

AUGUST  
2022



## NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES:

**Central Baptist Church**, Mont Alto, held VBS June 27<sup>th</sup> through July 1<sup>st</sup>. They learned how God builds good and spiritual foundations through love, forgiveness, worth and promise using the Concrete and Cranes material.



**Chambersburg Baptist Church** held its VBS June 12<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>. Their children went on a journey to the Jerusalem Marketplace. A team from Rowan Baptist Church in Clinton, NC partnered with them as they shared the life-changing message of Jesus. 300 invitations were sent out through the community. Their average attendance was 50.



**Heaven Bound Baptist Church**, Mifflinburg, also enjoyed a great week of VBS. Pastor Casey Hostler shared, "We averaged 25 kids and 40 adults per evening. We ended the week by renting the community pool and having a community splash party where we had 4 baptisms and 1 rededication."

**Thompstontown Baptist Church** held its Vacation Bible School June 13<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>. Their group spent time learning about trusting God as they went on “Wilderness Escape” with Moses and the Israelites.



**Thompstontown Baptist** also hosted a community outreach backpack giveaway on Friday, August 5. The event was held at Haldeman Park in Thompsontown and also featured face painting and free hotdogs and chips. Backpacks with school supplies were given to 48 students, grades K-12. After running out of backpacks, names were taken, and an additional 19 backpacks were delivered to homes the following week. What a blessing!

**Stewartstown Baptist Church** “Sparked” their VBS this year July 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>. Check out their YouTube video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=059r8tO-lUw>.

They had 83 kids register and averaged 65 kids per night for the week. At the end of VBS, Pastor Tim agreed to be turned into a human ice cream sundae. Kids took turns spraying 10 cans of shaving cream, 10 cans of silly string, 2 bottles of chocolate syrup, 2 bottles of strawberry syrup, 2 bags of marshmallows, and 4 boxes of sprinkles on him. Pastor Tim stated, “Someone tried to shoot silly string up my nose. But we had a great week, and our volunteers were awesome.”



**Stewartstown Baptist Church** youth traveled to Huntington, West Virginia, to serve with World Changers. In total they brought 15 adults and students to help the Huntington community by building wheelchair ramps, painting damaged buildings, fixing broken fences, and being a spiritual influence on everyone they interacted with. Pastor Chandler Robinson shared: “Overall, the trip was a great success, with multiple opportunities to share the gospel and pray for those who are a part of Huntington.”



**Memorial Baptist Church, Gettysburg**, Bill Farris, Director of Next Gen Ministry shared “We had a great VBS at MBC this year. The theme was Zoomerang and we learned about the sanctity of life. Our students enjoyed many nights of learning, crafts, and we ended with an awesome night learning about reptiles and other mammals. The students also raised \$208 in spare change for “Paks for Pakistan” which provides students in Pakistan school supplies for the year.”



**Country and Town Baptist, Mechanicsburg**, held their VBS the week of July 17 – 22. 85 children registered and attended. They ended their week with a family fun night.



**Country and Town, Mechanicsburg** also held their KPAC (Kids Performing Arts Camp) July 31- August 5. Rev. Phil Cockrell shared “We had 45 kids in attendance each day. And had a full house for our Friday night show.”



## PRAYER FOCUS:

### Pray for:

- Pastor Terry Felton in the loss of his father.
- Pastor Maynard Jones in the loss of his mother.
- Rev. Dan Dellosso in the loss of his brother.
- Brad and Jeanine's Ukrainian friend Zhenya who was wounded in battle and is healing in the hospital in Ukraine. His wife and children are currently in Canada.
- The children that attended VBS in our churches.
- The spiritual wellbeing of our troops that are deployed in the area and those fighting in Ukraine.
- The partnership with the Mississippi Baptist Convention and that it will be fruitful.
- KBA churches and their pastors. We currently have two churches without pastors and four additional churches that are in the process of searching for new pastors. Please pray for wisdom, discernment, and God's will for the Pastor Search Committees at Mount Wolf Community, Fellowship Baptist Church in Fairfield, New Hope Baptist in Mifflinburg, and Friendship Baptist in Stewartstown, Mountain View Community Church in Richfield, and Living Faith Evangelical in Littlestown as they seek a pastor.

## NEWS FROM KBA:

Brad attended an IMB Associational Mission Strategist Retreat with other DOMs at the International Learning Center in Rockville, Va. There he spent time with other Associational leaders discussing how to connect churches to the mission of the International Mission Board (IMB). During his visit he had the opportunity to spend time with Dr. Paul Chitwood, IMB President.



**Pastor's Prayer:** Pastors continue to meet on Thursday mornings at 10:00 am and Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm for prayer. All pastors are invited to join for prayer.

**Pastors' Wives** continue to meet by zoom for prayer on Mondays at 7:30 pm.

**The KBA WEBSITE:** Be sure to check the KBA website for updated information, videos, and future events. [www.keystonebaptist.net](http://www.keystonebaptist.net).

### UPCOMING:

**Executive Board Meeting:** Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, Red Land Baptist Church at 7:00pm.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pastor's Mini Golf Tournament:** September 1<sup>st</sup>, Rutter's Putters in York at 2:00pm.

**Pastor's and Wives Retreat:** September 23-24<sup>th</sup>.

**KBA Week of Prayer:** October 9<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Celebrating 60 years of Kingdom Growth.

**KBA Fall Celebration:** October 15<sup>th</sup>, Country and Town Baptist Church.

## WORD FROM BRAD ~ Calling for a Decision

In life, there are times that people are undecided. That's where advertising comes in. It can help them make up their mind. There are people sitting on their couch at home and they are undecided about what they will eat for dinner. Then a commercial for a local pizza place reminds them that they can have hot pizza delivered to their home in 30 minutes. Advertising. Helping people make up their mind and come to a decision.

As believers, we need to help people make up their minds as far as spiritual decisions that need to be made. We need to be like a modern-day Elijah, asking people to think and make a decision as to whom they serve.

1 Kings 18:21 says, "And Elijah came near to all the people and said, "How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him."

Elijah called them out. He asked them to think about who they will serve and then to serve that god. "And the people did not answer him a word." The people were indecisive. Indecision is making a decision.

Being a modern-day Elijah can be challenging. We need to find ways that we can ask people to think and then make a decision as to whether they will serve Christ or something or someone else.

Our family recently took a white-water rafting trip on a family vacation, and I was able to talk with our raft guide, Mike, while we were floating down the calm areas of the river. Mike said that he wanted to wait until the end of his life before accepting Christ. I told him that if he thought it was a good decision to become a Christian at the end of his life, why wait. If it's a good decision at the end of his life, then it's a good decision now. I asked him to make a decision, either for Jesus or for his current life, away from Jesus.

I believe Jesus asked for a decision in John 3, when he told Nicodemus, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Jesus was giving a choice that needed to be made. We see that in John 3:18, "Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God."

We understand that God only sees 2 kinds of people in this verse; those who believe in Jesus and those that don't.

Let's ask people to decide one way or the other, because if they put off the decision and die before they decide, then they have chosen not to believe in Jesus.

Blessings, Brad

## KBA FINANCIAL UPDATE:

July Receipts: \$13,530.99

July Expenses: \$13,074.89



**RK Praise (Russell and Kristi Johnson)** will be returning to the KBA Fall Celebration. They will arrive on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> and are available to sing at your church, Wednesday evening, Thursday or Friday. Let Theresa ([office@keystonebaptist.net](mailto:office@keystonebaptist.net)) know if you are interested in hosting Russell and Kristi at your church.

## NEW LIFE AT PENN STATE: AUTUMN MILLER

**PENN STATE  
WELCOME WEEK!**

<b>MON 8/22</b> Free Ice Cream @Creamery 7:30pm	<b>TUES 8/23</b> New Life Meeting @Pasquerilla 212 6:15pm
<b>WED 8/24</b> Involvement Fair @HUB Lawn 11am-4pm	<b>THURS 8/25</b> Game Night @Pasquerilla Patio 6:30pm

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IG: @new\_life\_psu

### Prayer Requests:

-Pray for our events this week-- that we would be able to connect with many first-year students and be able to serve them well!

-Pray for our student leadership team who has rallied around the value of "community" and wants to see God move in New Life in a way that brings authentic connection and true friendships within New Lifers this year.

-Pray for our newly forming discipleship Triad groups that our leaders are facilitating, so that our students may grow in their faith together.

Right: Free Ice Cream at the Creamery.

Far Right: Eric and Senior TJ. Autumn shares: "We met TJ as a freshman at our free ice cream event 4 years ago. He just happened to be there at the same time as New Life, so we offered to pay for his ice cream. Through that, we got to know him, and he decided to stick around and start coming to New Life! It was a cool full-circle moment."



## WMU: SAVE THE DATE!

**The Annual WMU Meeting will be held on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022.** The theme for this year's meeting will be **"HOPE"**. It will be held at Red Land Baptist Church in New Cumberland from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. More information to come, but be sure to save the date on your church calendar.