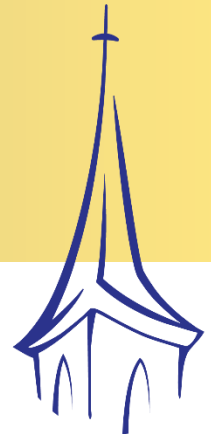


July
2021

WEST SHORE BAPTIST CHURCH

UPDATE



From the Desk of Pastor Kelly

I came across an article through *The Gospel Coalition* earlier last week that made me say “ouch.” The author, Trevin Wax, described a conversation where a would-be-attender called the church office to ask questions about the congregation’s stance on the day’s hot-button topics. She wanted to know if the church aligned with her beliefs and preferences.

I chuckled at that opening vignette. It happens regularly. People call, send an email, or ask me out to coffee and the interview begins. They want to know if I’ll preach in a way that aligns with their political views or if we affirm their view on human sexuality. The underlying premise is pretty straightforward: “If I agree to come here, will you ask me to change in any way, shape or form? If so, I’m out.”

But then the author took a turn. It’s not just *them*, he said, the outsiders and not-yet-believers who do this. It’s those of us who sit in the pews. We want the Gospel to make us slightly better versions of ourselves, sure. However, we do not want Jesus to perform a complete overhaul: realigning our priorities, destroying our walls, erecting new boundaries.

Yet, the Master I serve says that the only way to find real life in Him, is to lose my life (Luke 9:24). He calls me to deny myself. Did you catch that word? *Deny* myself. Not affirm myself or validate myself. But to deny; to willfully choose to say ‘no’ to something I would otherwise choose, in order to follow Him (Luke 9:23).

That might mean denying my wallet, so I can give generously to my God and neighbor. Or denying my personal preferences, ones affirmed and even celebrated by our culture, in order to be holy as my God is holy and to honor Him by keeping my body as His temple. Maybe denying self will mean giving up long-standing prejudices and sitting with people who do not vote, look, speak, or dress like me, so that we might more fully look like the throne room of heaven. It may mean denying my inclination to lead, that I might serve, or my preference to withdraw, so that community can be built. And, when I do deny myself, He says that I will finally be able to know His ways and heart intimately and powerfully.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ changes everything, friends. There is no part of who we are that Jesus will not call us to allow Him to evaluate and, if He desires, to transform. The cost of following Him, though, is worth it.

Love ya,
Pastor Kelly

*Pastor Kelly will be on vacation July 19 - August 1. If you have a need, please contact Pastor Greg or a Deacon.

From Pastor Greg

This year, our youth group is planning to serve our community locally on a short-term mission trip here in Harrisburg! The Youth Group will be working from July 4th to July 9th at the same location we did last year. We will be installing doors, building stairs, and putting in a fence. If you're interested in seeing how the project goes and what the youth learned from the experience, at the end of the week (Friday, July 9th at 6:30pm) we will be having a closing program for all interested. We would love for you to come, share with us in worship, and let us share with you what we've seen God do!

If you would like to help, please consider setting a reminder on your phone and praying for our upcoming trip. If you do not know what to pray for, consider praying for one of these three things:

1. Pray that God would show Himself to our youth in a new way. There's something about being surrounded by other believers that helps us become amazed at God. This Mission Trip is a fantastic opportunity for the youth to grow in their religious devotion to the Lord.
2. Pray for our leaders. Leading youth can be a tiring activity. Pray that God would give us energy. Pray also that God would speak through our leaders, both in teaching and in conversation, and that the youth would learn the gospel better.
3. Pray that we would be a light to our community in our work ethic, attitudes, and speech. Most of all, we want to represent Jesus well. Pray that God gives us the grace to do so.

I'm incredibly excited to see what God is going to do in our students on this mission trip! I hope you are too!

Soli Deo Gloria,
Associate Pastor Greg Kabakjian

Dig up those bitter roots (Heb 12:14-15)

While reading through the book “God is not in a Hurry” by Warren Willsber, I paused at this topic- Dig up those bitter roots. It got me thinking about how I can easily get hurt and keep grudges by something somebody has said or done, and how this grows to something difficult to get rid of or uproot.

According to Willsber animosity cannot be concealed for too long; it is like a seed that is sown which germinates after a few days through our words, actions, and inactions. Bitterness is so potent as a poison brewing in the hearts for weeks or years, which suddenly erupts and infects everybody around us.

In accordance with the scripture, the result of bearing grudges is difficulty and defilement (Heb 12:15). Bitterness is rooted in unforgiveness, and it does not improve the one that is embittered nor enhances the home or church that gives room for it. In fact, the root of bitterness troubles and defiles long before it is recognized openly. It is impossible for any believer who harbors a grudge to pray, witness, fellowship, and serve God effectively.

It is better to prevent the seed of bitterness from germinating in the first place, otherwise, once it takes root it involves a lot of conscious effort to root it out. This is the reason the bible exhorts Christians to follow peace and look diligently so that we do not fall short of the grace of God in our dealings (Heb 12:14,15). Just as the gardener must hate weeds and pull them up, so the believer must hate roots of bitterness and pull them up, as it is easier to pull when they are small. The longer we wait, the deeper they grow and the more bitter the poison gets.

Beloved, you will agree with me that it is next to impossible for bitter roots to grow successfully where love, joy and peace are flourishing. We need to examine the soil of our hearts, be true to God and appropriate His grace that is sufficient and never fails as we journey towards eternity.

Benevolence Fund

Thank you for your generous gifts to the Benevolence Fund.

These funds continue to be used to meet the practical needs of congregants and the community.

This offering is collected the second Sunday of each month but can be donated anytime online or in person by designating “Deacon’s Benevolence Fund”.

[From the Mission Board](#)

Sue Sweigard

Clothes Closet

The Clothes Closet ministry will be held on Saturday, July 10, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (Summer hours)

Gently used/clean clothes may be dropped off in Room G-2 Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. or any Sunday.

Wednesdays have been set aside to sort clothes. If you would like to volunteer in any way please connect with Dawne Strock at: dawne1954@aol.com.



[From the Mission Board cont'd](#)

Red Cross Blood Drive

There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at WSBC on Thursday, July 29, 2021 from 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
If you wish to donate click [here](#).

Mission Possible

If you haven't already signed up to be a part of the Mission Possible outreach day, sign-up sheets are located in the Lobby.



Back to School – Backpacks for Camp Hill students

During the month of July, we will be partnering with New Hope Ministries to provide backpacks and school supplies for students.

Items needed include:

- Back packs for K-HS
- Pencils – regular and mechanical
- Pencil box/case
- Highlighters/Sharpies
- Dry erase markers
- Notebook paper
- 1 inch/3 ring binders
- Texas Instrument Calculator – TI-30X IIS model
- Rulers
- Flashdrives
- Folders
- Notebooks
- Colored pencils/Crayons
- Erasers
- Gluesticks
- Index cards – 3x5
- Post-it notes
- Tissues – individual size packets



Please place your items on the table in Davidson Chapel. **The deadline is July 25, 2021.**

Community Groups

New community groups have started but there are still some spaces available. Contact Pastor Kelly to see what group may work for you.

July Meetings

All meetings will be Zoom meetings unless otherwise notified.

Advisory Council Meeting

The Advisory Council will not meet in July.

Board of Trustees Meeting

The Board of Trustees will meet on **Monday, July 12**, at 6:30 p.m.

Board of Deacons Meeting

The Board of Deacons will meet on **Tuesday, July 13**, at 7:00 p.m.

Missions Board Meeting

The Missions Board will meet on **Tuesday, July 20**, at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Christian Education Meeting

The Board of Christian Education will meet on **Tuesday, July 20**, at 7:00 p.m.

2nd Quarter Business Meeting

Plan now to attend the 2nd Quarter Business Meeting on Sunday, July 18th immediately following the Morning Worship Service.



Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, July 17, at 8:00 a.m at West Shore Plaza Restaurant.

Ladies Breakfast

The Ladies Breakfast will be held on Saturday, July 17, at 8:30 a.m at West Shore Plaza Restaurant.

They will pretend they don't know each other!! (and maybe the men will pay the bill!!)

Men's Ministry Night

This July 16th we will be having a Men's Ministry Night at the Strock's (495 Stony Run Rd. Dillsburg, PA 17019) at 7p.m. All men are invited. Come for a great night of companionship, devotion, and getting to know one another a little better. See you then!

ABMOPAD

Join the men of this region in serving at Medard's House on Saturday, July 24, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Thank you!

Thank you for your generous donations to the ABW Project. We were able to deliver 4, very full, suitcases of "goodies" for the ministry in Brazil.



Special Dates



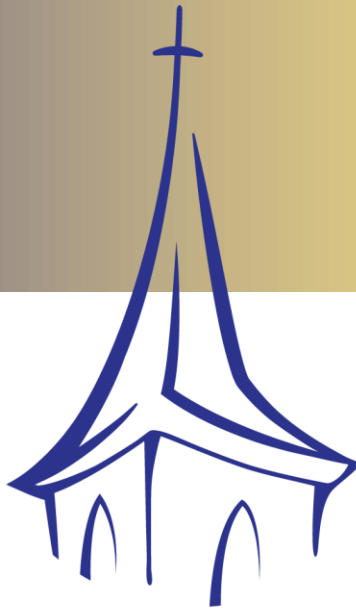
Birthdays:

- 1 – Wayne Howell
- 3 – Connor Born
- 5 – Pam Norford
- 6 – Barrie Dieffenbach
 Jackson Kennerly
- 8 – Glory Adeyemi
- 10 – Dennis Boyer
- 16 – Janet Harvey
- 18 – Ernie Lopez
- 21 – Victor Adeyemi
- 26 – Madeline Waring
- 27 – Linda Walton
- 28 – Gayle Campbell



Anniversaries:

- 2 – Dave & Donna Sweigard
- 9 – Barrie & Pat Dieffenbach
- 10 – Terry & Linda Fleming
- 29 – Ron & Candy Barth
 Ernie & Monsy Lopez
- 30 – Steve & Gayle Campbell



WEST SHORE

BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES:

Worship Service — 10:30 AM

Live streaming online and at church

Staff:

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Kelly Legg	Cell: (610) 755-8203	Email: pastorkdl@gmail.com
Associate Pastor:	Greg Kabakjian	Church: (717) 761-0942 Cell: (717) 877-6055	Email: gkabakjian@gmail.com
Choir Director:	Carol Saltzer	Cell: (717) 383-9740	Email: carolsaltzer@hotmail.com
Office Manager:	Janet Spriggs	Church: (717) 761-0942	Email: j.spriggs@wsbc.org
Organist:	Gary Stefanic	Home: (717) 635-9602	Email: garystefanic1@comcast.net
Church Sextons:	Rimma & Vladimir Torchilo	Church: (717) 761-0942	