

October
2023



The 61st Annual Fall Celebration

56 messengers and visitors representing 17 KBA churches met on Saturday, October 14th at Chambersburg Baptist Church for a day of business, fellowship, and worship. Don Henrikson, our 2023 KBA moderator, led in the business session where the 2024 budget, 2024

calendar and the 2023/2024 Administrative Team were approved.

Rev. Ben Murray, pastor at Noble City Church in York, led in the music and worship. Rev. Brad Horne presented his report sharing John 15:16 and focusing on the churches need of intentionality, strategy, and accountability. He challenged KBA churches to continue to reach out to their community with the gospel while discipling those in the church. Brad shared Ray Altman's quote, "The cost of non-discipleship is the irrelevance of the church" and urged churches to put into place a strategic plan. He then shared some of the KBA highlights of the last year.



Rev. Eric Reiber, Collegiate Minister with New Life at Penn State, provided a report on the campus and the ministries he continues to lead. He shared a heartfelt concern about mental health on college campuses, stating that Romans 5:1-5 tells us that God provides salvation that brings about peace and hope. Yet our world today leaves college students longing to know peace and hope and therein lies our ministry challenge.

Rev. Steve Sheldon brought a BRN report with a video from Dr. Barry Whitworth. Once again reminding KBA churches and their pastors that he and the BRN are available to help them with any needs they may have.



administrative team. Dr. Don Henrikson, moderator, then closed the business session.

The worship session opened with Rev. Ed Roman pastor of Carlisle Baptist Church sharing his testimony of how God is reaching into his church in discipleship and missions.

Rev. Jamie Work, Associational Missions Network Associate for the International Mission Board, provided a compelling report about the work of the IMB and its global impact. He then shared that the church's biggest problem is prayerlessness and encouraged KBA churches to be vigilant in praying for the lost. He described vigilant as being not lazy but being purposeful and direct.



He reminded those in attendance that we should be praying with thanksgiving in our hearts. That gratitude should be a characteristic in every Christian's life. Finally, he shared that we should speak to our Father while proclaiming His good news, asking God to intervene in our lives. Rev. Work shared these statistics: there are 7,300 unreached people groups across the world with 3,000 of these groups never having a missionary to share the gospel. The IMB is looking for 300 new missionaries under the age of 30 to go to an unreached people group in the immediate future. He challenged churches to pray for that effort.

Dr. Kenny Craig, pastor of Chambersburg Baptist Church, shared a testimony of his ongoing mission field he finds at the local gym in the YMCA and his relationship with the local police department.

Rev. Matt Robinson with Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) shared about the work in the lower part of the state. He shared that at their Good News Camp over the summer they had 1,345 children attend and 187 professions of faith. Good News Clubs in the area are expanding and there are over 1,700 children registered in Good News Clubs across the state.

After introductions and recognitions, Jeanine Horne, led in a trivia game and prizes were given. Rev. Ben Murray closed with music and Dr. Tim Parker, Pastor at Stewartstown Baptist Church, closed the meeting with prayer. Lunch was served by Chambersburg Baptist Church and the fellowship continued.

Pictures from the Fall Celebration:



News From Our Churches:

Mason Dixon Baptist Church (New Freedom) packed 100 boxes for the Samaritan's Purse on Sunday, October 22nd. Amanda Felton shared on her Facebook page, "I love every single person in this picture! Spreading the gospel through packing 100 shoeboxes!"



Shippensburg Baptist Church baptized three young people on July 9th. Pastor's wife, Amy Jones, said, "It was a blessing and a great day of celebration and fellowship."



Shippensburg is once again hosting a Good News Club at their church. They have 29 students from first and second grade. Amy again shares, "We are grateful for the opportunity to tell them about Jesus."



News From Our Churches (continued)

Fellowship Baptist Church said “goodbye” to their pastor Rev. Ken Gooch as he and his wife Penny, retired from the church. Rita Fahringer, a longtime member of Fellowship Baptist wrote this about her former pastor. “September 17, 2023, was a bittersweet day for us here at FBC. Our beloved Pastor Ken and his beautiful wife, Penny, left us. That’s the bitter part. The sweet part is they are retiring from their full-time jobs at the VA hospital as well as FBC. I can guarantee their ministry work will continue. They love the Lord with all their heart and evangelize everywhere they go sharing God’s word. Pastor Ken and Penny began their ministry with us in October 2014. How fast the years have gone. He is a powerful Bible preaching pastor and we have learned so much. Pastor and Penny not only helped us spiritually, but they also helped us through our personal issues by being there for each of us and listening when we needed a shoulder to cry on. He was a carpenter when a roof needed repair, a farmer when help was needed on the farm or accompanying someone to a funeral home to make arrangements. Each of us has a story to tell, but this article would be too long to share them all.



Pastor Ken and Penny have roots in the Virginia/North Carolina area. They will be moving after the first of the year, purchasing land and building their dream home. We will miss them greatly and wish them all the best the Lord can offer! Pastor Ken & Penny, if you’re reading this, we will continue to do our best “to live a full and meaningful Christian life.” Fellowship Baptist has called Steve Sheldon as their Interim Pastor.

Chambersburg Baptist Church held a baptism on Sunday, September 24th for four new believers being baptized by the Assistant Pastor, John Healy.



Central Baptist Church (Mont Alto) hosts their Good News Club on Thursdays. They currently have 45 children in kindergarten through 2nd grade coming to hear about Jesus.



News From Our Churches (continued)

Thompsons town Baptist Church recently sent a group over to Fredericksburg Baptist Church to help them with a bathroom renovation. The church had all the materials but did not have a crew that could do the work. The church put together a team to go and help. When the day was over, the restroom was renovated.



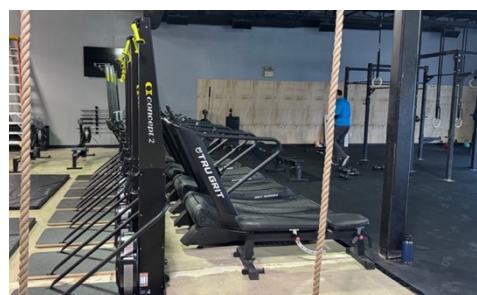
Greencastle Baptist Church hosted a Trunk or Treat for their community on Saturday October 21st. Pastor Rob Sheldon shared: “Our Harvest Festival and Trunk or Treat event went well this year. Wind weather and other events around the area may have kept the crowd a little smaller, but the involvement from our congregation made up for the smaller crowd. We were able to share the Gospel in one-on-one conversations with thirty to forty people. Not only is it wonderful to know that our church is being a Gospel light in the community, but it is also a great blessing to see our fellow believers becoming more comfortable sharing their faith in casual spiritual conversations.



Fellowship Baptist Church (State College) Pastor Jordan Alturas has opened a new Cross Fit Gym in State College. He began the process, in December of 2022, and has



opened Treign Fit this month. Pastor Alturas plans



to use the gym as an opportunity to share his faith while helping those in the community reach their health goals. The church will also use the building as the place where they will meet for worship.

Family of God Community Church (Red Lion) recently held a church wide campaign titled, “What On Earth Are We Here For?” Pastor Howard Edmondson shares, “During the 40 Days of the campaign we saw numerous decisions for Christ, attendance went up 25% and we had over 150 people enrolled in small groups in our church. The blessings continue to come in as we celebrate what God is doing!”

News From Our Churches (continued)

Hanover Fellowship Church hosted a Trunk or Treat on October 24th. Pastor's Wife, Peggy Harling shared "Trunk or Treat went well. Several of us had some good conversations with the people. We passed out tracts and flyers which offered hope to those who were lonely and hurting and included church information on it."



Thank You I have had a rough couple months with my health. It's been a long summer and a slow recuperation. Although I am not completely out of the woods yet with the infection, I know that a big part of my improvement is the prayers of this association, its leadership, its pastors, and its churches. To which I sincerely say, "Thank you." I appreciate every note, every call, and every prayer.
Rev. Richard Krieg, Red Land Baptist Church



WMU: will host its annual meeting on November 4th, 2023, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Red Land Baptist Church. This year we have added a track for your youth girls, 6th through 12th grade. The cost will be \$10.00. If you want additional information, send an email to: pa.sjwmu@gmail.com.

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.

Pray for:

- ☐ Pastor Michael Knott as he begins therapy on his elbow.
- ☐ Alice Worrall as she continues to heal.
- ☐ 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.
- ☐ Richard Krieg pastor of Red Land as he recovers from an infection from hip surgery.
- ☐ 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.

Word from Brad: Focus

Bill Gate's father threw a party and one of the guests he invited was Warren Buffet. That's how Bill Gates and Warren Buffet met. At this dinner party, there were about a dozen very successful people. Before the meal was served, Bill Gate's dad handed each person a note card as a get to know you ice breaker. Bill Gate's dad said that he wanted all of the guests to write down the one thing that made them successful; the one trait that contributed the most to their success. They wrote different things: Some wrote an entire paragraph on the card; some wrote one sentence, and some people wrote just one word. All the guests had different answers except two people. Warren Buffet and Bill Gates wrote the exact same one-word answer to their success to this somewhat complicated question. THEY BOTH WROTE THE WORD, "FOCUS". Focus was the one trait that they contributed to their success.

FOCUS. It's hard to focus with so much technology around us, with email, text messages, phone calls, social media, podcasts, the news, TV, sports, etc. etc.

But this is exactly what God has asked us to do, to FOCUS. To focus on 2 things. To know Him and to make Him known. That's it. That's the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. To love God and to love others. The way we show love to others is by sharing the Good News of Jesus, which is the news that they can have forgiveness of sins, they can have hope, they can have joy, and they can have peace in their lives.

Another word for focus is intentionality. We have to be intentional in loving God and loving others. We have to intentionally put these 2 events in our calendar, otherwise, all of the email, text messages, phone calls, social media, podcasts, news, TV, sports, etc. etc. will take precedent in our lives. We will be ruled by the urgent.

But what happens when we are distracted? Matthew 14:22-33 describes Peter when he was distracted. This is the story of Peter walking out on the water to Jesus. As long as Peter is focused on Jesus, he is able to walk on the water toward Jesus. But his focus does not hold. He starts to focus on the winds and powerful waves. When Peter begins to pay attention to them, he slips and falls into the watery chaos. So, we begin to see the danger of being distracted. When Peter no longer sees Jesus, he is consumed by the dominating distractions.

Most people go through life not being focused or intentional. Let us not be like those, who when they turn 70 or 80 years old and take account for their lives, they see that they didn't share Jesus with people and didn't make disciples. May we all say, "I have run the race, I have kept the faith," and I have made a difference that will matter for eternity for being focused on exactly what God has left me on this earth for. To know Him and to make Him known!

**Blessings,
Brad**