

November  
2023



## News From Our Churches:



**Central Baptist Church (Mont Alto)** is pleased to welcome Austin Burton as their new Assistant Pastor. Pastor John Buhr shares "Austin was raised in a Christian home and grew up attending Friendship Baptist Church. He attended Lancaster Bible College from 2016-2020, where he had a double major in Communication and Bible. He then spent two years as a campus minister at the Penn State main campus in State College. Austin has come to Central Baptist Church to help as Assistant Pastor, with a focus on reaching nearby college campuses. Please pray for Austin as he and Central Baptist work together to spread the Good News!"

**Thompstontown Baptist Church** youth attended the Momentum Retreat November 3-5<sup>th</sup> at Joy El retreat center. Ten youth along with three adult chaperones enjoyed a great time of fellowship and activities. They were challenged to become stronger in their walk with the Lord. The youth raised money throughout the year to finance their trip.



**Greencastle Baptist Church** has begun a Children in Action (CA) in their church, teaching children about missions and missionaries. Sarah Sheldon shares "We've got a month of Children in Action under our belts! Our group of about eight kids is a joy and a challenge. It's a blessing to hear them learning about missions, starting to serve and learning to pray for the missionaries. These photos are of the kids making s'mores trail mix to share with everyone at church, as a thank you, for making the program possible."



## News From Our Churches (continued)

**Stewartstown Baptist Church** continues to serve their community by coming alongside local schools, helping teachers and children. Vernessa Parker shares, "Through our Heart and Sole Ministry, we have had the privilege of providing several pairs of shoes to children in need. As we await the colder temperatures of winter, we anticipate more requests for shoes and coats. We also continue to assist school counselors by providing food items for meals for students and their families over the weekends when school meals are not an option."

Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, they fed the teachers of Stewartstown Elementary School as they held parent-teacher conferences. "We are thankful for every opportunity to share the love of Christ as we minister in this way."

Vernessa also shares about their children's ministry. "AWANA has already been so rewarding as we watch children memorize God's Word. In October, we had Dress Up Night, where kids were encouraged to wear costumes for the evening. There were many creative ideas, and everyone had a wonderful time through both play and study."



**Memorial Baptist Church (Gettysburg)** has had a very busy late summer and fall.



Recently the church shared in the baptism of Lauren who was saved at the end of VBS. Her Dad had the privilege of baptizing her.

On October 29<sup>th</sup> the church held a Trunk or Treat.



Pastor Jeff Sours commented that "Our purpose is simple - to let our community know that we are here and that we care about them."

Also, Memorial invited eighteen craft vendors to participate in "November Fest." This event helped in Memorial's desire to build relationships. Providing an opportunity for the church to serve the community and bringing them into the church building.





## News From Our Churches (continued)

**Fellowship Baptist Church (State College)** has begun meeting at Pastor Jordan Alturas' new Cross Fit Gym, Treign Fit, in State College. Please continue to pray for the Alturas family and for his new business and their ongoing ministries.



**Family of God Community Church (Red Lion)** recognized all their pastors on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Wanda Edmondson shared: "As many of you know, October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Here at Family of God Community Church, we take a Sunday to recognize all our pastors. We express our gratitude for them and the ministry they are committed to at our church and the neighborhood that surrounds us. More importantly, we pray over them, that the Lord will bless their calling, their teaching, and their commitment to sharing Christ with everyone who walks through our doors and those who live in the community around us."

We not only recognize all our pastors, but we also take a Sunday to recognize our pastor's wives. A pastor's wife will often keep her husband's long hours, shoulder his pressures, feel his disappointments, and share in the struggles that come with the role of a pastor. Although these women serve the church as a faithful member, alongside the other women in the church, they are in the unique position to encourage, pray for, and support her husband who is entrusted to lead and shepherd the church family."



**Carlisle Baptist Church** hosted a Family Fall Fest on Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. Included in the event (besides the rain) were fall snacks, pumpkin painting, games, and fellowship. Pastor Ed Roman writes "In spite of the weather we had a great day engaging families from the area."



## News From KBA:

**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 November 30th at 10:00 am. Ben Dickinson from Right Now Media will be sharing with the group.

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

**The Southwest Zone Christmas Party** will be held November 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at Hoss' Restaurant in Chambersburg. The cost for the dinner is \$15.00 per couple or \$7.50 per person and KBA will cover the remaining costs. All pastors and church staff are invited to attend. Please RSVP by November 20<sup>th</sup> [office@keystonebaptist.net](mailto:office@keystonebaptist.net).

**The Southeast Zone Christmas Party:** Additional information to come.

**The North Zone Christmas Party** will be held on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> with additional information to come. Eric Reiber is the newly appointed North Zone leader.

## Pray for:

- ☐ Austin Burton, the new Associate Pastor at Central Baptist Church in Mont Alto.
- ☐ Pastor Michael Knott as he continues therapy on his elbow.
- ☐ Karen Gerstmyer who is in remission from cancer. Please continue to pray for her.
- ☐ Rev. Steve Sheldon and his interim ministry at Fairfield Baptist Church.
- ☐ Pastors and their families physical and spiritual needs.
- ☐ The outreach events and ministries in KBA churches.
- ☐ Good News Clubs and Bible Adventure Clubs in the area.
- ☐ 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.

## News from New Life – Penn State

Eric Reiber has begun his position as the BRN Associate Next Gen Director. A large part of his new role is to assist Stanley Williams BRN Next Gen Director in starting college ministries on campuses across the state.

Additionally, Eric will be responsible for partnering with BRN churches encouraging them to reach college students in their communities. "We need churches to be passionate about reaching the next generation. We need churches that want to be welcoming to college students; we want churches that want to go to the campuses, and we want churches to be actively praying for the college students," says Eric.

Please be in prayer for Eric as he takes on this new role while continuing his work with college students through New Life at Penn State.





## Word from Brad: Raising Up the Next Generation

When I was a little boy, I wanted to grow up to be a policeman. My parents listened to me and even encouraged my dream by buying a play gun, badge, and cowboy boots (a necessity for being a policeman in Texas).

But what if my parents had told me that being a pastor or missionary and following God was a way that God could use me to make an eternal difference? What if they had encouraged me in that endeavor?

I believe that we can be intentional and raise up a generation of pastors and missionaries. We can bring them up in the Lord and following Him. We can make it cool again for our children to serve God in following Him in full-time ministry. So that our kids' heroes are Noah, Moses, Abraham, King David, Elijah, Peter, and Paul? So that more of our kids want to serve on the front lines like Lottie Moon, William Carey, David Livingston, or Jim Elliot?

What if our kids listened to great preachers like Billy Graham, Chuck Swindoll, John MacArthur, Adrian Rodgers, or David Jeremiah?

What if we helped our kids to read and memorize scripture, or if we prayed with them every day, or read the Bible to them, or held a family devotional time 5 days a week?

What if we intentionally took our kids to places like The Bible Museum, The Creation Museum, or The Ark Encounter instead of secular attractions such as Disney World or Hershey Park?

Are we training up our children in the Lord? Are we taking Deuteronomy 6 to heart? "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."

The Apostle Paul poured into Timothy and trained him up to do the work of an evangelist.

Let's be intentional about raising up the next generation, whether they be our kids, someone else's kids, our grandkids, to follow and serve our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. May we pray for the next generation of faithful believers who will lead and serve the future Church.

May we all be able to say, "I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth." 3 John 1:4. Wouldn't it be the most important thing to us as parents to hear that our children are being faithful in their walk with the Lord?

**Blessings, Brad**

**WMU:** PA/SJ WMU met November 4th at Red Land Baptist Church in New Cumberland for their annual meeting. The theme for the event was **Hope for our World**. Over 60 women and men attended the 53rd celebration of WMU in the state of Pennsylvania and South Jersey. Many of the attendees were from our KBA churches.



Linda Cooper, president of KY WMU and past National President returned this year to lead in the general sessions. There were also six small group sessions available during the day. Three dealt with health issues led by Dr. Alberta Morgan and Pam Ammons. Linda Cooper held a session on prayer, Alice Worrall (KBA pastor's wife) led a Bible Study on Hope. WMU Leadership team members led three additional sessions. Fanny Grote led a session on Annie Armstrong, Kathy Sheldon led a session on what missions looks like in the local church and Theresa Krieg led a session in helping strangers to find hope.

The group also wrote note cards to single and young IMB missionaries couples that will be sent to them. Prayer Cards were available for attendees to take home and they were encouraged to pray for their chosen missionary daily. There was also a time of prayer dedicated to missionaries that were having their birthday on the 4th.



New to this meeting was a special track for 6th to 12th grade girls. There were 3 girls that attended this brand-new event. They heard from a former missionary, a current missionary and enjoyed a Bible Study with Kristelle Shetron, Youth Pastor's wife at Country and Town. They also participated in a mission's project. The girls joined the final session and shared their mission project with the total group.

Those that joined were challenged to be on Mission. The challenge came in the form of a statement shared by Linda Cooper: "We must be available for God to use us and must remember that God doesn't call the qualified...He qualifies for the call."



### **KBA Financial Update**

**2023 October Income: \$10,550.84**

**2023 October Expenses: \$9,282.23**