

AMEN ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Submitted by Donnie Lucas

I assumed leadership of the AMEN ministry mid-year 2025, and we have had no financial activity, incoming or outgoing.

The vision I have for the men's ministry is to connect the new young men who are coming through the doors with benefactors who have spent their lives in this parish. There is a lot we can all benefit from each other.

We sponsored the first "Heritage Night" featuring Dr. Touma. The turnout was strong, and I have witnessed more connections between the newcomers and old-comers.

We were able to get a hike scheduled and a visit to the monastery, and participation has grown.

For 2026, we have an itinerary scheduled through June that also includes a camping trip from October 1st through 3rd.

We will continue our 2nd Saturday meetings, but I am adding extra recreational events on maybe the last Friday of the month, like a wiener roast, and on another Friday, Greg Mencotti will share about coin investments.

The challenges we face are distance and interest. Some live too far away, and not everyone will be interested in going to the gun range or investing in precious metals.

The goal is not to overwhelm everyone with too many activities, but to offer opportunities for fellowship and community building while accommodating as many as possible.

I want to collaborate with other parish men's ministries this year and continue to strengthen the community of men we have.

This year, I hope to provide plenty of opportunities for men, both young and old, to come together on Sunday mornings and for everyone to know one another.

To establish, in 2026, a "lite handyman" service available to the elderly, widows, and people with disabilities. This would include changing a light bulb to mowing a lawn, or anything we

can do within our abilities as men of the church to offer as a ministry to the faithful.

Lastly, in 2026, I hope to take part in the larger AMEN ministries across our diocese.

Our Projected 2026 Calendar

January 30th - Moses the Black Movie in Nitro, WV.

Feb 7th men's meeting at church (breakfast), then monastery (lunch).

February 27th, Friday evening meeting in the fellowship hall with Greg Mencotti (coins).

March 14th - screenplay of American Orthodoxy after vespers with Lent friendly pot luck (for the parish).

April 18th Gun range with Chuck and men who want to shoot their guns, and then eating at Smokin J's.

May 9th - AMEN meeting at the church - 10 am - Julian Saad to speak.

June 5th -Friday bonfire and weeny roast TBD.

June 13th - TBD (Saturday Morning).

October 1 - 3 camping trip (Thursday evening through Saturday evening).