the ministry-related committee whose work is involved shall be responsible for seeking out and calling other staff ministers. This committee's recommendation shall be made to the Executive Board of the State Convention.

d. The Administrative Committee shall present to the State Convention or the Executive Board proposed changes, deletions, and/or additions to the Policies and Procedures Manual when called for by the State Convention or the Executive Board. The Policies and Procedures Manual shall be in keeping with, and not contrary to, the Constitution and Bylaws of the State Convention.

D. Program Planning and Budgeting Committee

(1) This committee shall be composed of the Finance Committee and the chairpersons of the other program related committees.

(2) Following a preliminary meeting between the state staff and an associational representative to plan a tentative program calendar, this committee shall meet with the state staff for the purpose of developing and presenting to the Convention the following year's program, calendar, and budget.

E. Finance Committee. In addition to responsibilities which are customary and/or assigned to the Finance Committee, this committee shall work with the Convention Treasurer and Bookkeeper to review the independent auditor's annual report and review monthly financial records of the Convention and to recommend to the Treasurer and Bookkeeper any needed changes in procedure to insure the most beneficial and efficient operation of Convention business. This committee may, at its discretion seek other assistance as deemed advisable.

F. Special committees may be elected or appointed as the need arises as determined by the State Convention or the Executive Board.

### **ARTICLE III - EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Section 1: A majority of the Board members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2: Members shall attend all Board meetings unless providentially hindered, and in such cases, notice shall be given to the Board. The Executive Board may declare a Board seat vacant in the event of two consecutive unexcused absences, death of a member, resignation of the member, or the member becoming a member of a church not affiliated with the same district association. In the event a vacancy occurs on the Executive Board between the annual Convention sessions, the Board shall elect a replacement for the unexpired term.

Section 3: The officers of the Convention, together with the chairperson of the Finance committee, and two persons elected at large from the Executive Board, shall serve as the Administrative Committee. The two at large members are nominated or by open nominations from the floor. They shall meet as often as necessary with the State Convention staff to coordinate the work of the Executive Board and its' committees with the work of the State Convention staff.

Section 4: Ordinarily the work of the Executive Board shall be conducted at regularly scheduled meetings. At the discretion of the Administrative Committee, special Executive Board meetings may be called, or items of business, with exception of hiring personnel, may be considered and voted upon through accessible communication resources. During the time period between the close of the Convention and the subsequent Executive Board meeting, the officers of the Convention may, in case of emergency, call a special Executive Board meeting.

Section 5: The Associational Moderators shall be consulted and requested to submit names for consideration for each vacancy to be filled for their Executive Board representative. (Each association, as an autonomous body, if it chooses to do so, may establish its own procedures for selecting names, with these being submitted by the moderator.) This procedure will be used in filling unexpired terms on the Executive Board, as well. More than one nomination per vacancy is requested.

### **ARTICLE IV - WEST VIRGINIA BAPTIST FOUNDATION**

The West Virginia Baptist Foundation is a nonprofit corporation of the state of West Virginia. It is the trust arm of the Convention. The Board of Directors of the Foundation is elected by the Convention at its annual meeting.

### **ARTICLE V - CONTINGENCY RESERVE FUND**

The Executive Director-Treasurer shall keep available for use by the convention in case of emergency a contingency reserve fund equal to three months operating expenses. Should the Executive Board of WVCSB determine by vote that an emergency situation exists; the Executive Board shall be empowered to authorize the use of the Contingency Reserve Fund to mitigate the specific emergency. When said emergency passes, the Reserve Fund will be replenished as quickly as the Executive Board, through its Finance Committee, deems appropriate.

### **ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS**

The foregoing rules may be amended at any annual meeting of the Convention after the amendment has been considered by the Executive Board. A two-thirds vote of messengers present and voting shall be necessary for the adoption of an amendment.



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November 2, 1970

Baptist Press

West Virginia Baptists  
Organize 33rd Convention

BELLE, W. Va. (BP)--The 33rd state convention affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention was constituted here during the fourth annual session of the Baptist General Association of West Virginia.

The new convention will be known as the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists. Headquarters offices are located in St. Albans, W.Va.

During the convention's organizational meeting here, more than 300 persons registered with 126 elected messengers representing the 52 churches with a total membership of 13,468 affiliated with the new convention.

Elected president of the convention was George Bulson, pastor of Ceres Baptist Church, Bluefield, W. Va.

The Executive Board of the new convention was instructed by the messengers to prepare a job description, fix a salary schedule, and proceed with the election of an executive secretary for the convention before next year's annual convention.

Currently, the convention has two staff members, but no executive. The staff is composed of John Snedden who is the director of missions, evangelism and Baptist men's work; and Francis Tallant, director of Christian education in charge of Sunday School, Training Union and student work. Mrs. Ola Cox will serve as past-time director of Woman's Missionary Union work in the state.

An operating budget of \$176,524 was adopted by the convention, which also set a statewide Cooperative Program goal of \$70,950 for 1971.

A financial agreement between the new convention and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board provides for 90 per cent of the state missions program funds, with 10 per cent provided by the state.

Set as top priority programs by the convention in its program of work were the areas of (1) evangelism, (2) starting new churches, and (3) developing church leadership.

The organizational convention was held here at the Witcher Baptist Church, which was instrumental in helping to start Southern Baptist mission work on a statewide basis with the assistance of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio.

A state fellowship meeting, called the Baptist General Association of West Virginia, was founded in 1966 was a preliminary step toward forming a state convention.

## 2021 CALENDAR //

**January**

9	VBS Institute Ridgecrest (Virtual)
16	WVCSB Executive Board
17	Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

**February**

8-14	Focus on WMU
12-13	State VBS Clinic
13	Children's Mission Day (SBC)
26-27	Bivocational Retreat

**March**

5-6	Youth Evangelism Conference (YEC)
7-14	Week of Prayer and Mission Study for North American Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
11	WVCSB Order of Business Committee
12-13	State VBS Clinic-Inclement Weather Date
14	Daylight Savings Time Begins
21	Church Planting Emphasis Sunday
21	Substance Abuse Prevention Sunday

**April**

2	Good Friday (Office Closed)
9-10	Ministers' Wives Retreat
10	WVCSB Executive Board
17	WMU Officers Council
25	Cooperative Program Sunday

**May**

6	National Day of Prayer (SBC)
9	Mother's Day
9-16	Christian Home Week
31	Memorial Day (Office Closed)

**June**

12	Family Golf Tournament
13-14	National WMU Meeting, Nashville, TN
13-14	SBC Pastors' Conference, Nashville, TN
15-16	SBC Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN
20	Father's Day
27-July1	Summit Camp

**July**

5	Independence Day (Office Closed)
12-15	Shepherding the Shepherd
18	WV Disaster Relief Day

**August**

8	Student Evangelism Day (SBC)
12	Finance Committee Meeting (WVCSB)
15-22	Worship Music Week (SBC)
19	Credentials Meeting (WVCSB)

**September**

6	Labor Day (Office Closed)
11	WVCSB Executive Board
12-19	Week of Prayer and Mission Study for WV Missions and the Ola Cox State Missions Offering
23	WVCSB Nominating Committee
23	WVCSB Committee on Committees
24-25	Men and Boys Retreat (M.A.B.R.)

**October**

3	Personal Evangelism Commitment Day (SBC)
7	INSPIRE (State Evangelism Conference)
8-9	WMU Mission Celebration, Bridgeport, WV
10	Global Hunger Sunday

**November**

4	WVCSB Executive Board
4	Pastors' Conference and Ministers' Wives Gathering
4-5	WVCSB Annual Meeting
7	Daylight Saving Time Ends
8	Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer
25	Thanksgiving (Office Closed 25th & 26th)
28-5	Week of Prayer and Mission Study for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

**December**

24	Christmas (Office Closed 12/24/21 to 01/02/22)
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