

August
2023



News From Our Churches:

[Chambersburg Baptist Church](#) celebrated its 54th anniversary on Sunday, July 23rd with a fellowship meal following the worship service.



The following Sunday, July 30th, Pastor Kenny Craig baptized two children.



[Thompsontown Baptist Church](#) hosted a free “Back to School” event for the Thompsontown and surrounding areas. On Friday, August 4, 2023, they spent an evening in a local park offering free food (hotdogs, water, snow cones & popcorn), face painting, games, and backpacks for all ages! They handed out 66 backpacks to children in preschool - grade 12, which were full of school supplies!

Christina Snook, Children’s Ministry Director shared “Each year we ask our congregation to donate items to put in the backpacks, such as binders, pencils, crayons, erasers, etc. We had the opportunity to share the Gospel with several families from our area.”



From Our Churches (cont.)

Country and Town Baptist Church (Mechanicsburg)

hosted their fourteenth KPAC (Kids Performing Arts Camp) 2023 beginning July 30th and ending August 4th. Pastor Phil Cockrell shares “It was a great success with 56 kids registered for the weeklong camp.”



The camp is designed for kids entering 2nd – 8th grades and includes singing, dance, drama, bucket band and daily Bible lessons.

Family of God (Red Lion) hosted their Vacation Bible School from July 31st to August 4th where they studied the life of Jonah.



Mason Dixon Baptist Church(New Freedom)

hosted their “Twists and Turns” VBS July 24th through the 28th. 135 children attended along with 90 volunteers. Starting with a kickoff “Hype Night” on Sunday July 23rd which included a family picnic. The picnic provided an opportunity for the gospel to be shared, Jess Beck Children’s Ministry Director stated.



Amanda Felton, pastor’s wife, shared on her Facebook page: “Our church couldn't do VBS without these amazing youth! They show up and decorate the week before and then serve the kids all week during VBS. I love them and they are all so amazing!”

News From KBA:

Executive Board Meeting: KBA's Executive Board (Pastor and one church member) will meet Monday, August 28th 11:00am at Thompsonstown Baptist Church.

Pastor's Fishing Excursion: On September 25th and 26th, KBA pastors are invited on a six-hour fishing tour. The group will head down to Annapolis on the 25th and will be on the boat at 5:45am on the 26th. The fishing trip is free, but space is limited. Contact Brad for additional information.



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

Pastor's Roundtable will meet on September 28th at 10:00 am.

KBA Israel Tour: The trip is scheduled for February 8-17th, 2024 and is open for any member of a KBA Church. There is still time to sign up. Do you need a brochure? Do you have any questions? Contact the office for additional information.

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

Mark your Calendars: The KBA Annual Fall Celebration will be Saturday, October 14th. Beginning at 10:00 am and will be held at Chambersburg Baptist Church.

Pray for:

- Rev. Steve Sheldon as he becomes the interim minister at Fellowship Baptist Church in Fairfield.
- Jordan and Chantel Alturas as they navigate parenting triplets and Jordan opens a fitness center, Treign Fit in State College.
- Back to School Events, Fall Festivals, and other ministries in our churches.
- Serve Philadelphia: NAMB event September 15th and 16th.
- 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, Mountain View Community Church in Richfield, and Living Faith Evangelical in Littlestown as they seek a pastor.
- New Life at Penn State as they begin to reach out to students for the 2023-2024 school year.

A Word from Brad ~ They Don't Recognize Him

We all recognize people that we know, whether they are our family members, our friends, our neighbors, our colleagues, or just somebody that we have seen before. When we see them in person, we recognize them by their looks. If they call us on the phone, we recognize them by their voice. If we have never met someone before, we don't recognize them.

John 1:10 says that the world "didn't recognize" Jesus. Some versions of the Bible say, "didn't know him", and The Message puts it this way, "the world didn't even notice" him. I believe that today we have the same situation. People don't recognize Jesus.

The failure to recognize Jesus is not because he is hidden from people. Romans 1:20 says that God has "been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So, they are without excuse."

People fail to recognize Jesus because of their ignorance and blindness, caused by sin.

If you want one of your friends to meet another friend of yours, you introduce them. At that point, they become acquainted and can get to know each other and will recognize each other the next time they meet.

Wouldn't it be strange if your best friend from another state was visiting you and you invited all your local friends to a party at your house, but you never introduced your best friend to any of those other friends. In the same way, it should be strange to us as Christians that we would say that Jesus is our best friend, and yet we fail to even mention him throughout the week to others that we know.

So how can people today begin to recognize our friend (and Lord) Jesus? We have to introduce him to people. Faith in Jesus comes from hearing (Romans 10:17). People (unbelievers) don't inherently know that they need to meet Jesus, and Christians don't know that they need to tell people about Jesus, so Jesus gave us the Great Commission and commanded us to share. John 12:21 says, "Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him." Isaiah knew God and then spoke of him to others.

Jesus does invite people who do not know him to come and get to know him. He said in Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

God's way of people coming to recognize Jesus and to know him is for us to tell people about him. So, introduce your friend, Jesus, to your other friends so that they can get to know and love Jesus like you do. Without us as his witness, our friends, family, neighbors, and colleagues might not ever have the joy of knowing your best friend.

KBA Financial Update

2023 July Income: \$17,447.46
2023 July Expenses: \$8,881.35

NAMB Serve Tour: Philadelphia

Please be praying for KBA churches that will be participating in Serve Tour. There is still an opportunity for your church to participate in this mission experience serving in Philadelphia September 15th and 16th. For additional information, go to:

<https://www.sendrelief.org/serve-tour/philadelphia/>.



New Life at Penn State- Eric Reiber:

EVENTS EARLY FALL SEMESTER

HERE ARE SOME GREAT EVENTS HAPPENING TO CONNECT WITH SOME AMAZING PEOPLE WHO LOVE JESUS

MONDAY 21 730 PM: Free Creamery ice cream for any student who comes	TUESDAY 29 615 PM: New Life (Dinner provided) 212 Spiritual Center
TUESDAY 22 615 PM: New Life (Dinner provided) 212 Spiritual Center	WEDNESDAY 30 1215 PM: 1st weekly Bible Study HUB 328
WEDNESDAY 23 ALL DAY: Involvement Fair on HUB lawn, come say hi!	MONDAY 4 2 PM: Hike up Mt. Nittany Meet at Pollock Testing
FRIDAY 25 6 PM: Dinner at the Arboretum	FALL 2023

I hope this helps you find something fun to do to start the fall!

✱

Please be in prayer for Eric and their team this upcoming week. Pray for the students that have and will attend one of these events.

Pray for interns to help in the New Life ministry this year at Penn State.

Note:

As a part of the KBA budget we send \$2000 to help in the New Life ministry.

Another way KBA has been supporting New Life Students at Penn State is by providing hot chocolate and breakfast bars that are brought to the KBA annual meeting.

Ministry Opportunity:

Rev. John Worrall is available for pulpit supply or interim work. Recently John and Alice completed their 10-month interim at New Hope Baptist Church which concluded with the blessing of New Hope finding their new pastor. John's Contact information: Cell: 814-460-7576 and Email: PastureJ@gmail.com. (Yes, this is the correct email.)

WMU will host its annual meeting on November 4th, 2023, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Red Land Baptist Church. This year we have added a track for your youth girls, 6th through 12th grade. The cost will be \$10.00. If you want additional information, send an email to: pa.sjwmu@gmail.com.



WMU Children's Missions Day is Saturday, September 16th during the Serve Philadelphia Tour. NAMB has asked children to provide cards that will be distributed to the homeless on Saturday. If the children in your church would like to participate, they can make cards and send them by September 7th to:



Rev. Gerald Waters
5858 Washington Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19143



The Baptist Resource Network (BRN) will hold its annual business session and gathering on Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023. The Keynote Speaker will be Jeff Christopherson, Author, and Executive Director of the Canadian National Baptist Convention. Jermaine Dolly, Worship Leader, and Christian Recording Artist will be leading in worship.

Go to: <https://www.brnunited.org/acc23> to register.

Keystone Baptist Association:
“Equipping and Connecting Churches to reach the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. “