December 2022







## **Operation Christmas Child Across KBA**

Fellowship Baptist Church (Fairfield) packed 105 boxes. Demetria Hensley shared: "One of neatest things that happened was that the Morrison family



learned how to make rope while on their trip out west



this summer. When they came home the family figured out how to make their own rope machine! Unbeknownst to them, I had seen how to make a rope machine that could use t-shirts

and turn them into jump ropes and had prayed someone would make such machine. They were able to use the t-shirt fabric on their rope machine to finish making the jump ropes we needed



for the shoeboxes, what a blessing!" They also packed fishing kits, sewing kits, marble kits, domino kits, made cross necklaces, and made bendy dolls. They had yard sales and lemonade stands that helped raise the money to ship the boxes. Demetria concludes by stating "Our little, but mighty congregation and community showed up to be able to fund the shipping of the boxes. There were so many blassings along

the boxes! There were so many blessings along the way that deserve to be mentioned and God had it all planned."

First Baptist Church Hanover packed 204 boxes this year.

Stewartstown Baptist collected 58 boxes this year.

Central Baptist Church (Mount Alto) packed 52 boxes this year.



**Thompsontown Baptist Church** packed 240 shoeboxes at our Packing Party & Pie Social on November 12<sup>th</sup>. Another 25 shoeboxes were packed by individuals

and families, bringing their church total to 265. They also served as a



Drop-off center during National Collection Week, receiving an additional 904 shoeboxes, bringing the location total to 1,169 shoeboxes. A team of 12 served at the Baltimore Processing Center on Monday, Nov 28.





Memorial Baptist Church (Gettysburg) packed 122 boxes this year. The youth aided in packing boxes this year.





Mason Dixon Baptist Church (New Freedom) packed a total of 188 shoeboxes. 100 of them were packed at a packing party.

Greencastle Baptist Church packed 166 shoeboxes.



## Other Church News:

**Greencastle Baptist** participated with a float in the Greencastle Annual Christmas Parade on November 19<sup>th</sup>.





**Chambersburg Baptist** held their annual Thanksgiving meal on Sun Nov 20<sup>th</sup> with 71 in attendance.



Central Baptist Church (Mont Alto) had a float in the Mont Alto Christmas parade on



November 19<sup>th</sup>. Pastor John stated: "We gave out 1300 candy canes and 500 coloring sheets with church information. Then we had a pizza party to warm up and celebrate a job well done!"



## News from KBA:

**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. We will meet together for a time of fellowship on January 21, 2023, at Central Baptist Church.

**KBA Israel Tour**: February 8-17<sup>th</sup>, KBA will be traveling to Israel. This trip is open for any member of a KBA Church. For additional details or if you are interested, email Brad or Theresa. **The KBA Website**: Be sure to check the KBA website for updated information, videos, and future events. <u>www.keystonebaptist.net</u>.

### KBA Financial Update:

November Receipts: \$8,657.21 November Disbursements: \$10,446.71

# A Word from Brad:

### Would you Prayerfully Consider Financially Helping KBA?

We know it is easy for a church to feel 'financially taxed' by a number of appeals this time of year. This is why in my 2 ½ year tenure as Director of Missions for KBA, that I have not asked either a church or pastor to give to KBA until now.

Over the last two years, KBA has received about 10% less than what we have needed for ministry and have had to pull from our savings account, which is dwindling.

Just as there is a blessing in doing ministry and helping others, there is also a blessing when giving to the association. Every church in the association has received something from KBA, whether it be fellowship, networking, training, encouragement, opportunities, etc. Churches have agreed together to give to the KBA when they became a member of KBA. Churches are encouraged to send a percentage of their tithes and offerings so the giving increases if the church grows and decreases if the church grows smaller.

Recently, Giving Tuesday, the Tuesday after Cyber Monday, is just another reminder that we should give to those ministries that God has put on our hearts.

As you know, KBA offers tremendous benefits and opportunities for Baptist churches and pastors that individual churches wouldn't have on their own.

**KBA offers pastors** opportunities for weekly Zoom prayer calls, fellowship with other pastors, training for pastors, round tables, mission trips, partnerships, encouragement, etc. **KBA benefits churches** by collaboration and cooperation with other churches, help with pastor searches, combined mission trips, evangelism/discipleship training, web-site support, women's ministry, church planting, etc.

#### Will you help us at KBA to fulfill the Great Commission and offer people the hope of heaven as we take seriously the Great Commission of evangelism and discipleship?

Your generous gift will help us reach our goals of helping churches and pastors in 2023.

We know that you can support many organizations today, but when you give to KBA, you partner with us, and there is that personal touch and helping hand. God has positioned KBA to equip and connect pastors and churches to share the hope of the gospel.

You can DONATE NOW by going online: <u>https://keystonebaptist.net/donate.html</u> or mail a check to KBA, 661 Big Spring Road, New Cumberland, PA 17070. Your generous gifts to KBA helps spread the gospel that truly changes everything!

## **Congratulations To:**



Chandler and Alyssa Robinson on the birth of their daughter, Carolyn Michele.

Born November 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:47. Weighing in at 7lbs and 14oz. Chandler is associate pastor at Stewartstown.

Jordan and Chantel Alturas. Jordan shares: "So, we thought we were adding one more to our already large family, but it

turns out God decided to grant us exceedingly more. Identical triplets will be joining our family May/June of 2022!" Jordan is the pastor at Fellowship in State College.



## Prayer jocus:

**Pray for:** 

- Jim Crowder as he recovers at home from being in the hospital.
- Karen Gerstmyer and her health.
- The Administrative Team as they continue to consider a partnership with South Central Baptist Association.
- The continued partnership with the Mississippi Baptist Convention and that it will be fruitful.
- KBA churches and their pastors. Please pray for wisdom, discernment, and God's will for the Pastor Search Committees at Mount Wolf Community, Fellowship Baptist Church in Fairfield, Friendship Baptist in Stewartstown, Mountain View Community Church in Richfield, and Living Faith Evangelical in Littlestown as they seek a pastor.

# New Life at Penn State:



"Autumn Miller and Kayla Smith will be moving on from New Life at the end of the year. They have both been on the New Life staff for the past five and a half years. Kayla was a student for two years with the ministry prior to joining the staff team. The ministry has been blessed by the work of both Kayla and Autumn. They helped transition our ministry to our current discipleship structure. Kayla

has been an amazing Bible Study teacher who has such a knack for clearly explaining God's Word. Autumn designed the majority of our student leadership structure that we implement in the ministry today, with the focus on empowering the leaders to have ownership in the ministry. We are excited for their next seasons while also acknowledging that they will be greatly missed. They now move to full New Life alumni status!" ~ Eric Reiber

Kristi Brown of RK Praise has written a new devotional book titled, "He Sings Over Me." If you would like a copy, let us know. The cost is \$12.00. A perfect Christmas gift!



There were 61 in attendance including 9 KBA churches. Linda Cooper was the conference speaker and endeared the gospel of hope to those in attendance. Joan Theisen, Kathy Sheldon, and Pam Johnson all led in break out sessions. It was a memorable and joyful day.

















# For Sale:

Larry Theisen is selling a 2000 dodge caravan for \$2,500 OBO AS IS. To find out additional information or if you or your church is interested, contact Larry at <u>Theisen.Larry@gmail.com</u>. Larry states: "It runs well, has 90,000 original miles, been garage kept, nearly new tires and brakes, and March 2023 inspection."

### Giveaway:

Country and Town are giving away 22 chairs. They are currently listed for sale on Facebook Market Place, but we will give them to another church for free. The chairs are custom chairs made by New Holland right here in PA. Very sturdy and well made. If interested, contact Phil Cockrell at: <u>pcockrell@ctbc.org</u>.

Keystone Baptist Association "Equipping and Connection Churches To reach the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ."



