

June  
2025



## News From Our Churches:

Stewartstown Baptist Church hosted their annual Ladies Spring Tea and Luncheon on May 19<sup>th</sup> with forty ladies in attendance.



Cheryl Smith, author of the book Life is a Dance and God is the Choreographer, spoke to the ladies. As a part of the program the Diffusion Dance Company also performed. It was a wonderful day for the ladies.

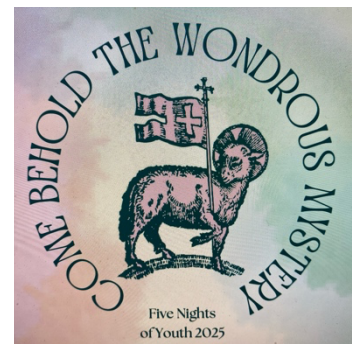
### Chambersburg Baptist Church

enjoyed a great time of fellowship after their worship service on Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. They stayed after church and had a picnic on the grounds with about 30 people in attendance.



Mason Dixon Baptist Church (New Freedom) will be hosting a Youth event at their church called "Five Nights of Youth" (it's essentially the equivalent of Youth Week) and are inviting other KBA youth groups to join them! The dates for the event are August 11-14 (Monday-Thursday), and the times for each night are 6-9pm. Each night, we'll have fellowship, dinner, games, teaching, small groups, and singing.

If you have any questions and/or would like to join them in August, contact Pastor Tyler Hogg [tyler.hogg@mdbconline.com](mailto:tyler.hogg@mdbconline.com). He will need to know as soon as possible if your youth group would like to attend!



### Valley Baptist Church (Middletown)

sent their pastor, Chris Schlensker to Sierra Leone, Africa in May as a part of a ministry that helps train local pastors. Pastor Schlensker shared, "I joined 2 other pastors from different churches, along with Pastor Hassan (he translated for us, as well as helped teach) in Africa, as part of that endeavor. We are currently in year 3 of a 4-year training curriculum from Spread of Grace Ministries (SGM). SGM goes to various countries in Africa, and elsewhere, 3 times a year for 4 years. This trip consisted of us bringing 60 MacArthur Study Bibles (heavy by weight and knowledge) to the students. We had 35 pastors; and 7 Sunday School teachers in attendance this trip. We conducted exams and evaluated 5 pastors on preparing and delivering a sermon. We also evaluated 3 Sunday School teachers on preparing and delivering a lesson. Since our training for Sierra Leone is held at an orphanage, we got to spend some time with the orphans each night. Additionally, the 3 of us split-up to different local churches on Sunday to preach. Lord willing the students will graduate in November of 2026!"



### Central Baptist Church (Mont Alto)

hosted several events over the last few weeks. Pastor John Buhr shared, "On June 14<sup>th</sup>, we had a 'Father and Son' banquet, and it was a very enjoyable time. Matt Robinson (The Director of Franklin/Fulton Child Evangelism Fellowship) spoke on how men can help and mentor others. We also had our outreach opportunity at the Mont Alto Fireman's Carnival this year to promote the church and our upcoming VBS. The first night I went home and had the first two signed up. It was a lot of fun meeting people from the community."



Pastor Buhr also sent this "thank you" to Greencastle Baptist Church. "A big thank you to Greencastle for all their VBS supplies. I am glad we could use them after they were finished with them. They are destined to go on to the Fellowship Baptist in Fairfield for their VBS after we are finished with them. It is great seeing Keystone Churches working together."



**Red Land Baptist Church (New Cumberland)** baptized Barbara Gunett on June 1<sup>st</sup> during the morning worship service.

As a part of the June 8<sup>th</sup> morning worship Red Land Baptist recognized their three seniors: Chase, Kyla and Aubrey who graduated from Red Land High School.



**KBA's "Zoom in on Evangelism"** has begun meeting on Tuesday nights. 31 participants from 11 churches are coming together to learn how to share their faith.

Here are what the attendees are saying:

**Brenda Murphy-Craig, Chambersburg Baptist:** "The

evangelism class has been a great time of learning and sharing. Brad offers practical insights on how to guide a conversation to a gospel conversation. For me it has been a stronger awareness of the people I come in contact with and how I can engage them in talking about spiritual matters."

**Bob Lamond, Family of God Community:** "I've truly enjoyed learning more about and polishing my proficiency in sharing the gospel message with others. Just Friday, I used my testimony, something we practiced in class, and several Scriptures from Romans to lead a young man to Christ in the York County Prison. I can't wait to see what the Lord has for me to learn going forward. Thank you, Brad!"

**Pat Cosden, Stewartstown Baptist:** "It's only been 2 classes, but I really enjoy fellowshiping with other believers from other churches. We all come from different backgrounds and listening to others helps me as I share and witness to others."

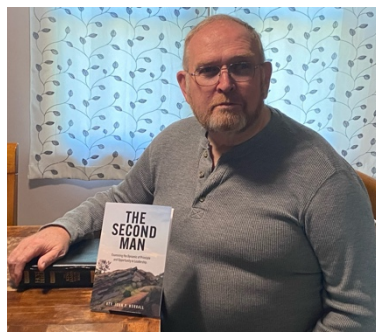
**Daniel Troxwell, Country and Town Baptist:** "The evangelism training class is a unique opportunity to learn ways to be more effective in witnessing and engaging the lost. The class is comprised of like-minded individuals who have a heart for ministry across our association. Our training leader, Brad, is helpful and very knowledgeable. This summer session is a good use of my time."

## KBA News

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

Pastors' Wives continues to meet by Zoom for prayer on Mondays at 7:30pm. They will meet again on August 9<sup>th</sup> for another time of in person fellowship.

KBA Zone Meetings continue each month. The Southeast Zone meets on the second Thursday of each month, and the Southwest Zone meets the third Tuesday of each month. All Pastors, Retired Pastors, and church staff are invited to attend.



Rev. John Worrall's second book, The Second Man, is released!

**THE SECOND MAN** delves into the complex relationship between King David and his nephew, General Joab. Their contrasting core values shape their leadership decisions and instigate conflicts. John invites readers to examine their own values and understand how to align them with God's plan through Application and Discussion questions at the end of each chapter.

**Does Your Church Have** 1991 Baptist Hymnals that you no longer need? Dr. Ken Cademartori, pastor at Friendship Baptist Church in Stewartstown is looking for 25 copies of this hymnal. If you have copies that you would like to donate, let Pastor Ken know. His phone number is: 717-818-7943.



**The KBA Annual Meeting has changed its meeting date this year. We will be meeting later in the month. The date is Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. Please save this date on your calendar.**

### **2025 KBA Financial Update**

**April Church Giving: \$9,742.80**

**April Expenses: \$12,689.13**



## A Word from Brad: Celebrating 50 Years with Jesus

July of 1975 will always be a defining moment in my life. Fifty years ago, I was lost—hopeless, desperate, and running hard in the wrong direction. I hated who I had become and the things I was doing, but I didn't know how to stop. It felt like I was trapped on a merry-go-round I couldn't escape.

In my desperation, I cried out to God for help. Two months later, He answered. Our family unexpectedly moved just 20 miles north, to a suburb of Dallas, Texas. There, I met three new friends—each one a committed Christian from the same church. They lived differently. They didn't participate in the destructive things I was used to. They had something I lacked: peace, purpose, and joy in following God. And I wanted what they had.

Looking back, I now understand what was really going on. The Bible says I was physically alive, but spiritually dead—and that I needed to be born again (John 3:3).

I'll never forget that day in July 1975. Nervous and unsure, I walked down the aisle at First Baptist Church of Plano, TX, and told Dr. Travis Berry—a former missionary to Brazil—that I wanted to become a Christian. I didn't fully understand what that meant, but I knew I needed Jesus.

Two weeks later, I was baptized. While most of the details have faded from memory, one image remains crystal clear: my pastor stepping into the baptistry in fishing waders! I was shocked—this wasn't the suit-and-tie pastor I was used to seeing. But I guess even pastors like to stay dry!

Now, fifty years later, I'm celebrating the day I came alive—spiritually. That day I placed my faith in Jesus Christ as my Savior, trusting Him to forgive my sins, and as my Lord, choosing to follow Him for the rest of my life—here and in eternity.

To mark this milestone, I've invited a dear friend I met in college 39 years ago to join me this August for a special trip to the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter. It's my way of saying thank You to God and remembering the journey He started with me so long ago.

Let me ask you: **How long have you been walking with Jesus?**  
Have you ever considered celebrating your spiritual birthday?

We commemorate our birthdays and anniversaries. But what about the most important decision we've ever made—our new birth in Christ? Maybe it's time to celebrate the day your life was changed forever.

Blessings!  
Brad

## Pennsylvania Churches are required to report to the PA Government by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Starting this year, annual reports will be required by the state of Pennsylvania. This annual filing is free for churches, and the report can be filed anytime between January 1 - June 30.

The Baptist Resource Network has provided step-by-step instructions of how to complete the filing process. It is available on the BRN's website. Churches can access these instructions by visiting: <https://www.brnunited.org/resources/pa-annual-filing-instructions>. If you have any questions, let us know.

## Pray for:

- KBA churches. Pray for their pastors and their church staff.
- Great Bridge Baptist Church, Chesapeake, Va and the Youth Mission Tour with KBA.
- Wanda Edmondson (pastor's wife at Family of God) as she recovers from hip surgery.
- Karen Gerstmyer as she continues to battle cancer.
- Continue to pray for Voddie LaPore, Tim and Vernessa Parker's (Stewartstown Baptist Church) grandson. Clay and Chloe LaPore are his parents.
- Pastor Search Committees at Fredericksburg Baptist Church and New Hope Baptist Church as they seek a pastor.

## New Life- Penn State: Eric Reiber

"The academic year has come to a close and we had to say goodbye to another group of graduates. Over the spring semester the seniors met as a group to discuss life post college. We talked about choosing between job offers, making friends and finances. The conversations were both scary and encouraging.

This group of seniors meant so much to New Life. They arrived at the tail end of Covid lockdowns. Most will share how it was so different by the end of their Penn State experience, with the college opening up while also new classes of students arrived never having had the experience of restrictions on campus. It took a while for them to come around to opening up their schedules socially. When they did, they created an environment that was the best since I



arrived at Penn State. They loved each other, they loved guests, and they understood the vision of service. A short text from one of them is especially heart-warming: 'I don't know if I can express how much New Life has meant to me this past year or so! I can't imagine any of the time without it. Thank you for being such a real and genuine friend.'"