

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY 2026

WEST VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

One Church. Many Voices. Common Mission.

The West Virginia Council of Churches brings together member communions, congregations, and ecumenical partners to pray, learn, discern, and act for the common good of our state. Join us for a day of inspiration, information, and connection.



WHEN

Monday,
November 16, 2026
9:00 AM – 3:30 PM
(One Day)



WHERE

St. John XXIII Pastoral Center
100 Hodges Road
Charleston, WV 25314
*Free parking available
on site.*



WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Clergy and lay leaders from member communions, congregations, ecumenical partners, program units, and friends of the Council.



WHY WE GATHER

To deepen our unity, address issues that matter, share resources, and strengthen our witness for justice, compassion, and the common good.



OUR PRAYER

That we may be faithful together in listening to God, loving neighbor, and serving West Virginia with hope.

THEME: AMERICAN CHRISTIAN OR CHRISTIAN IN AMERICA

Faithful Witness in a Time of Christian Nationalism

A critical conversation about our calling as people of faith in a pluralistic democracy. How do we remain steadfast in the way of Christ while engaging our nation with humility, justice, and love?



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Rev. Beau Underwood

Pastor • Author • Public Theologian • Speaker

Rev. Underwood offers a thoughtful, challenging, and hopeful voice on the intersection of faith, culture, and public life.



9:00 AM

REGISTRATION & FELLOWSHIP

Check in, coffee, and connection



9:30 AM

OPENING WORSHIP & WELCOME

Worship, Scripture, and reflection



10:00 AM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Rev. Beau Underwood on Christian faith and public life



11:15 AM

TABLE CONVERSATIONS

Engage with others in guided, meaningful dialogue



1:15 PM

BUSINESS & REPORTS

Council updates, reports, and actions



2:45 PM

SENDING FORTH

Prayer, commitments, and closing



Throughout the day: Resource tables • Networking • Program Unit highlights • Opportunities to get involved

MARY VIRGINIA DeROO ECUMENICAL AWARD

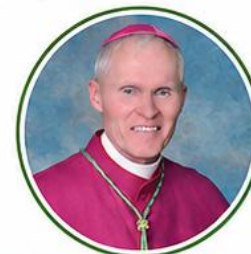
Presented During the Luncheon

Each year, the West Virginia Council of Churches honors an individual whose life and leadership reflect extraordinary commitment to Christian unity, service, and witness in our state.

2026 AWARD RECIPIENT

Bishop Mark Brennan (Retired)
Diocese of Wheeling/Charleston

We give thanks for Bishop Brennan's faithful leadership, ecumenical spirit, and enduring witness to Christ's love in West Virginia and beyond.



REGIONAL SIX-WEEK STUDY GROUPS FOLLOWING THE ASSEMBLY

Faithful Response to Christian Nationalism: A Six-Week Study for the Church



Following the Annual Assembly, we invite congregations and groups across West Virginia to join regional six-week study groups that will help us go deeper into faithful response to Christian Nationalism.

EACH WEEK WE WILL:

- ✓ Explore Scripture and theological reflection on Christian Nationalism
- ✓ Learn about its impact on our communities
- ✓ Discern faithful Christian alternatives
- ✓ Practice spiritual disciplines and faithful action
- ✓ Encourage one another in love and hope



Groups will meet in-person or online in regions across the state.

**MORE INFORMATION
COMING SOON!**

Let's continue the conversation, form deeper community, and equip one another to live out our faith with courage and hope.



TOGETHER ON THE JOURNEY

The West Virginia Council of Churches is an ecumenical voice for unity, advocacy, and service. Our Annual Assembly is a time to renew relationships, share resources, and equip one another for ministry in the world.

“Let us not grow weary in doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

— Galatians 6:9



**SCAN TO LEARN MORE
AND REGISTER!**

Learn more and register at www.wvcc.org | 304-344-3141 | director@wvcc.org