



Church Profile

**WBC**

Westover Baptist Church



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# CHURCH PROFILE

## **Church History**

In the fall of 1993, Southall Baptist Church and Lynn Haven Baptist merged and formed Westover Baptist Church. On September 5, 1993, the church held its first service and had 235 charter members. Dr. Doug Barber, formerly of Southall Baptist Church, became the senior pastor. Reverend Robert Vermillion, former pastor of Lynn Haven Baptist Church, was selected as the co-pastor. Reverend Paul Nelson was selected as the worship leader. The church merger led to the transformation of Southall Christian School to Westover Christian Academy in September 1994. The 15-acre site was immediately expanded to include new facilities for Westover Christian Academy.

## **Significant Events**

*1993* – Westover Baptist Church was formed from the merger of Southall Baptist Church and Lynn Haven Baptist Church

*1994* – Westover Christian Academy opens for the first time with Keith Williams as administrator. Adam Dean joins as youth pastor.

*1995* – Encounter Ministries was formed and Revival with Tom Schuj

*1996* – Missions Trip to Mexico and Revival with Milton Frazier

*1997* – Southside Crusade and Revival with Danny Lovett

*1998* – Reverend Todd Peck joins WBC as a Youth Pastor. Revival with Danny Lovett.

*1999* – First Worldfest, Missions Trip to Ukraine, and Revival with Scott Smith

*2000* – Missions Trip to Mexico, Revival with Danny Lovett, and Jamie Ragle Crusade

*2001* – Don Criss new administrator of WCA, Danny Lovett Revival, and Scott Smith Revival

*2002* – Missions Trip to Brazil, John Cline new youth pastor of WBC, and Sounds of Liberty

*2003* – 40 Days of Purpose, Revival with Scott Smith, and Heaven's Gates-Hell's Flames

*2004* – Missions Trip to Canada, Revival with Rick Via, and Wings of Morning

*2005* – Extreme Life Makeover Conference, Revival with Scott Smith, and "The Christmas Gift"

*2006* – Missions Trip to Brazil, Call to Prayer Conference with Joe Humrichous, and Wings of Morning

*2007* – Missions Trip to New York, Wings Christmas Tour, and "Love of God at Christmas"

*2008* – Missions Trip to Uganda, Celebrating 15 years, and "It Happened One Christmas"



2009 – Shawn Weeks the new administrator of WCA, Reverend Mitch Cifers joined WBC, and Scott Smith Revival

2010 – Missions Trip to Nicaragua consisting of 54 people, Engage Ministries Begins, and “The Gift Goes On”

2011 – Family, Friends, and Neighbors Focus, Charlie Orr Revival, and “Mary Did You Know?”

2012 – Missions Trip to Peru, Sounds of Liberty, and “Gospel According to Scrooge”

2013 – 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, Missions Trip to Sandstone, WV, Charles Atkins new youth pastor, and “The Connection”

2014 – Missions Trip to Jamaica, Revival with Charlie Orr

2015 – Revival with Mason Joy

2016 – Missions Trip to New York City, NY, Jim Barber becomes youth pastor

2017 – John Cline becomes new administrator of WCA

2018 – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

2019 – Revival with Scott Smith

2020 – Dr. Doug Barber announces plans to retire

### **Worship**

Worship at Westover Baptist Church consists of a wide range of worship activities and styles, including our weekly Sunday morning and Wednesday night activities; special services such as Easter sunrise service and Christmas Eve service; and yearly activities such as Vacation Bible School, mission focused “Worldfest,” and fall revival event. The mission of Westover Baptist Church is to magnify the greatness of God, to motivate the church to recognize His presence and live for His glory, minister to our local community and change our world by growing and developing Christ followers who love God and people and serve as Christ served. Worship is not something we “do” on Sunday—but a lifestyle and attitude we carry each day of the week. Even our work will become “worship” as it is dedicated to God and performed with an awareness of Him being there.

### **Music**

Westover Baptist Church find great joy in worshipping God through music and is an integral part of our worship. The Apostle Paul exhorts us in Ephesians 5 to “sing with one another through psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord.” Our goal is to offer thanksgiving and praise to God through music and scripture. The church utilizes a blended music worship program; it is generally contemporary in nature, but do not shy away from hymns/traditional.



The Westover praise team consists of singers and instrumentalist experience. Special musical events do take place throughout the year to mark special spiritual celebrations.

### **Faith Formation and Education**

Westover Baptist Church cultivates lifelong spiritual growth opportunities throughout their lives including adults, children, and adolescents. The church has a variety of learning pathways and opportunities in order to meet people where they are on their spiritual journey.

### **Worship Time**

Westover does a blended worship with solid Biblical teaching each Sunday morning. People of all ages are invited. Preschool and elementary children are present for a portion of the worship service before moving to classrooms and playground for age appropriate activities.

### **Connection Time**

Connection Time is a weekly Bible study. We have something for everyone, from nursery to senior saints. There are classes for women, mixed, and children through senior saints that meet each Sunday morning before our worship time.

### **Engage Classes**

Our adult classes on Wednesday nights at Westover are elective in style. Every few months we begin a new series of classes. Whether it is a men's, women's, co-ed, verse by verse, book study, etc. there is a class to meet people where they are on their spiritual journey.

### **Children's Ministries**

Westover Baptist believes in establishing a firm, Biblical foundation in our children at a young age. From nursery through pre-teens, we teach that God loves them no matter what and what it means to love God. Sunday teaching happens during each service. During our Wednesday night services our children participate in Awana Clubs. With caring teachers and volunteers, children feel the love of Christ that helps lead them to grow in their relationship with Christ.

### **Student Ministries**

Westover Baptist Student Ministries exists to help students develop a WALK with Christ, WORSHIP of Christ, WORK for Christ, and WITNESS about Christ. Our normal activities include: Connection Time on Sunday mornings where young men and women are split for topical-based Bible teaching and Wednesday night Youth time. Students ranging from 7th-12th grade are all together participating in games, fun, videos, and series-based teaching from the Word of God. The youth pastor hosts a weekly bible study at his home on Monday nights.



Finally, our student ministries participate in a feeding program on the second Saturday of each month. Here the youth fix and serve lunch to the needy in addition to sharing the Gospel.

### Awana

Awana is a children's ministry and outreach that includes volunteers who confidently lead clubbers on their spiritual journey. Club consists of Puggles (ages 2) who discover basic truths about God. Cubbies (ages 3-4) provides teaching, games, and story-time to encourage preschoolers to develop a respect for God, His Son and His Word. For our 5-7 year-olds, Sparks club opens up a rich world of Bible truths. In three years, Sparkies learn about the Bible from cover to cover. Our 3rd-6th grade club is Truth & Training (T&T). They will be taught the truth of God's Word and train them to follow God and practice His commands. Each Club meeting consists of Handbook Time (where verses are quoted), Game Time (where games are played in age appropriate settings), and Large Group Time (Bible is taught in a larger setting).

### Physical Facilities

Westover Baptist Church is located in Westover area of Danville, VA. The facilities stand upon 15 acres. Buildings on the grounds include the church and school. The church was occupied in 1993 with the school being occupied a year later. The buildings total for approximately 78,940 square feet. The sanctuary seats approximately 400 people. The sanctuary does have baptismal facilities. The facilities do provide offices, meeting spaces, classrooms, and a gym for a variety of congregational and community activities. The educational building is the home of Westover Christian Academy that serves K2-12<sup>th</sup> grade. The grounds also include an athletic field.

### Westover Christian Academy

Westover Christian Academy (WCA) was founded as Southall Christian School in the fall of 1977. The church merger in 1993 led to the transformation from Southall Christian School to Westover Christian Academy in September 1994. WCA is an accredited educational program with Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and Cognia. The school has a current enrollment of 411 students and 60 staff. Along with classrooms and offices, WCA includes a cafeteria, kitchen, library, band room, full-size gymnasium, locker rooms, and two children's playgrounds.

### Church Governance

Westover Baptist Church is governed by the members who vote to determine the instruments of authority of the church. By the authority of the members, the pastoral team handles the day-to-day operating business of the church. The pastoral team is made up of the senior pastor, any assistant pastors, worship leader, youth pastor, and school administrator.



The Board of Deacons serve the members of the church as assistants to the pastors for member care. Our trustees serve as financial officers with the senior pastor of the church.

Westover Baptist Church is an independent and autonomous church that works in fellowship and conducts activities with other churches and organizations of like doctrine.

### Missions

World Missions are a major focus as Westover Baptist Church supports missionaries around the world and at home. Some of the highlights of the ministry are mission trips that have been made by members to Ukraine, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Kenya, South Africa, Uganda, Romania, Nicaragua and Jamaica.

#### WESTOVER MISSIONS AROUND THE WORLD

<b>Brian &amp; Yoko Broaddus</b> Japan	<b>Glenn &amp; Tammy Clodgo</b> Spain	<b>Elmo &amp; Kathryn Compton</b> Peru	<b>Daniel &amp; Maureen Rojas</b> Latin America
<b>Nathan &amp; Diane Fray</b> Brazil	<b>Michael &amp; Genia Huffman</b> New Zealand	<b>Otto &amp; Joahna Koning</b> Kazakhstan	<b>Tim &amp; Charlene Miskimen</b> Southeast Asia

#### WESTOVER MISSIONS AT HOME

<b>David Abernathy</b> Jail & Prison Ministry	<b>John &amp; Sheila Ahern</b> Military	<b>Norman &amp; Patricia Brockway</b> Hispanics
<b>Jim &amp; Susan Cook</b> Children	<b>Crossroads</b> Christian Counseling	<b>Larry &amp; Bea Henderson</b> Mission Trips
<b>David &amp; Kim Huffman</b> Georgia	<b>House of Hope</b> Danville's Homeless	<b>Peter &amp; Mary Mucher</b> Missionary Training
<b>Brandon &amp; Laura Neal</b> TWR	<b>John &amp; Debbie Poe</b> Missionary Training	<b>Wendy Shields</b> AWANA

### AWANA

Our big missions event each year is our WORLDFEST held in the spring. Missionaries come to share and celebrate what "God is doing around the world."

### Outreach

Westover Baptist Church seeks to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our community. It is our desire to leave a positive impact while extending love and kindness to our neighbors. It is imperative that we invest in the community with our time and resources so that others can see God's love. We feel the health of our community depends on the involvement of the church body. Church members are actively encouraged to seek opportunities that would include acts of service in the community.



**Some of our current and past outreach partnerships include:**

- Awana
- Baby Bottle Boomerang for Transition Pregnancy Solutions
- Crossroads Christian Counseling
- Discipleship Now
- Feed the Need
- Feeding Program
- God's Pit Crew Blessing Buckets
- Good News Jail and Prison Ministry
- House of Hope Homeless Shelter
- Moms in Prayer
- Operation Christmas Child
- Spring to Life Outreach
- Vacation Bible School
- Westover Christian Academy

**Overview of Local Community**

Danville, VA is located in Southern Virginia along the North Carolina border in Pittsylvania County. Danville is centrally located within a day's drive to both the scenic mountains and the ocean. Historical landmarks, recreational opportunities and more help to shape this charming community. As of the census in 2018, Danville had a population of 40,693. In 2010, Danville was ranked Number 9 in Micro Cities of the future. Institutions of higher education in the city include Averett University, Danville Community College and the Institute for Advance Learning and Research. Spend the day soaking up the culture in Southern Virginia at the Danville Symphony Orchestra, Danville Museum of Fine Arts, theater productions and more.

