



The KBA BEACON

News from our Churches:

Thompstontown Baptist Church ordained Caleb Snook to the gospel ministry on July 22nd. Caleb will continue to serve in various roles at Thompstontown and is also available to provide fill in for pastors in churches around our area.



Mason Dixon Baptist Church has a new Children's Ministry Director:



Jess Beck has been a part of Mason Dixon for several years. She is a native of the area and has been active in working in the children's ministry at Mason Dixon. Jess is married to Ben, and they have four children: Ava, Eliana, Joshua and are awaiting the adoption of their fourth child, Isaac.

Memorial Baptist Church has called Jeff Sours as their new senior pastor at Memorial Baptist Church. Jeff served as the Associate Pastor at Northern Heights in Norfolk, Nebraska prior to coming to Memorial. Jeff and his wife Becky and three children: Luke, Daniel, and Ellie.



On August 29, 2021, at 6:00 pm Memorial Baptist will host a Welcome Service for Jeff and his family. All are welcome to attend.

Greencastle Baptist Church has also called a Senior Pastor to their church. Robert Sheldon and his wife, Sarah, came to Greencastle from First Baptist Church in Silver Creek, New York. Robert and Sarah have two children: Faith and David. Faith and David are students at Grove City College.



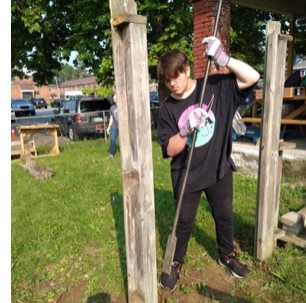
Country and Town Baptist Church: has had a busy summer with their youth. Their youth ministry, Student Impact, joyfully started summer activities as soon as school was out hoping all the time that they would not have to cancel activities this year. Two seniors were honored with dinner for them and their families at a local Italian restaurant. A slide show brought back to mind the many memories from their time in Student Impact. Chocolate was plentiful during the evening.

The students attended Crossings, the summer camp at Skycroft Retreat Center. In addition to two worship services each day the students attended discipleship and personal interest classes. The students and chaperones enjoyed the conversations that having a week without electronics provided.



A mission trip concentrating on work at the Grace House, a ministry of Covenant Community Church kept the kids busy with building a deck, making repairs to the house, cleaning out gutters, removing overgrown weeds and plants from the fence, getting rid of two truckloads of garbage including an old freezer and cleaning out the basement. The last activity of the week was serving at the food bank. Nights were spent at the church playing games (especially the game created for them of Minecraft), going to a movie, and hanging out. Their fun day was an afternoon at Refreshing Mountain tackling the high ropes course.

Other events were hiking, a trip to Knoebels, Sunday afternoon t-shirt making with a movie, and before school begins, a Progressive Dinner and an afternoon of tubing on the Yellow Breeches are planned. Between the electronics free week of camp and the mission trip their students became closer to each other and to the leaders. It was a good summer at C and T and they thank God for keeping all safe and healthy. Jake and Kristelle Shetron are the Youth Pastors.



Mt Moriah Missionary Baptist Church had a soft opening of the Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Johnson Memorial Library and Prayer Room on Sunday, August 15th. The official re-dedication will be held later in September.



Red Land Baptist Church members have adopted a group of seniors at Manor Care Health Services.



One of their members is a resident at the facility. His daughter visits frequently and noticed the lack of visitors for other residents. In July the church sent cards to all and plan to do the same in August. There are other plans to reach the needs of these seniors in the future.

Red Land is also participating in Christmas in August through WMU. They have chosen to work with a new Awakening church in Washington state that is developing a children's ministry that they have seen tremendous growth over the last year.



Stewartstown Baptist Church members volunteered at the Eureka Volunteer Fire Department Carnival the week of July 19th. All proceeds that were raised were given to the Eureka Fire Department.



The church knew it would be a great opportunity to show SBC's love and support to their local community.

Covenant Community Church has received 120 backpacks from Send Relief. They are planning to fill them with hygiene items and school supplies for 3rd graders at Scott Elementary School in Harrisburg for distribution in September. They will need 120 of each item.

Pastor Conrad is asking for KBA churches to help in filling these backpacks. Items needed include shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, hand towels, hand soap, socks, small toys (no toy weapons) pens, pencils, erasers, washable markers, etc. Also needed are hair ties for the girls. If your church would like to help fill these backpacks, please contact Pastor Bob Conrad at: rconrad@ccchbg.org.

Prayer Focus:

Pray for:

- Pastors to be encouraged and be strong in their faith.
- Missionaries and pastors in Haiti
- The persecuted church
- All children who have attended VBS this year.
- Our KBA churches as they begin a new church year.
- Rev. Sheldon and his family as they begin their new ministries at Greencastle Baptist.
- Rev. Sours and his family as they begin their new ministries at Memorial Baptist.
- Adam Hedge (former pastor at Memorial) as he serves as chaplain at Fort Hood in Texas. Along with his wife Meagan and their children.

Congratulations to:



Mark, Kara, and Paul David

Mark and Kara Palimisano welcomed their second child, Paul David Palmisano, born on July 15th at 1:37 pm, weighing 9 pounds, 7 ounces. Paul has an older sister, Hannah. Mark is the Minister of Youth at Family of God Church.



Don Waylon LePore



Owen Everett Davenport

Richard and Theresa Krieg welcomed the Krieg's first grandchild, who has been prayed for over many years. Owen Everett Davenport arrived June 30th at 9:35 am, weighing 7lbs, 1oz. His parents are Kevin and Bethany Davenport. Owen joins his sister, Catherine. Owen's grandad is Richard Krieg, pastor at Red Land Baptist Church

The KBA Office has moved.

Please make note of our new address:

**Keystone Baptist Association
661 Big Spring Road
New Cumberland, PA 17070**



News from KBA:

The KBA "A" Team and Executive Board will meet on **August 30th** by Zoom. The Administrative Team will meet at 6:00 pm, and the Executive Board will meet at 7:30 pm. The Executive Board consists of every pastor of a KBA church plus one church member chosen by the church body of that church.

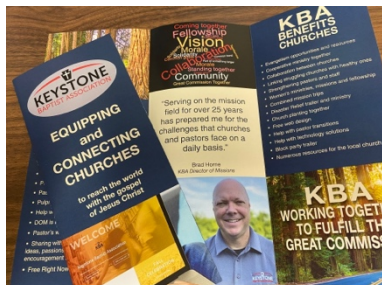
SAVE THE DATE:



Join us in a day of celebration at the KBA annual meeting on Saturday, **October 16th**, at Red Land Baptist Church in New Cumberland. We will begin with a continental breakfast at 9:00 am and the annual meeting will begin at 10:00 am. Russell and Kristi Johnson from Conway, SC, will be leading in worship and Mark Mirza will be returning. Lunch will be served. More information to come.

Pastor's Prayer: Pastors continue to meet on Thursday mornings at 10:00 am for prayer. All pastors and pastoral staff are invited to join.

KBA Pastor Wives continue to meet at 7:30 pm on Monday nights for prayer by zoom. They will meet in person at John's Diner (New Cumberland, PA) on **September 25th at 10:00 am** for breakfast and fellowship. We will also be meeting together for a continental breakfast at the annual meeting on **October 16th at 9:15 am**. If you are a Pastor's wife, please consider joining us. For additional information, contact the office: office@keystonebaptist.net.



KBA also has produced a new **brochure**. There are numerous SBC churches in our area that are not members of KBA. This brochure is designed to share what KBA provides both pastors and the church. These brochures are available for your church also.

Brad is hosting a KBA trip to Israel February 10-20, 2022. This tour is for all KBA church members. It includes a nine-day tour of walking were Jesus walked. Sites include: Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Sea of Galilee (including a boat ride) Nazareth village, Capernaum (The temple where Jesus taught), Jezreel Valley (Armageddon), the Dead Sea, Qumran caves (Where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found), Masada, Israel Museum, Mt. of Transfiguration, Joppa and Jordan River.



Tour brochures are available. There will be an informational meeting on September 14th, at 7pm.



Several KBA churches came together to help the **Freedom Biker Church** in York, PA, celebrate their fifth anniversary on July 17th. Pastors and church members served food and parked cars. The church also baptized five new believers. Pastor Jim Quoss said, "Five baptisms on our 5th anniversary. Coincidence? I think not."



Lifeway wants to hear about your VBS: If your church held a Vacation Bible School this year, please be sure to complete this survey. Go to: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScElyBPBoIkHXXJS7peYfkhuHlgFui6k2UFJBsdm8ZiI6WvA/viewform> for the survey form.

Job Openings:

Check the website KeystoneBaptist.net for job descriptions and contact information.

Continue to pray for these churches:

Josiah's Way continues to seek a Pastor.

Memorial Baptist Church is seeking a Director of Next Generation Ministries to be responsible for providing leadership in planning, conducting, and evaluating a Christ-centered ministry from preschool through high school.

Mountain View Community Church is seeking a bi-vocational pastor.

Oakwood Baptist Church has an open position for an aide in their Day School. If interested in applying call Kathy Bertsch at 717-737-7308.

A Word from Brad ~

What's Your Focus?

A young boy was at the zoo with his dad, and they went to the lion's cage to see the ferocious lions. They moved as close to the cage as they were permitted. Then the lion let out a huge roar. The young boy went running and said, "Come on, Dad!

Come on, Dad!" The dad said, "Come on back. It's OK." The boy said, "But the lion, Dad. The lion, Dad". The dad said, "I'm not focusing on the lion, Son, I'm focusing on the cage."



We are all going through life focused on something. We can focus on God and following Him, or we can get distracted and focus on all those things that demand our attention. Are you focused on the lion or the cage?

In the Old Testament, Joshua was not focusing on the giants in the land or the huge walls around Jericho. Joshua was focusing on God. We can't lose perspective. We must focus on God and not be fearful of all of the problems in life.

In July of 2016, my family and I were living in Moscow, Russia, serving with the International Mission Board. It was at this time that Vladimir Putin signed a new law that prohibited religious activities by foreigners. This new law made it illegal to have a Bible study or house church in your home, illegal to hand out Christian literature, including giving someone a Bible, and illegal to even talk with a nonbeliever about our faith. When this new law came out, I was filled with fear. I stopped sharing my faith. I was paralyzed by the fear of going to prison. It took a few months for me to come out of that fog of fear. When I started focusing on Him rather than the new law, He spoke to me from Joshua 1, "Be strong and courageous". Now I didn't go out to the street corner and start proclaiming the gospel at the top of my voice, but I did start to share my testimony and the gospel again. Later we started a house church in our apartment and gave out New Testaments. God gave us courage and took away the fear as we focused on Him instead of going to a Russian jail.

God has told us what to focus on in Matthew 6:33, "Seek first the Kingdom of God", and in Matthew 22:37, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

KBA Financial Update

2021 Second Quarter Receipts: - \$27,938.16

2021 Second Quarter Expenses: - \$29,363.71

2021 Year to date income: \$54,626.71

2021 Year to date expenses: \$63,556.22

New Life at Penn State: Kyla Smith~

Every year the collegiate team in Pennsylvania and South Jersey gather data to follow trends about what high school students in the region are deciding to do post-graduation. Would you be willing to send to fill out the survey below?

With this information we can continue to learn more about the next generation of students. Help inform and equip churches in how to connect and minister to 18–25-year-olds. Finally, we use this to help churches build a bridge for students graduating and moving away to new towns so that they can find strong fellowship with Biblical missional churches and ministries.

Please fill out this survey today: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021BRNNext>

Please pray for all those serving on college campuses across the state. For new students who will be arriving and for all the ministries that will begin.

Please pray for Eric Reiber, Autumn Miller, and Kayla Smith that will be working at Penn State. Consider supporting them financially as they minister to the needs of Penn State students.

UPCOMING BRN EVENTS:



The annual business session and gathering of the Baptist Resource Network will be Tuesday, October 5th, at the Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel. The meeting begins at 9:00 am and ends at 5:30 pm with dinner to follow.

The “Accelerate Conference” will feature author, Will Mancini, as the keynote speaker. There will be breakout sessions, exhibits and more. Go to: brnunited.org/accelerate/ to register.

BRN is hosting a Minister’s Wives event on September 18th at the Hershey Gardens.

For more information and registration:
<https://www.brnunited.org/event/ministers-wives-meet-him-in-the-garden-getaway-hershey-gardens/>

