

CHURCH PLANTERS TO WELCH, WV

The **BLAKE** Family



hope4welch.com

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July 12, 2026

Summer Update

Dear praying friends,

Thank you to all who prayed about our downtown outreach! We had a fantastic day and gave out 100 hygiene bags and 200 hotdogs, chips and drinks! We also were able to give each person a tract and talk to many people about the Lord and invite them out to church. As a team of us were doing this we had a large group canvassing in Welch passing out tracts and invites as well!

In May we had our open house for people to see all the Lord has done after the flood. We had several of the men who have worked so tirelessly this past year able to be with us. It was a joy to be able to honor them for their labor and praise the Lord for all HE has done through this flood! We had several folks from the community attend as well and it was a great day of fellowship and reflection. We are so thankful for Pastor Tyler McClain one of the associate pastors from our home church who was able to be with us and preach our service that day as well!

In June Harvest Baptist Church from Ackworth, Georgia sent Pastor Ethan Granata and a group of college aged folks to help us do our Vacation Bible School. What a tremendous blessing they were! Each morning they canvassed and invited folks out then we had VBS in the afternoon. On Friday that week we ended it with a carnival! This was our most well attended VBS to date. Each day we averaged 30 or more kids attending! Praise the Lord we had 1 profession of faith! We are so thankful for the group that came! Not only did they work hard and do a great job they had such a sweet spirit and we enjoyed fellowshiping with them that week!

This past weekend we just got back from our home churches junior camp! Michelle is the head cook for the week and I have the privilege of preaching one of the services! It was a great week of ministering to over 90 young people! It's always great to be back with our home church and we are so thankful we are allowed to be a small part each year! Praise the Lord for 8 young people who called on Christ as their Savior that week!

We want to thank each of you who have prayed for Michelle and Leah with their health issues. Michelle has gotten in with a good neurologist and has been diagnosed with occipital neuralgia at the base of her skull. They are doing nerve blocks which has helped her pain tremendously. Continue to pray for Leah. We have completed genetic testing and are awaiting the results which can take months. She struggles a lot during the summer months because heat causes her a lot of joint swelling and pain and affects her mobility. Please continue to pray we get some answers and for wisdom of the best ways to help her!

Please continue to pray the Lord would send help. The area here is so spiritually hard. People are always looking for physical help but have little interest in spiritual help. We know the only thing that is going to help is the Lord! Pray our church would grow and folks would have a desire to serve the Lord. There is so much more we would like to do but with just Michelle, my kids and I doing 99% of the work we are maxed out. Pray the Lord gives us clear direction and grace as we serve Him through the battles and exhaustion. He is ABLE!

Pastor Mike Blake

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