

July
2020



The KBA BEACON

A Word from Brad Horne:



What? Something is MORE Important Than Church Planting?

I had just successfully started a church. I had strategically planned every detail of the advertising blitz, rented a civic center, found partners to work with, found a pastor with a heart for church planting, and had a successful launch day with around 60 non-believers in attendance.

A few days later I was having my quiet time, reading in the Gospel of Matthew. I was still on cloud nine, feeling wonderful; possibly how Elijah felt after killing the 850 prophets of Baal. I had conquered, and I was successful! I had done what every church planter dreams about. I got to the end of Matthew and read the Great Commission. I read the last two verses of Matthew and I was “cut to the quick”. I read “Go and make disciples” and this frightful thought came to me. I just successfully planted a church, yet I was not being obedient. How could this be? I read the last verse of Matthew, “teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you”. I was stripped bare before the Lord. Yes, I had started a church, but I was not making disciples. I was not being obedient to the Great Commission. Wow! Who would have ever thought that a person who had given up everything to follow God, who had moved their whole family overseas to serve as missionaries and started a church, could be disobedient by not making disciples? Yet, that was me. I was broken before the Lord, crushed that I had missed the target God has for all of His children. I unexpectedly found myself in a strange place before God. I had gone from being on the mountain top to the depths of the valley. Once again, I felt like Elijah. Only this time I felt like he did after he ran 90 miles from the wrath of an angry woman and curled up under a tree, wanting to die. I cried and asked God for forgiveness.

I started praying that God would give me a disciple. Specifically, I prayed that He would send someone to me to disciple. I started thinking about and actually got excited about discipling. I

was going through lists of my acquaintances in my mind of guys around my age that God might want me to meet with to disciple. But then the unexpected happened. God so often does the unexpected! There was a 19-year-old guy named Kevin, who had become a Christian the year before, but had not really grown. One day we were talking after English Club and out of the blue he asked if I would read the Bible with him! I wish I had said, "That would be great" or "wonderful ", but I was in shock and only replied, "I guess".

Thankfully, God redeemed the moment and quickly coming back to my senses, I told Kevin to read the Gospel of John and I would do the same. We decided to meet the following week and talk about what we had read. Nothing mind blowing, but simple accountability and iron sharpening iron. I was really proud of myself after I finished reading the entire Gospel of John in less than a week. I felt like I had this discipleship thing down well. When I met with Kevin, I coolly asked him if he had finished reading all of the Gospel of John, expecting a negative answer since reading the Bible was new to him. Instead his answer was, "Yes. And I read all of Acts and Ephesians". I was flabbergasted! I was humbled at hearing his words. I had only read the Gospel of John.

After meeting with Kevin for a month, he asked me if his best friend, Stan, who was a non-believer, could join our group. Of course, I was thrilled! Stan joined us in reading 3 chapters of the Bible every day and meeting once a week. After a month or so of reading the Bible with us, Stan showed up at our weekly meeting and said he now believed the Bible and wanted to follow Jesus!

We can do a lot of good things (planting a church in my case) and even some great things, but it all doesn't matter if we're not fulfilling the Great Commission and making disciples. Doing great things is worthless if we are not being obedient to what He has called us to do. When we are obedient, not only does God provide the tools that we need to get the job done, He also blesses beyond our expectations. I would have possibly never met Stan or seen him come to Christ if I hadn't started reading the Bible with Kevin.

With the Great Commission before us and living in the middle of COVID-19, we can remember that God won't call us to be obedient to a task without providing the tools that we need in order to get the job done. Although, we do sometimes need to create the tool that we can use in order to be obedient.

Are you hearing the same theme over and over again? God continued to humble me and show me that making disciples had to be a priority. Even though I was doing a good thing by planting a church, I was not doing the main thing God has called us to do. Go and make disciples.

KBA Financial Update

As of June 30, 2020

Receipts through June - \$53,246.09

Expenses through June - \$27,774.90

2019-2020 Administrative Team

Moderator: Pastor John Buhr, Central Baptist Church
1st Vice Moderator: Pastor Adam Hedge, Memorial Baptist Church
2nd Vice Moderator: Dr. Pusey Losch, Mt. View Community
Historian: Bayard Bastedo, FBC, Hanover
Clerk: Tim Dedman, Red Land Baptist
Treasurer: Heather Barberis, Memorial Baptist
Assistant Treasurer: Pastor John Worrall, Mount Wolf Community
SE Zone Leader: Pastor Tim Parker, Stewartstown Baptist
North Zone Leader: Pastor Don Henrikson, Thompsontown Baptist
SW Zone Leader: Dr. Kenny Craig, Chambersburg Baptist

News from our Churches:

Country and Town Baptist Church has called Todd Jones to be their Senior Pastor. Todd and his wife, Aimee are from California and will be driving across the country in the next few weeks. His first Sunday in the pulpit will be August 30th. Todd and Aimee have two children, Sophia and Elias.

Memorial Baptist Church asks KBA to continue to pray for their food pantry ministry as they restock and help meet the needs and make a difference in the lives of the folks in the Gettysburg area.

Red Land Baptist Church Mothers received flowers at their homes on Mother's Day weekend. For Dads, Dawna Holbert a member of the church made "Poppa Bear" cards. Each Dad received a card and a package of Gummy Bears.



Red Land also hosted a backyard music gathering on the lawn on Sunday evening, July 27th. Broken Crayon led in an evening of fellowship and music.



Mason Dixon Church is looking to fill a part time office manager position. The job description has been attached in a file to this email. If interested, please respond by email to: terry.felton@mdbconline.com or Britt.blum1@gmail.com

Friendship Baptist Church, Stewartstown, is seeking a part time Associate Pastor. This person should have theological training and some experience in leading a church. He must have a calling to preach and teach. FBC enjoys blended music, both contemporary and traditional. The church is on a main road and has an excellent potential for growth. The salary is negotiable. The Associate Pastor will work with the Senior Pastor to build a ministry that effectively reaches our community for Christ. If you are interested, please contact:

Ken Cademartori, Senior Pastor
14874 Winterstown Road,
Stewartstown, PA 17363.
Phone 717-818-7943

Prayer Focus:

Pray for our churches without pastors:

Greencastle Baptist Church
Josiah's Way
Iglesia La Fuente

Pray for our churches looking to add to their staff:

Friendship Baptist Church, Stewartstown (Associate Pastor)
Mason Dixon Baptist Church (Office Manager)

Pray for the health of:

Alice Worrall -for her complete recovery.

Richard Krieg – the continued healing of his knee

Pray for pastors and churches as they navigate the rough waters as part of the church returns to meeting in person and part of the church is still participating online from their homes.

VBS – Covid 19 Style: Country and Town

Breanna Helton

COVID-19 has affected nearly every plan we've made for 2020. Vacation Bible School was no exception. Our VBS team at Country & Town Baptist Church begins planning for our July scheduled VBS in January every year. We run away to an Air B&B and spend an entire 24 hours planning out the best week of the summer. Not once in our planning did it cross our minds to plan for a world-wide pandemic. We did plan for rain but not a virus that would affect every person in the world.



But God did.

It wasn't an easy decision canceling VBS in person. We prayed and met with our church council in order to get wise counsel. It was the unknown that ultimately made the decision. VBS takes

a lot of resources, monetary and time. We wanted to be good stewards of our budget in such an uncertain time.

After we made the decision to cancel our in person VBS, our team met via Zoom and evaluated the situation. One thing we all agreed on was that our objective did not change: to reach as many children and families within our sphere of influence with the Gospel as possible. Our why was not changing, only our how. We decided to design and carry-out a take home VBS. Parents and students would come pick up their 'tool-kits' on Sunday. We would write, produce, and publish our own videos using Lifeway's Concrete and Cranes curriculum. It was important to us that we used as many church members for the videos. Our church did not disappoint.

Everyone got to planning and everyone's plans depended on someone else's. Our VBS team had to coordinate with each other online. As VBS director, I tend to get most of the 'congratulations' and pats on the back but the truth is I've never been able pull off VBS at C&T without Katie Niederoest and Elizabeth Stevenson. They worked tirelessly coordinating our leaders and equipping them as they planned. Many emails, text messages, and hours online looking for supplies were spent. After weeks of planning snacks, crafts, and bible study time, we began the long process of writing, filming, and editing our own videos. I happened to be married to the Family Pastor at C&T who oversees our VBS each year. It did work to our advantage to be able to work together during this time. Every idea I had he was willing to try and then scrap when I decided that didn't work. I feel like every Bible school director was faced with this trial and error process this year.



COVID-19 put many churches in a situation they had never been in before. Our pastors at C&T had already spent weeks learning new skills, many of which they had never done, in order to provide our church family with online worship every week. Armed with these new skills and a new church website, they took up learning to film and edit videos as well. Pastor James, Pastor Phil, Pastor Eric, and Pastor Jake all found ways to contribute to help make our VBS amazing. I created a private Facebook group that families could join. I spent the two weeks leading up to VBS sharing behind the scenes pictures of our planning where church members who otherwise help during VBS were able to show up and use their talents behind the scenes. I share so much of the planning process because it was such a labor of love. We spent many nights filming and editing. Technology doesn't always cooperate. The result of all this hard work was high quality videos starring the very people our children see each year at our VBS.

This goal was met and the children we so excited to be connected with people they knew but haven't seen in so long. God was gracious to take our efforts and use them. We were able to reach 149 children with the Gospel that week. This is actually our average every year for VBS. Our Early Childhood Center was even able to carry out our VBS with their kids during the day.

Families picked up their tool kits on Sunday where they were met with a group of people ready to take prayer requests and needs from each family. They began their first day of VBS that Monday.



Each tool kit had 5 days of crafts, 5 days of snack, an age appropriate activity book, and our VBS nurse even sent home construction band-aids with a prayer for the week just in case. Videos went live Monday morning on our website, app, and our YouTube channel. Children would walk through 6 videos each day: Welcome, Worship songs, Bible Study, Crafts, “Build It with Bill Ding”, and a mission’s video form the curriculum. Every video except the mission’s video was designed, filmed, and edited by our VBS team. Mike Thumma provides us with our entertainment each year during VBS with his fun characters he creates. He was able to even star in his very own show. Every aspect of our in person VBS was carried out successfully virtually. Families were able to interact with us by sharing videos, pictures, and victories in our private Facebook group. Bill Ding (Mike Thumma) and I went live every day at 3 pm for a closing Q&A. Children were able to interact with us by answering questions from the Bible story that day. On day 4 Pastor Eric filmed and edited The Gospel video. Students watched and were given the opportunity to respond by talking with their parents and contacting us through email or our website.

Although this wasn’t at all what we planned for in January, its exactly what God had planned. I’m amazed every year I plan VBS by the talent gathered at Country & Town Baptist Church. The Body of Christ is such a beautiful sight to behold, especially when she’s sent out and on the move. VBS this year provided the opportunity to see her in action when she was forced to stay put. What’s even more amazing, all the skills learned, and time spent on VBS this year has opened other outreach opportunities in other ministries our pastor’s we’re problem solving. We are capable of so much more.

Our VBS scripture this year seems quiet fitting: I am sure of this, that He who started a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6. I wonder what other good things God has started in His Church during this pandemic? He certainly will see us through.



VBS – Covid 19 Style: New Hope Baptist

Aaron Rhone

From July 14-18, New Hope Baptist Church offered IncrediWorld Amazement Park: A Thrill Ride through God's Creation as our in-person VBS for all kids age 3-12th grade who were able to attend.

We had 24 kids throughout the week (10 from the community and 6 of them brand new to New Hope) and nearly as many helpers from prep work to hands-on interaction. We taught our kids how to make their own praise journal; how God created each animal according to its kind and with exactly the right tools to live and eat; that God loves each one of them much more than all the rest of creation; and that dinosaurs and man were created on the same day (Day 6 of Creation Week) and, therefore, lived side-by-side. Two major take-aways for the kids were 1) if the Bible says it, that settles it, and 2) all they need to do for salvation is admit, believe, and forever receive!

To end off our week on a fun note, we held a cook-out for staff, students, and parents and even gave each child a chance to put a pie in the face of staff, which they thoroughly enjoyed! It was a great week, and we had fun glorifying God.



Please pray for the children at Mason Dixon Baptist Church this week as they hold their Vacation Bible School both “in a box” and in person.

Red Land Baptist Church will be distributing their Vacation Bible School in a box to their children. Please pray for the children and the parents that will participate.

Updates from KBA:

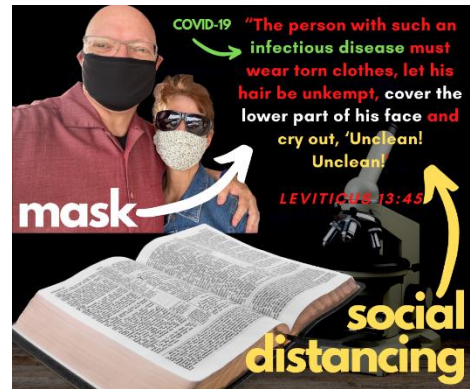
Dr. Jerry Dixon (Prayer Coordinator for KBA and Pastor) has asked Mark Mirza from Atlanta, Georgia to come and lead in the **RESTORE** prayer conference: More information to come! Mark's website is [www. MarkMirza.com](http://www.MarkMirza.com).

Mission Trip: Pastor Gusmane Michel from **First Haitian Church of York** along with Brad Horne will be planning a mission trip to Haiti for pastors in January 2021. More information to come.

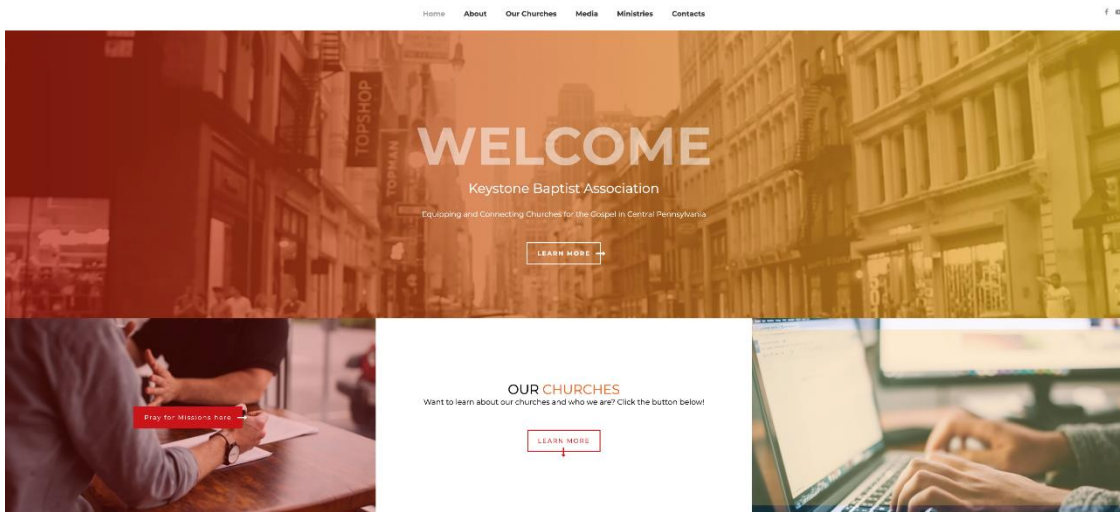
If you haven't seen our **Facebook** page recently, there have been some major changes. Instead of reposting messages seen before we are posting new and original posts. KBA has seen their views increase steadily. Let us know if your church is



having an event that you would like posted. If you have not visited our Facebook page, please take a look and tell us what you think. Also, if you have not "liked" our page, please do so.



Keystone Baptist Association has a new and updated **website: Keystonebaptist.net**. Take a look at our updated and refreshed presence on the web. You will find the Beacon Newsletter, the Pastor Prayer Calendar as well as original content. On the website you can discover various types of information and enlightening media. Check out the media tab for Brad's Blog and other helpful and insightful information. It is just the beginning with much more to come.





Corrine Fraley has been a Missionary Kid (MK) since age four when her parents began to serve in Southeast Asia. She has returned to the states with her parents on furlough in the Philadelphia area. While her parents will return to the mission field, Corrine will stay in the states and attend William Carey College in Mississippi.

To help Missionary Kids adjust back to life in the USA, the International Mission Board holds an annual retreat. Mr. Fraley asked if KBA and WMU would purchase Corrine’s airline ticket so that she could attend this ReEntry Retreat. We were able to purchase her ticket. Please pray for Corrine August 4th-7th as she attends as well as all of our Missionary Kids that are back in the states preparing for college.



The 2019 Keystone Baptist Annual Book of Reports will be available next week. The Administrative Team has decided to email a copy of the annual report instead of printing a book. If you would like a printed copy, just let us know. We will be glad to print a copy and send it to you.

New Life at Penn State Update:



June and July are normally planning times for us. This year, though we are planning, we are holding these plans with an open hand. Not a bad thing to learn for the future as well, I guess.

I know that Penn State will have students on campus on August 24th. We know much of their classes are going to be online. We also know that room capacities will be limited and at this point, the university is not making decisions with student organizations in mind.

One of the great things God led us to do last year was transition our use of leaders and our structure to a small group discipleship structure where students meet in groups of 3-4. This will be an advantage for us as we do not need room reservations, the times of these can be flexible, and the student leaders have already had some experience leading these.

Pray for our ability to connect to new students next month looking for a place to belong and a place to be encouraged to serve the Kingdom. The staff (Eric, Kayla, and Autumn) are praying to connect to students who need to hear a message of hope, love, and repentance. Finally, pray for us to equip our students to minister during this time and prepare them to serve the church for years to come. The mission has not changed. – Eric Reiber



Are you looking for a missions project for the people in your church or small group? Are you looking for a way to support missionaries as a family or individual?

Christmas in August provides a simple way you can directly help a North American missionary.

Every year WMU and the North American Mission Board partner to select missionaries who will be featured in Christmas in August. These missionaries provide a list of items they need for ministry and outreach. The lists of requested items are posted online, and then you can select a missionary (or two or three), collect the requested items and send the items to the missionaries.

Check out this website: <http://www.wmu.com/?q=article/national-wmu/christmas-august> for a listing of missionaries needing our help.

KBA Email:

Brad Horne: director@keystonebaptist.net

Theresa Krieg: office@keystonebaptist.net