

January
2024



News From Our Churches:

Chambersburg Baptist Church ended the year by baptizing five on December 31st. The church baptized a total of 16 in 2023.

Hanover Fellowship Church is hosting a "Missions Sunday" on February 25th. Peggy Harling shares "We have Ken & Carrie Liles missionaries to Muslims, Charlie & Diane Brown missionaries to Baltimore, MD, and Brad & Jeanine Horne, KBA missionaries coming in person to our church. We will also be doing a zoom call with Dwight & Melissa Poggemiller missionaries to Romania during our luncheon." All are invited to attend. Contact Peggy at: office.hanoverfellowship@gmail.com for additional information. Peggy adds "This is a great opportunity for them to bring young people or anyone really who is interested in actually meeting a missionary and learning about missionary life."



Stewartstown Baptist Church Stewartstown Baptist Church is hosting a mission trip to La Romana, Dominican Republic, on August 3-10th, 2024. They want to take a group of no more than 20 and invite KBA church members to join the team. The mission will be evangelistic in its focus, moving daily from village to village, praying and sharing the gospel. The team will hold morning services for children and adults each day. After lunch, the team will go door to door, handing out food, praying for the residents, and sharing the good news of Jesus. The cost of this trip is no more than \$1,500.00. Ages sixteen and older are welcome to join the team, and ages twelve- to sixteen may attend but must have a parent(s) with them. If interested, please get in touch with Chandler Robinson at: 717-993-6382 or chandler@stewbaptist.org for additional information.

Central Baptist Church (Mont Alto) are planning a youth event at the church on Sunday, March 3rd at 5:30pm. Led by Bill Burcher and Associate Pastor Austin Burton, this hour-long event will include games, pizza, and a Bible Study. They are inviting all KBA youth to join them. For additional information contact Austin at 717-654-6614 or marvel2014.ab@gmail.com.

News From Our Churches (continued)

Family of God (Red Lion) baptized 31 people in 2023. They ended the year by baptizing 19 on New Year's Eve. One precious baptism was that of a 91-year-old woman.



Greencastle Baptist Church

will be hosting an Evangelism Training on Saturday, March 2nd. Pastor Rob Sheldon is inviting KBA churches to join them in the training. Additional information about schedule and timing to come. If you are interested in attending, contact the church at greencastlepastor@gmail.com.



News from KBA:

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

Pastor's Roundtable: Thursday, January 25th. Jewish Christian, Jonathan Morris, will lead a discussion on Jewish holidays and customs. There will be opportunity for questions and answers.

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

The Southeast Zone pastors and wives will meet Friday, February 2nd at 6:30pm for their annual dinner at the Lyndon Diner in York. Please RSVP by January 30th.



The "Stand to Reason" Youth Apologetics Conference will be held on March 22nd and 23rd in Downingtown, PA. Several youth groups from KBA churches are planning to attend. The conference cost is \$49.00 if registered by January 27th. General sessions include: "Man or Maker?", "How Were you Made?" Breakout sessions include topics on social media, suicide, and sexual identity. Go to: www.realityapologetics.com/pa for additional information.

Annual Church Profile (ACP): It's that time of the year again to send in the Annual Church Profile for your church. This profile collects data that is used by the SBC Executive Committee to measure the growth and the health of SBC churches. If you need a copy of your ACP, contact the office and we will send one to you. Deadline is February 15th.

Remembering Rev. Ralph Mentzer

Former KBA Pastor, Ralph E. Mentzer, age 85 passed away December 10th, 2023. He attended Emmanuel Baptist Church in Elizabethtown. Rev. Mentzer was saved when he was 24 years old. He was a youth group leader, Christian Home League minister, a deacon, and was ordained into the gospel ministry in 1977. He ministered at East Berlin, Columbia, and Marysville. He was also the former pastor of New Heart Baptist Church which was a previous KBA Church. Rev. Ralph and Mrs. Jannie-Lee were married for 65 years. They have six children Vicki, Connie, Judy, Stanley, Patti, and Jeffrey. The funeral was held on Monday, December 18th at Memorial Baptist Church. If you would like to send a card to Jannie-Lee, her address is: 550 Carriage Lane, York, PA 17406

Pulpit Supply

Rev. Larry Theisen former KBA Director of Missions is available to preach at your church. Larry recently completed an interim ministry and is now available for pulpit supply. Contact Rev. Theisen through email theisen.larry@gmail.com or phone 717-512-9019.

Congratulations

Rev. John and Peggy Harling (Hanover Fellowship) are new grandparents. Ezekiel Kavod Harling was born January 9th at 11:59pm. He weighed 9 pounds and 3 ounces.



Update: The Alturas Family



Pastor Jordan Alturas (Fellowship Church, State College) recently shared how much their family has appreciated the diapers that KBA gave them after the birth of the triplets. He is so thankful that they have been able to return the newborn diapers to local stores and exchange them for different sizes as needed.

Also, they are expecting another child!



Weekend to Remember
by FamilyLife

Join Brad and Jeanine as they attend Weekend to Remember marriage retreat at the Hershey Lodge February 9-11th Cost is \$350 per couple, however the retreat is free for pastors and ministers. For additional information or to register, go to:

www.familylife.com/weekend-to-remember.

A Word from Brad: TellGate Grill

The Keystone Baptist Association recently purchased a new ministry tool for KBA churches to use in evangelism. It's called the TellGate Grill. Many people ask me, "What is this TellGate Grill?" To explain, let me tell you the story of how the idea and ministry got started.

There was a church doing an outreach where they invited the community to their church for free hamburgers. Well, no one was showing up. One of the men involved said to everyone helping out, "Pack it all up, put the grill and burgers on a trailer, and we will start walking down the street." So, the volunteers walked down each street, knocked on doors, and offered free hamburgers to whoever answered the door. The truck with the trailer and grill was parked on the street about 50 yards away. The volunteers were amazed at the receptivity of those they talked to as they offered as many burgers as they would like for free. They continued moving down the street and came across a man and offered him some free hamburgers. Shocked, this man told them that his kids hadn't eaten in three days, and he was on his way to do something bad to make sure they could eat. The man was given enough food to feed his family for several days. God intervened in his life and the man was greatly impacted. As the church went through the neighborhood, it was apparent to the church members that God was moving through conversations to start relationships.

The TellGate Grill is a tool that helps churches see the importance of getting outside the four walls of their buildings. The man with the original idea for this says that he is still blown away how a simple hamburger at a person's front door can change someone's life. He says, "We have seen churches, 'Get it', and we have seen communities change through it."

The idea for the TellGate Grill is simple. It is a mobile outreach where you take a grill down the street and cook as you go. It isn't meant to be stationary because the impact is much greater when you go to the streets or doorsteps of people and show them that Jesus loves them. The driver/grill moves two blocks before stopping to prepare the burger or hot dogs for an area. Groups of three start going door to door. At each door you ask if they'd like a free hot dog or hamburger. Once you take the order, one person acts as the "runner" and returns to the grill to slowly put together the order, giving time for the two people that remain to engage in a spiritual conversation with the person who gave the order.

The TellGate Grill works because it gets the church out of the building and into their communities. The TellGate Grill ministry meets a physical need and then people are often more open to having their spiritual needs met also. Jesus practiced this. Nowhere in the New Testament do we see Jesus inviting people back to the synagogue, but we do see him out in communities, often healing them or feeding them as well as telling them about himself.

Please pray about your church's involvement in this new ministry. Write me if your church is interested in this great outreach opportunity.

Brad

director@keystonebaptist.net

BRAD's BIG FOUR in 2024

The Singing Men of Texas

The Singing Men of Texas will bring 30 singing men to our area from **April 16 -23**. They will be at Memorial Baptist in Gettysburg on Sunday morning and at Country and Town on Sunday night. They are available to sing at your church April, 17th, 18th, 20th, and 22nd. They are also available to sing at any location: Nursing homes, senior centers, schools, and other locations.



The Singing Men of Texas was organized in 1975 and is made up of full-time, part-time, and retired ministers of music as well as others who are dedicated to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ through music in local churches, in our nation, and abroad.

TellGate Grill

Through a generous donation, KBA has purchased a portable grill that your church can use for evangelism. It is designed as a mobile outreach where you take a grill down the street and cook as you go. It isn't meant to be stationary but is used to move down a street going doorstep to doorstep showing others that Jesus loves them.



Pennsylvania Visionary Family Conference

Will be held April 19th through the 21st sponsored by Country and Town Baptist Church in Mechanicsburg. The weekend topics will include Visionary Marriage, Visionary Parenting, Never Too Late, and Your Home a Lighthouse. Additional information is available at: www.VisionaryFam.com/PA.



Evangelism Tent

KBA now has ordered a tent that can be used for evangelistic outreaches at locations such as festivals, carnivals, street fairs, or sporting events. Reserve the tent for your next outreach event by calling or emailing the office.



Pray for:

- 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, Living Faith Evangelical in Littlestown, and Fredericksburg Baptist as they seek a pastor.
- Pastor Bob LaForce (Family of God) as he deals with a cough and congestive heart failure. For his wife, Barbara, who has dementia.
- Karen Gerstmyer who is in remission from cancer. Please continue to pray for her.
- Pastors and their families physical and spiritual needs.
- Good News Clubs and Bible Adventure Clubs in the area.
- Missionaries serving around the world.

News from New Life – Penn State with Eric Reiber

We have started our spring semester in State College, and I want to highlight two aspects of our ministry. New Life does an outreach called Breakfast Crew on our campus. Every Friday morning, we put a table in front of a building called The Forum, it has four large lecture halls, and pass out breakfast bars and hot chocolate for 30 minutes during the first class change. We serve between around 80 students each morning.

The key to this outreach is that students have to make their own hot chocolate, we are not allowed to mix it for them. Therefore, we get in conversations with students every time we do Breakfast Crew. Because we post up in the same location at the same time, we see the same students weekly as well. This means that those conversations evolve as you can only ask name, major, and where you're from so many times. Last year we had over 15 regular students who came weekly, became friends, and began sharing more about who they are with our students. We then take the names of our regulars and write them on a board in our office to pray for them weekly. This is our 20th year straight doing Breakfast Crew!

The other part of ministry I want to highlight is how my family is involved. This past week school and campus were cancelled a few times because of snow. But over a day stretch we (my family) met with two New Life students to sled down a large hill near campus, and then another student joined us at the Women's Hockey game. Students really enjoy engaging a family and it often leads to good discipleship conversations later. An added bonus is my kids love spending time with students who are living out their faith during college.

WMU Fanny Grote and Theresa Krieg recently attended the WMU January Board Meeting in Birmingham, Alabama. They heard challenging messages from Dr. Paul Chitwood (IMB), Dr. Kevin Ezell (NAMB) as well as IMB and NAMB missionaries. Sandy Wisdom-Martin challenged WMU men and women to disciple others in their community. Helping them to become all that God has created.

