

Mountain State Mission Offering  
100% Supporting the Mission and Ministries of the West Virginia Baptist Convention

Put On Your Shoes,  
Get Ready To Go...



Give It Away  
**Mountain State**  
Mission Offering  
2010

Acts 12:8

Put on your shoes, get ready to go. . . Acts 12:8



## MOUNTAIN STATE MISSION OFFERING 2010

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# LEADER'S GUIDE

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[www.wvbc.org/Mission/MSMO-10](http://www.wvbc.org/Mission/MSMO-10)

Your Gifts Support  
The Mission and Ministries  
of the  
West Virginia Baptist Convention



Dear Friends in Christ,

Preparation for any task in life is so important. If you fail to plan, you plan to fail. Preparation and planning go hand in hand as we work for the kingdom.

This letter is an invitation to prepare and plan for this year's Mountain State Mission Offering. Our 2010 theme is **"Put On Your Shoes, Get Ready To Go."** This theme was inspired from the story of Peter's arrest and deliverance in Acts 12. We must not forget that Peter was delivered from a bad situation to do something great for Jesus.

Your generous support of the Mountain State Mission Offering empowers our Baptist family to do something great for Jesus. With your gifts a variety of needs around the Mountain State are addressed. One hundred percent (100%) of your support stays here in our state, transforming the lives of children to senior adults. This offering empowers local churches and enables statewide ministries of love and grace to reach the people of West Virginia.

Please prepare, plan and pray to step up and step out to meet the challenges of ministry right here and right now.

Thank you for being a blessing,



David Carrico  
Executive Minister  
West Virginia Baptist Convention



## BIBLICAL REFLECTIONS ON THE THEME - Acts 12:8

“PUT ON YOUR SHOES, GET READY TO GO . . .”



**Politics** — Peter was in jail. Herod had started a violent campaign against the church. When he saw it pleased the Jews, he had Peter arrested and imprisoned. Herod planned to use Peter for his own political advantage. He put Peter under heavy guard – maximum security to insure there would be no escape.

**Prayer** — The church knew from recent experiences that Peter’s life was in jeopardy. James, the brother of John, had already been killed as had others of the faith. It was dangerous to be a believer. The church gathered and prayed earnestly for Peter.

**Provision** — The very night Peter was to be brought before the people, the very night of Herod’s big moment, an angel of the Lord appeared to Peter who was asleep between two soldiers. “Get up quickly,” the angel said. “Get dressed, put on your shoes, follow me.” The chains binding Peter had fallen to the ground. The guards holding him were spellbound. The angel of the Lord led Peter out of the prison – out of harm’s way. God had answered the prayers of the church and provided an escape for Peter.

**Proof** — Peter immediately went to the house of Mary where the church was meeting. The church was being very careful as they were afraid. They finally let Peter in and rejoiced that God had answered their prayers.

**Ponder** — How many times do we find ourselves in difficult situations? Life has lots of opportunity for troubles. It is doubtful any of us have ever been imprisoned or forced to worship behind closed doors in fear of persecution. However, we all have had occasions when we have felt persecuted or boxed in by situations. How do we respond to those situations? Do we pray? Do we trust God for provision when we pray? Do we believe the miracle when God provides it?

**Proclaim** — Peter had resigned himself to the inevitable fate of death. The situation seemed hopeless. The time for him to be brought before the people was near. But God intervened! The angel of the Lord told Peter – Get up! Get dressed! Put on your shoes! Get ready to go!

**God expects us to get ready to go! What is it that God has for you to do? Where does God want you to go? Wake up, put on your shoes! Go where God leads you!**



Put on  
your shoes,  
get ready to go . . .

# For the Pastor: Congregational letter

Put on your shoes, get ready to go . . . Acts 12:8



## MOUNTAIN STATE MISSION OFFERING 2010

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(Date)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is the great joy of my life to be named a follower of Jesus. Nothing calls forth my best efforts and greatest energy like being where He wants me and doing what He wants me to do. His call comes in every area of our lives. Nothing is separate from who we are as His disciples.

One of Jesus' first disciples, Peter, was in prison when an angel came and freed him saying, "Put on your clothes and sandals ... wrap your cloak around you and follow me." As we approach this year's **Mountain State Mission Offering**, we are called and encouraged to "Put on our shoes (sandals)" and then, of course, to follow Jesus.

Put on your thinking shoes and think about more than one million West Virginians who are both unsaved and unchurched! You know many of them. They live right here in our community. They are family, neighbors, co-workers and friends. Oh, what it would mean to see them saved?

Put on your praying shoes and pray. Pray for those lost loved ones and all the lost across our state. Pray for our church and our outreach efforts. Pray for the **West Virginia Baptist Convention**. Pray for yourself. What does the Lord want you to do to see people saved all around our state!

Put on your giving shoes. Give as the Lord leads you. As you know, every penny, 100% of the **MSMO** supports the mission and ministry of the **WVBC**. Give! Give your best thought, your best prayer, and your best gift to the **Mountain State Mission Offering**. God bless you.

Your Pastor,

MSMO GOAL \$\_\_\_\_\_.



# Sunday School MSMO Ideas



**Shoe Auction:** Everyone is asked to bring an old pair (or two or three.....) of shoes and hold an auction. Once money is raised for MSMO, if folks don't want the shoes donate them to a local non-profit for resale, etc.



**Whose shoes?:** Have pictures of the feet of various church leaders. Put a decorated gift bag or coffee can decorated with MSMO stuff....in order to make a guess of who belongs with "feet" picture you pay a \$1.00 for the guess.



**Design a shoe:** Teens and tweens will compete to design a new shoe that depicts the work of a missionary (especially one that would be seen in WV).



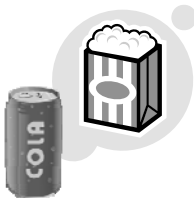
**Baskets for Sale:** Decorate and fill theme baskets. Hold a Basket Day sale. (Scrap-booking, reading, cooking, toys, knitting, fishing, picnic, baby, etc.) The basket ideas are limitless ~ be creative.



**Tubs of Change:** Have adults bring plastic icing tubs for children's Sunday School classes. Using permanent markers and scrap-booking materials (also donated) allow children to decorate the tubs and take them home to collect their change. Tubs are brought back on the designated MSMO offering day for your church.



**Bake Off:** Every church has (especially the WVBC churches) the most tremendous cooks and bakers. A \$5.00 entry fee for everyone who wants to compete (prize is just the honor of winning and a home-made computer printed certificate.) Church members pay a \$1.00 to sample the items. ALL monies go to MSMO and you get to keep the calories.



**Movie Night:** Missions committee/board will plan a movie night for various groups in the church. Concessions will be available during intermission. All proceeds for the Mountain State Mission Offering.

Put On Your Shoes  
Get Ready To Go...



# Mission Offertory Moments to Share



## New Church Plant Puts on Their Shoes

Starting new church plants has always been a priority of the West Virginia Baptist Convention. In 2000 the Crossroads Community Church (Teays Valley Association) began with an emphasis on reaching the unchurched people of Putnam County. The church “put on their shoes” and have taken extra steps to bring Christ’s love to their community. The rental of school space for worship has positioned them in a unique place for ministry. Through a collection box, the church provides food, which can be obtained through a teacher’s aide, for students who have no other option for evening and weekend meals. Regularly, countless students receive Christ’s love through the Back-Pack Buddies program.

Additionally, the church hosts a huge back to school festival with as many as 3,000 people attending. In 2009, the party included the landing of a military helicopter, inflatables, games, school supplies, and food. Pastor Roger Adams continues his belief that the most important part of ministry is being sure the church focuses on eternity and helps all people discover their need for a Savior. Once they have seen that need, small groups and prayer groups help them to grow in their relationship with Christ.

Your gifts to the **Mountain State Mission Offering** will continue the priority of establishing new churches and bringing the love of Christ to new followers.

## Put On Your Shoes = Project Give It Away



Churches across the state are being energized by a new involvement in their communities through the West Virginia Baptist Convention’s “Project Give It Away.” Calvary Baptist Church, Oak Hill, was challenged in January 2010 to bring in soup for the local food pantry. On Super Bowl Sunday 1,146 cans of food were placed in front of the sanctuary. Thanks to the Mountain State Mission Offering, which in part helps support Southeast Area Minister, Jim Anderson, who shared this missional idea with Pastor David Richardson, who then put his own ingenuity to it, hungry families in Fayette County had hot soup during a cold and snowy February.

Your gift to the **Mountain State Mission Offering** will continue the work of Area Ministers as they provide services to local congregations in the areas of evangelism, education, stewardship, leader development, conflict management and encouragement to pastors.

## Baptist Campus Ministry Student is Ready To Go!!!!

The West Virginia Baptist Convention has a long history of developing strong young Christians through Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM) on 13 WV college campuses. The following is a story of one student who is a member of a BCM group.

*When I finally realized who Jesus is and the claim He has on my entire life and love and devotion, my initial desire to become a doctor out of some vague altruism and desire to help people was changed, made clear, and given a new reason and motivation. It was converted into the desire to become a missionary doctor, to fill a place in the kingdom of God where I can help meet people’s practical needs while pointing them to a Physician that can heal much more than just the body. Since this has been made clear to me, I have been waiting for an opportunity to present itself for me to go overseas on a mission. God has blessed me with the chance to go to India and work under experienced missionaries for the entire summer, hiking to villages and sharing Christ with people on the edge of where the Gospel has been preached. I’ll be working in women and children’s ministry specifically.*

*BCM has definitely helped me grow in a major way. I feel last year God was using BCM to shape and change me, strengthening my faith, teaching me more about His character and equipping me to better handle His word. Through BCM, He’s also blessed me with a family full of love, support, and encouragement - a truly incredible blessing. God is continuing His work in me this year (and, I pray, every year to come for the rest of my life).*

BCM leaders “**Put On Their Shoes and are Ready to Go**” for each student they know. Their leadership and examples are preparing church leaders of tomorrow. Your gift to the Mountain State Mission Offering will continue the work of building strong Christians and strong church leaders for tomorrow.



## Five Year Pregnancy Results in Successful Birth

The group had been meeting regularly for over a year. The meetings were informal and there was no bulletin to guide the order. Every meeting included Bible study, singing, and lots of prayer. Frequently a modest but tasty and spicy meal was shared. This evening was different. The small, faithful group was in deep discussion. Feelings from the heart were shared, questions were asked and dreams were made public. The Holy Spirit was moving quietly but deliberately in the room.

"I have been praying for a long time for this moment," spoke one person. "It is about time we did this!" said another. "We are already a strong community and others can be blessed through our taking this step of faith," said yet another. On January 23, 2010 Comunidad Nueva Esperanza (Co-mun-ee-dad Nu-eh-vah Es-per-rah-n-za), in English, New Hope Community was born! While small in attendance during the winter months, Comunidad Nueva Esperanza has the potential in the spring and summer to have a much larger number join the Christian community as the numbers of Latino workers swell in the Ravenswood area during these seasons.

The WV Baptist Convention church planting personnel and interested persons from across the state first began outreach to the migrant community in 2005. They began with simple gatherings, visits to the fields and building relationships. In 2006, La Casa de La Amistad (Friendship House) was established as a place to continue the outreach and relationship building. Through funds from various WVBC churches, and other organizations the ministry grew. With the help of WVBC Hispanic Strategist, Juan Aragon, regular worship gatherings were established. In 2008, a core group resulted and a new church was born!

West Virginia Baptist churches working together, through the Mountain State Mission Offering, are making a difference in a population that is in great need of knowing Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord. Offerings given to the MSMO provide assistance through the guidance and knowledge of a Hispanic Strategist, and through area ministries. Please pray for this small group of Christians as they reach out to others with the Good News and New Hope of Jesus Christ.



## Frequently Asked Questions



### FAQ: When should we promote and receive the MSMO?

ANS: MSMO materials are mailed the first of April each year. Churches may promote the offering anytime during the year. We recommend that churches promote the offering at a time that best fits their calendar.

### FAQ: Can we take the MSMO instead of America For Christ?

ANS: Baptist churches are autonomous and can do what each congregation decides. AFC is a very important home mission offering that supports the work of National Ministries and the West Virginia Baptist Convention.

### FAQ: Why should we take another special offering?

ANS: The MSMO gives churches and individuals the opportunity to show their support for the mission and ministries of the West Virginia Baptist Convention. It gives donors a choice in how they want to support the WVBC as 100% of the offering supports the Convention.

### FAQ: Can we make MSMO a part of our regular mission budget?

ANS: Yes, many churches have already done this. They budget a percentage of their monthly income for MSMO and send that amount in each month with their regular mission remittance.

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Get Ready To Go...  
Acts 12:8

Make your Mountain State Mission Offering successful by ordering and using the following materials:



- ◆ Display the 4-color poster
- ◆ Use the goal poster to show your progress
- ◆ Show the DVD to tell the stories of the Mission and Ministries of the West Virginia Baptist Convention
- ◆ Order offering envelopes to have available in the pews
- ◆ Order offering boxes and get the whole church involved collecting nickels, dimes, quarters and silver dollars; every penny makes a difference
- ◆ Use the bulletin inserts to help tell the stories of the importance of the Mountain State Mission Offering
- ◆ Use enclosed post card to order materials or call Joan at 1.800.879.9822 or email [hall@wvbc.org](mailto:hall@wvbc.org).

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# Congregational: Thank You letter



Date

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Several weeks ago, I asked you to put on your thinking shoes, your praying shoes, and your giving shoes as we considered our response to the lost people of our great state.

It is clear to me that we have thought a lot about and think a lot about our lost loved ones, friends, and neighbors. Clearly they have been on our minds lately. Of course, thinking about them moved us a step further.

We have been praying for those dear people, our church, and the West Virginia Baptist Convention. I am always moved by how much praying for something or someone else moves and changes me. When I become genuinely involved in praying for something or someone, I am moved to do something.

Because of that you have done a great thing! Our gifts to the **Mountain State Mission Offering** are testimony to how we have thought and prayed. I want to thank you for your faithfulness and generosity. Your gifts empower ministries all around our state and beyond. Those gifts will help others find their way to faith in Christ Jesus. May the Lord richly bless you for what you have done in His name.

Your Pastor,

**MSMO GOAL \$\_\_\_\_\_.**

**MSMO GIFTS \$\_\_\_\_\_.**

Give It Away  
**Mountain State**  
Mission Offering  
2010



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Clip Art Samples on DVD and on the website at [www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org)

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