

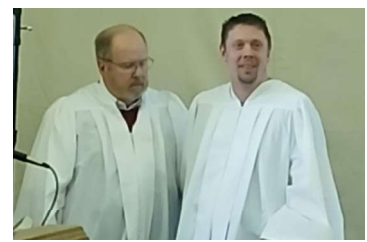
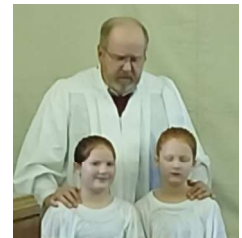
April/May  
2025



Join me, Brad Horne, the Director of Missions for Keystone Baptist Assoc., for a 9-week evangelism training course beginning June 3 at 7:30 PM. This class is open to anyone who wants to grow in sharing the gospel with clarity, confidence, and compassion. I'll walk you through a practical and methodical approach to evangelism. The sessions will be simple, powerful, and require minimal homework.

## News From Our Churches:

**First Baptist Church Hanover** has had much to celebrate these past months. Pastor Buchman shared "At First Baptist Church in Hanover, we have been busy with 5 baptisms over the last few months. We have had 2 Septuagenarians, Ronny and Geri; a Millennial, David and two Gen Alpha girls, Alsa and Emma. These baptisms give testament that the Grace of our Lord has no age restriction."



**Thompstontown Baptist Church** was blessed to observe three baptisms on Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> during the Palm Sunday worship service.



## News from our Churches (cont.)

### Chambersburg Baptist Church

hosted their egg hunt and hot dog fellowship on Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup>. They began the hunt with the Easter Story (Resurrection Eggs) by Pastor John Healy in the sanctuary and went outside to find eggs. Afterwards they moved to the fellowship hall for hot dogs. There were about 130 in attendance.



Red Land Baptist Church (New Cumberland) baptized Jadeyn Smith on Easter Sunday morning. On Saturday before Easter the church hosted their annual Easter Egg Hunt at the church. Over forty families attended as children discovered facts about Jesus and Easter through Bible stories and crafts. Then the children divided up by age groups and participated in the annual egg hunt.



## Pray for:

- KBA churches. Pray for their pastors and their church staff.
- Wanda Edmondson (pastor's wife at Family of God as she recovers from hip surgery.)
- Pastor Robert Conrad as he recovers from heart surgery.
- Josie Healy, three-month-old daughter of John and Jackie Healy (Chambersburg). She will be having surgery on her tongue and lips.
- 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 Committee at Fredericksburg Baptist Church and New Hope Baptist Church as they seek a pastor.

## 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.

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 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.

Valley Baptist Church (Middletown) is our newest KBA member. Their membership was approved at the last Executive Board meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Rev. Chris Schlensker is the pastor. He is married to Rachel. **WELCOME** Valley Baptist to the KBA family.

The A-Team and Executive Board met April 29<sup>th</sup> at Fellowship Baptist Church. The Executive Board voted on Valley Baptist Church's membership and replacing three chain saws in the Disaster Relief trailer.



Pastors and Wives are invited to Brad and Jeanine Horne's home for barbecue on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 1 pm-4pm. Bring a dessert and/or a side dish and come join in on the fellowship and food! RSVP with the KBA office: [office@keystonebaptist.net](mailto:office@keystonebaptist.net) by May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Congratulations:** Rev. Larry and Joan Theisen will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. We are so thankful for Larry and Joan and their dedication and service to Keystone Baptist Association. Please continue to pray for this godly couple as they celebrate their special day.



**Does Your Church Have** 1991 Baptist Hymnals that you no longer need? Dr. Ken Cademartori, pastor at Friendship Baptist Church in New Freedom 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.



## A Word from Brad: Calling Out the Called – Who Needs to Be Called? Are You Called?

What if some of the most powerful servants of God are sitting in our pews—silent, hesitant, waiting for someone to call out what God has already called forth?

“Calling Out the Called” is more than a catchy phrase—it’s a Spirit-led mandate. It means awakening believers to the truth that God is still calling today. As Paul reminds us in *2 Timothy 1:9*, we have been “*called to a holy calling*.” But many never step into their calling because they feel too young, too weak, too broken—or too ordinary. That’s exactly the kind of people God chooses.

I was a bully in school who would beat up people, steal their money, and use curse words as much as possible to look “cool”. I never felt worthy or adequate enough to be a minister, but God had His eyes on me. No, I wasn’t ever adequate, but Jesus was.

Consider the roll call of the unlikely: Moses stuttered (*Exodus 3*), Gideon hid in fear (*Judges 6*), Jeremiah protested, “I am only a youth” (*Jeremiah 1*), and Peter cried, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man” (*Luke 5*). Yet God not only called them—He empowered them. As the old saying goes, “**God doesn’t call the equipped—He equips the called.**”

Just like me, each of these individuals had excuses. Yet God met us with grace and purpose. Isaiah was undone by God’s holiness, but once purified, he boldly said, “*Here am I. Send me*” (*Isaiah 6:8*). Esther feared the king’s wrath, but Mordecai’s words—“*for such a time as this*”—moved her to action (*Esther 4*). Even Mary, a humble girl from Nazareth, surrendered to the impossible: “*I am the Lord’s servant*” (*Luke 1*).

Throughout Scripture, we see a pattern: God calls ordinary people to extraordinary assignments. But rarely do they recognize it alone. Often, someone affirms it. Samuel needed Eli to help him hear God’s voice. Paul was sent out by the Spirit through the prayers of the church (*Acts 13*). The early disciples were “unschooled, ordinary men,” yet they had “been with Jesus” (*Acts 4:13*). I was discipled in college, brought into a leadership role, encouraged in ministry, and loved on at every turn.

Our role today is twofold: to *listen* for God’s call—and to *call out* the called around us. Just think. What would have happened if someone hadn’t challenged me to consider that God was calling me. Would I have lost years in the ministry? I was weighing my future when I was a junior in college. I just wasn’t interested in my business and computer classes any longer. I was challenged with this question: What brings you the most fulfillment? It made me think. I realized that I loved doing ministry more than anything else. It brought me joy. Considering that question brought about an abrupt turn in my plans for the future. Now it’s my turn to call out those who are called, just as my college minister did with me. Whose future might you touch by asking them if God is calling them for His service?

Who in your church, family, or circle might be a modern-day Gideon, Esther, or Peter? Who is waiting to hear, “I see God’s hand on your life”?  
God is still calling. Will you respond? And will you help someone else do the same?

**Here am I, Lord. Send me. Blessings! Brad**

## Zooming in on Evangelism

Every now and then, we need to zero in on something important to make real progress. It’s a bit like cleaning out the garage—you know it needs attention, it’s gotten messy, and you can’t find anything anymore. (Yes, I’m talking about my own garage!)



This summer let’s focus together on something eternally significant: evangelism. I invite you to join me, Brad Horne, Director of Missions for Keystone Baptist Association, for a 9-week evangelism training course beginning Tuesday, June 3 at 7:30 PM.

This class is open to anyone who wants to grow in sharing the gospel with clarity, confidence, and compassion.

Each week, I’ll guide you through a simple, practical, and effective approach to evangelism. The sessions are intentionally designed to be powerful but not overwhelming, and they’ll include minimal homework so that you can focus on real-world application. To register, just scan the QR code with your phone, and you’ll receive the Zoom link for our weekly meetings.

Together, we’ll focus on James 1:22: “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” This summer, we’re not just going to talk about evangelism—we’re going to do it.

There is a growing danger of spiritual complacency in the church today when it comes to evangelism. Many of us are busy, yes—but are we busy sharing the gospel? It’s time for an honest spiritual check-up. Are we lukewarm when it comes to sharing our faith? Ask yourself: When was the last time I shared a complete gospel message with someone? I understand—it’s a convicting question for me, too.

Let’s commit to growing together. Let’s sharpen one another, just as iron sharpens iron, every Tuesday at 7:30 PM throughout June and July.

**SCAN TO REGISTER**



Again, to register, just scan the QR code with your phone, and you’ll receive the Zoom link for our weekly meetings. Let’s focus in. Let’s be doers. Let’s share the Good News! Brad

### New Life -Penn State: Eric Reiber

“This year has been awesome! God has allowed us to connect with many more students this year and each week it seems like another student is checking New Life out. We started with around 10 students and are connecting to around 35 students. 13 students are involved in discipleship led by student leaders. Our leadership team will grow from 4 to 6 students next year. We are also in talks to add a part-time intern next fall, a graduate student from Virginia Tech, who wants to do college missions in the northeast.



We have gone to North Carolina for disaster relief and joined ‘Serve Erie’ as our mission trips. Overall, half of our ministry has taken a mission trip this year. I believe this sets a tone for their lives; mission trips beget more mission trips. Added into our outreach is our hot chocolate giveaway, still a passion for our students to serve the campus. We also have connected and partnered with 3 single parents in town to come alongside them in providing sitting, blessings, and encouragement.

We have seen one of our students come to faith this year. Shannon has been a part of the group for over a year and submitted to Jesus this fall. It is our goal, as the church’s arm on campus, to always have non-Christians involved in the group. At this point, 1/5 of New Life students are not believers. Our goal is to make that 1/4.

I have just finished my 10<sup>th</sup> year at Penn State. Personally, I want to work with churches and youth ministers to not lose sight of the next generation.”

**WMU** held its annual meeting on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at Red Land Baptist Church. The theme of the year’s meeting was “The Joy of Serving!”



The meeting included the WMU’s annual business session. Fanny Grote will continue to serve as PA/SJ WMU president and Jada Baker will serve as WMU recording secretary.



Throughout the day attendees focused on service, praying for missionaries who are ministering across the country. Attendees also heard from Alta Brandenberger about her upcoming journey as she will be serving in the Czech Republic with the IMB this year. Her passion for missions was evident in her testimony.

6th grade - 12th grade girls also met. Their time was focused on their abilities to serve others with joy. They packed backpacks for 11 students at William Carey University whose parents are serving on the field. They also spent time with Alta as she shared her love for missions.

## **2025 KBA Financial Update**

**First Quarter Church Giving: \$38,088.13**

**First Quarter Expenses: \$31,935.36**