

March
2025



News From Our Churches:

Mason Dixon Baptist Church (New Freedom) hosted a sweetheart banquet and “Jesus Loves Me” PJ Party for childcare



on February 16th. Jess Beck, the Children’s Ministry Director, shared “We had 39 children attend our ‘Jesus Loves Me’ PJ party. They came in pj’s for dinner, a dance party, crafts, Bible lesson and scripture pillowcase making.”



Thompsontown Baptist Church recently held a couples Valentine’s banquet on Saturday, February 22nd. Lori Diehl, secretary at Thompsontown shared “It was a full house as we celebrated the love with our significant others. An amazing meal was catered by Bob & Kate Dressler, members of the church, and the TBC Youth and Children helped with serving. Following



the meal, we played ‘The Not-So-Newlywed Game’ where 5 pre-selected couples participated: Dan & Charlotte White, Jordan & Karen Yoder, Bob & Kate Dressler, Ronnie & Lorie Irvin, and Isaac & Sarah Varner. Bob & Kate were the winners for the evening. A special thank you goes out to the organizers and helpers for a job well done!”



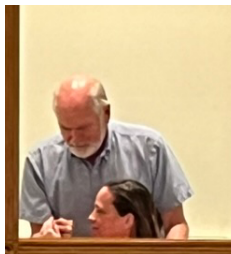
Chambersburg Baptist Church hosted a bowling fellowship at Nellie Fox Bowling Alley on February 22nd. Fourteen joined together for a time of fun and fellowship.



Mt Wolf Community Church continues to host monthly Saturday matinees for children, featuring movies and activities that present powerful life lessons from the Bible. Children enjoy a movie, eat popcorn, do a craft, and play games.



Red Land Baptist Church (New Cumberland) baptized Duane and Tammy Dudley on March 9th and March 16th. They also dedicated their daughter, Summer, during the service on Sunday, March 16th.



Shippensburg Community Church has begun meeting in a new location. Please be praying for the church as they continue to reach out to their community.



Shippensburg Community Church also hosts a Good News Club at the church on Tuesdays that is led by Pastor Maynard Jones and his wife Amy along with several other volunteers. They average about 17 children in attendance weekly.



Pray for:

- KBA churches. Pray for their pastors and their church staff.
- Wanda Edmondson (pastor's wife at Family of God). She had her first hip replacement on March 19th. Pray for her healing.
- Karen Gerstmyer as she continues to battle cancer.
- Rev. John Worrall and family as they grieve the loss of John's wife Alice.
- Pastor Search Committee at Fredericksburg Baptist Church as they seek a pastor.
- Continue to pray for Voddie LaPore, Tim and Vernessa Parker's (Stewartstown Baptist Church) grandson. Clay and Chloe LaPore are his parents.
- Plans and preparations for Easter in KBA churches.

News from KBA:

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

Pastor's Roundtable will meet on Thursday March 27th at 10:00 am. The topic for this roundtable is "The Church Building- the other 6 days. Using all of God's Resources."

Pastors' Wives continues to meet by Zoom for prayer on Mondays at 7:30pm. On March 8th they met for breakfast at the KMJ Diner in Shippensburg for a time of food and fellowship.



KBA Administrative Team will meet on Tuesday, April 29th at Fellowship Baptist Church in Fairfield, PA. The meeting will begin at 10:30 am.

KBA Executive Board will meet on Tuesday, April 29th at Fellowship Baptist Church in Fairfield, PA. This meeting will begin at 11:30 and will include lunch. The Executive Board is made up of the pastor and one additional member of a KBA church.

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.



Valley Baptist Church (Middletown) has submitted their application to join the Keystone Baptist Association. Valley Baptist Church is one of the founding churches for KBA had been a member of the South-Central Baptist Association which has dissolved.



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

A Word from Brad: It's Personal: Celebrating 100 Years of the SBC's Cooperative Program (CP)

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Southern Baptist Convention's (SBC) Cooperative Program (CP). For me, this milestone isn't just a historical marker—it's deeply personal. Looking back at my life, the CP played a huge roll in enabling me to be about sharing the gospel. I became a Christian in a Baptist church at the age of nine. That church, like many others, partnered with Southern Baptists because it recognized the power of cooperation—particularly through the CP, which unifies funding for missions and ministry.

In eighth grade, I attended Youth Week at Glorieta, an SBC camp that was supported by CP giving. After high school, I enrolled at Baylor University, a Baptist institution that benefits from CP funding. Upon graduating, I went to South Korea to serve with the International Mission Board (IMB), an organization sustained by CP support. When I returned to the U.S., I pursued my master's degree at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, where CP contributions lowered tuition costs and even provided me with a \$600 scholarship in my first year, which covered my first semester. In today's dollars that amount might cover about half of your books!

Then came 25 years of IMB missionary service overseas with my wife and our four daughters. Every year we served we were supported by CP funds, enabling us to share the gospel in Russia and Ukraine, starting 10 churches and discipling many. My four daughters were homeschooled overseas by my wife, and thanks to the generous giving to the CP, they had access to a full curriculum that equipped them for academic success. And I can't tell you how much we appreciated the good healthcare, provided in part because of CP giving, in the countries where we served.

The Cooperative Program at 100: More Than a Funding Mechanism

My life is proof that the Cooperative Program isn't just a financial system—it's the lifeblood of ministry, fueling missions, education, and discipleship. It isn't about bureaucracy or institutional padding. It's about people.

It's about the everyday Baptists who make it possible—faithful believers who give their tithes and offerings through their local churches. People like my parents, my grandparents, my sister, and even my wife before we were married. It's the gray-haired seniors on fixed incomes, the working-class men and women, and the young families stretching every dollar who, together, fund a gospel movement that spans the globe.

And here's the most incredible part: they do it voluntarily. No dues. No invoices. No mandatory quotas. Churches prayerfully determine what to give, embodying the spirit of cooperation that has defined us for a century.

A Call to a New Generation

As we celebrate 100 years, a new generation must take up the mantle—not just financially, but with a convictional commitment to cooperation. Some churches believe they can accomplish more alone, but that's arrogance, not wisdom.

A Word from Brad (Cont.)

One large church sent their own missionary overseas when they figured out the IMB spends about \$80,000/year/missionary. That missionary came home after a year because he was in Africa by himself and quickly burned out.

Cooperation isn't about ego—it's about mission. When we work together, we maximize strengths, cover each other's weaknesses, and extend our reach further than we ever could alone. A small church of 20 members can have a part in helping to send over missionaries when they give to the CP.

The Proof Is in the Impact

Since 1925, the CP has demonstrated the power of unity, channeling billions of dollars into God's mission and transforming millions of lives through the gospel.

The Cooperative Program works. Period.
And for me, it's personal.

Blessings!
Brad

2025 KBA Financial Update
2025 February Church Income: \$13,557.11
2025 February Expenses: \$9,637.70

In Memoriam: Rev. John Worrall's wife, Alice passed away on Thursday, March 13th. John writes. "My dear wife, is now in the presence of her Savior the Lord Jesus Christ and being loved on by her Heavenly Father. I am extremely jealous! AND broken hearted but "The LORD giveth, and the LORD taketh away, BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE LORD!"

Alice was the mother of six children: Alice, Joel, Steven, John Jr., Thomas, and Philip along with seven cherished grandchildren.



A Memorial Service for Alice Worrall will be held on March 29 at 2:00 pm at LCBC Church, 200 Lambs Gap Rd in Mechanicsburg. Rev. Richard Krieg will be officiating the service. In lieu of flowers John asks that you make a donation to Bible Project or Cure International. Specific information about giving and the obituary can be seen at www.diehlfuneralhome.com

New Life -Penn State: Eric Reiber Nine New Life Students participated in the “Leadership Advance” held at Calvary Church in State College in February. It was a weekend conference that helped students investigate how God has wired them. Through several different processes and guidance, they were challenged as to how to use their traits as a means for consideration of their role, calling and vocation. It was a weekend that required teamwork and endurance.



We also just got back from our second trip to NC to work on hurricane relief. We finished two tasks for job sites doing mudding, installation, and insulation. We also made many connections with businesses in Spruce Pine that we want to encourage and follow up with. The damage is still extensive, volunteers will be needed for quite a while.

This week we begin to interview students for our leadership team next year, and the majority of our prospects went through the conference. It is a blessing to already have material and growth points for leaders before their tenure begins.

WMU: The Annual WMU meeting will be held on Saturday, April 5th from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm at Red Land Baptist Church in New Cumberland. The theme of the year’s meeting is “The Joy of Serving!”

The meeting is planned for adults that are interested in missions and mission education. There will also be sessions for 6th through 12th grade girls. They will enjoy their own time together.

The meeting will include WMU’s annual business session and update, a mission project, brunch and a time to hear from Alta Brandenberger a member from Wrightsdale Baptist Church and a future missionary with the IMB. For additional information or to sign up go to pa.sjwmu@gmail.com. We hope to see you on April 5th.



**Keystone Baptist Association:
“Equipping and Connecting Churches to reach the
world with the gospel of Jesus Christ.”**