

February
2021



The KBA BEACON

News from our Churches:

Carlisle Baptist Church hosted a KBA/IMB Evangelism Training on February 9th and will continue the training on February 16th at 6:30 pm. Ben and Judy Armacost are leading the seminar. As a former IMB missionary who traveled across Europe, Ben shared his passion on how to get your church into sharing their faith with others. Judy also spoke and taught the group a simple evangelism technique. This training will continue to answer these three questions: Why should I share? What do I say when I share? And with whom do I share? The evening will continue to introduce you to processes that builds up and encourages people to share as they grow in Christ and lead others in discipleship. The seminar is an in-person event at Carlisle Baptist, but will also be live over Zoom, and recorded for you to watch at a later date.



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<https://zoom.us/j/99109252460>

Stewartstown Baptist Church welcomed IMB missionaries, Ben and Judy Armacost to speak to their Women's on Mission Group, Thursday February 11th by zoom. Betty Gallagher, Stewartstown WMU Director, had encouraged the women to join and find out what God is doing in South London. There was a Q&A at the end of the meeting with many asking questions regarding their work and how the Armacosts share their faith. There were 12 women from the church on the zoom meeting.



Prayer Focus:

Pray for our churches that are seeking Pastors and Staff:

Greencastle Baptist Church: Pastor

Memorial Baptist Church: Pastor and Director of Next Generation Ministries

Friendship Baptist Church: Associate Pastor

Josiah's Way: Pastor

Iglesia La Fuente: Pastor

Pray for:

- Pastor Howard Edmondson lost his stepmother last week. Pray for him and his family in the days to come.
- Pastor Kenny Craig who will be having surgery March 1st on vertebrae in his neck and spacers in 3 discs in his spine. He is asking that we pray that for God to heal paralysis in his arms and hands.
- Steve and Kathy Sheldon: Steve is recovering and is in a rehab center for the next two weeks. Please continue to pray for his complete recovery.
- Bev Knott who is recovering at home from blood clots.
- Quick recovery for pastors who have COVID.
- Wisdom for pastors as they deal with all the unknowns of 2021.

News from KBA:

The SECOND Pastor's Q&A Round Table will meet by zoom on February 25th at 10:00 am. On their last call KBA partnered with the South-Central Baptist and there were more than 20 pastors who joined in and many participated by asking questions and answering questions.

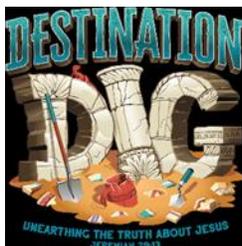


The Selling of the KBA Office is underway. There are several items in the office that will be available for churches. An email will be sent to share those items including bookcases, file cabinets, and desks. The office will open on Friday, February 26th from 5:00 – 8:00pm and Saturday, February 27th from 9:00 – 1:00pm for churches to come by and pick items they may want for their church. The office also has numerous books that will be available for church or pastor's libraries. A listing of those books will be sent to the pastors prior to February 26th.

Larry Theisen has become the interim pastor for Berks Bible Church in Shillington, PA.

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

KBA Pastor Wives began meeting February 1st at 7:30 by zoom for prayer and will continue to meet every Monday evening. Theresa Krieg leads this 40-minute prayer time. If you are a Pastor's wife please join us. For additional information, contact the office: office@keystonebaptist.net.



VBS Training: VBS is headed to present-day Israel at Destination Dig. Kids will unearth more than dirt as they dig up exciting evidence that proves biblical events were not just stories. They will be unearthing the truth about Jesus! We will be planning a VBS training with Fanny Grote. More information to come.

A Word from Brad ~

Title: Thermometer vs. Thermostat

These days we are experiencing a new phenomenon with this pandemic. We have to have our temperature taken with a thermometer before we board an airplane or visit other places, whereas before, we only had our temperature taken with a thermometer at the doctor's office. The thermometer measures our body's temperature; a thermostat regulates a particular temperature. The thermometer is a reflection of what is currently happening, but the thermostat dictates what the environment should be.



Our body actually has a thermostat called the hypothalamus. When we are too hot the hypothalamus dilates blood vessels, activates sweat glands, and accelerates our breathing. When we are cold, the Hypothalamus constricts blood vessels, causing our muscles to shiver, creating heat, and increases our body's metabolic rate.

So, what are you talking about Brad? Why are you giving us a biology lesson?

As Christians we often act like a thermometer and go with whatever the topic of the conversation is at the time. I believe however, that we need to be thermostats. We should dictate our environment by setting the tone and topic in our conversations with unbelievers.

Jesus acted like a thermostat over and over again by setting the tone in conversations to what he wanted to talk about. A great example of this is found in Luke 13. Jesus is told about Pilate killing two Galileans, and then himself mentions the story of the tower in Siloam that fell and killed eighteen people. Most of us today would have responded with sorrow, grief, or possibly sympathy and prayer for the families of those that died as they grieve the loss of a loved one.

But Jesus didn't do any of that. Jesus responded with the words of an evangelist. He dictated the conversation. He turned the conversation around from bad news into good news. He set the tone and used this opportunity to share the way to eternal life. Jesus repeats his own words twice just in case they missed his point, "But unless you repent, you too will all perish." When was the last time you used those words when you were told that someone had died?

So, the next time you talk with someone, be a thermostat instead of thermometer in your conversations. Set the tone and turn bad news into good news. It's a matter of eternity when someone hears, and their eternity is changed. I hope the people that heard Jesus' words that day repented, and I'll be able to meet them in Heaven when I arrive! I know my destiny because someone acted like a thermostat and shared with me the good news.

KBA Financial Update

Receipts: January 2021 - \$11,028.06

Expenses: January 2021- \$12,283.56

Job Openings:

Check the website KeystoneBaptist.net for job descriptions and contact information.

Friendship Baptist Church, Stewartstown, is seeking a part time Associate Pastor.

Memorial Baptist Church is seeking a Full Time Pastor for their congregation.

Memorial Baptist Church is also seeking a Director of Next Generation Ministries to be responsible for providing leadership in planning, conducting, and evaluating a Christ-centered ministry from preschool through high school.

Greencastle Baptist Church is seeking a Full Time Pastor and has begun receiving resumes.

Penn State~New Life: Kayla Smith



"This is what it looks like when you teach New Life students time management skills over Zoom" Kayla Smith states.

As far as we know, students are still set to begin in-person classes in mid-February, which means New Life weekly meetings can resume in person then as well. We're excited to see the students again, as it's been almost three months apart and they have no idea how tall I've been getting.

I think one of the best things to come out of this era of Zoom has been connecting with a girl from a Penn State branch campus. If not for this time filled with unique opportunities, we wouldn't have ever been able to "host" her! She's part of a "triad" discipleship group that I co-lead with Autumn, and the other day she said, "I'm so glad I found this group. I started reading the Bible every day and it's become something I really look forward to. I can't go to sleep without reading it now!" She genuinely loves it and talks openly for quite a while about what she's learning.

Missions:

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The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is the primary way the North American Mission Board support mission efforts in North America. **One hundred percent** of gifts given to AAEO are used to support Southern Baptist missionaries serving across the United States and Canada.

The Week of Prayer for North American Missions is annually observed by SBC churches to pray for missionaries, their ministries and their families. The official date is the first Sunday in March through the second Sunday. Your church can choose this date or another time during the Easter season to participate. Each church should have received a packet of Week of Prayer information from BRN. If you need additional information, please let Theresa know. There are numerous free resources available at: <https://www.anniearmstrong.com/resources/>.