

WEST SHORE BAPTIST CHURCH UPDATE

June 2019

West Shore Baptist Church • 2025 Market Street • Camp Hill, PA 17011 • (717) 761-0942 www.wsbc.org/mail@wsbc.org

From the Desk of Pastor Kelly

She started the phone call off by declaring, "You're not going to believe it! Another one did it." Since I'm not that quick on the uptake, I asked what we were talking about. She said, "a third person asked me today if they can do *less* at work and make *more* next year." She's the executive director of a non-profit organization and gets to have these absurd conversations all the time.

After laughing at the bizarre request lobbied by yet another enterprising employee, I went back to the work piled on my own desk. It's littered with books about spiritual disciplines in preparation for our summer sermon series. The authors of these books invite us to go deep in our relationship with God by exploring new levels of intimacy in prayer, delving deeper into God's word, committing to regular rhythms of fasting, and creating intentional space for worship. They call us to engage in the discipline of pursuing more of God's heart.

And I caught myself thinking, "can I do *less* in this relationship and gain *more* of God?" Do you know what I mean? "God, I want *more* of Your peace, but would like to spend *less* time simply waiting in Your presence." "Can I have *more* of Your clear direction, even as I expend *less* energy studying and ingesting Your word?" Or "would You grant me *more* of Your (love, joy, patience, self-control), but require *less* of my commitment to obey You?"

Isn't that absurd? Even more so than the workers looking to make an easy buck. Because we're proposing to spend less time with the One who loves us, hear less from the Lover of our souls, seek less of the God who knows tomorrow, give less to the Savior who so deeply wants to give us His all. We so often propose giving Him *less* when all He wants is to be *more* for us.

This summer we are going to consider together what it means, as a follower of Christ, to *believe* our God. Belief is always and only manifest in action. If I believe God is good, then I will obey Him. If I believe He is greater than anything else, I will create intentional time and space to be with Him. If I believe He has a good plan for my life, then I will study His ways and will be found in His word. You know what I believe by observing my actions.

And when I propose to give Him less, you know what I actually believe about the Most High.

So get ready. We are about to launch a journey inviting us to transform our actions and, in so doing, find the *most* of the One who is worth our all.

Love ya, Pastor Kelly

PS: I will be on vacation June 6-17 and serving on the ABC-USA Board of General Ministries June 18-20. While I am gone, please contact your deacon or Pastor Greg (gkabakjian@gmail.com) for pastoral care needs.

From Pastor Greg

As I read this week through some stories of Christian martyrdom in *Fox's Book of Martyrs*, I was struck by this long list of cruel torture methods used upon Christians in Saxony, Germany...

Half strangling and recovering the persons again repeatedly. Rolling sharp wheels over the fingers and toes. Pinching the thumbs in a vice. Forcing the most filthy things down the throat, by which many were choked. Tying cords round the head so tight that the blood gushed out of the eyes, nose, ears, and mouth, Fastening burning matches to the fingers, toes, ears, arms legs, and even tongue. Putting powder in the mouth and setting fire to it, by which the head was shattered to pieces. Tying bags of powder to all parts of the body, by which the person was blown up. Drawing cords backwards and forwards through the fleshy parts. Making incisions with bodkins and knives in the skin. Running wires through the nose, ears, and lips. Hanging protestants up by the legs, with their heads over a fire, by which they were smoked and dried...

And that is roughly *half* the list. But I figure you've read enough to get the picture. The thing that struck me about the list was not the intensely painful images that came to my mind when I imagined my thumbs being shattered as a vice methodically closed on them. Rather, what struck me most was imagining someone who had undergone such severe torment for their faith visiting the church in America. What would they think of us and our ardent love-affair with safety and comfort? What would they think of our packed soup kitchens and empty guest rooms? What would they think of our obsession with financial security, having a 401k, and good health insurance? What would they think as they sat through our service or talked to us about what it means to be a Christian? I feel like an incompetent wimp just thinking about it.

I would like to suggest that we have all too often taken safety and comfort and made them into idols. Too often we want to follow Jesus as long as He does not lead us anywhere that hurts. We want to imitate Christ's morality, but not his suffering and death. We want to copy Jesus' prayer life, but not His retirement plan. To be clear, I'm not saying that in order to follow Jesus you must be intentionally unsafe. It is a good thing to look both ways before you cross a street. It is a good thing to have a retirement plan (I think). It is an idolatrous thing when we begin to value our safety more than we ought. Our safety is not more important than the gospel. Do you believe that? Perhaps you will never be called to have your thumbs crushed in a vice. But the Lord might call your children or your loved ones into a part of the world where they could die for the sake of His Name. Will you be okay with that? God might ask you to have a convicted felon live in your guest room. Will you obey? As Christians, we are called to Christlikeness, not comfort. Perhaps it is time we all (myself included) started seeing the gospel, not safety, as the preeminent motivator for action in our lives.

Soli Deo Gloria, Associate Pastor Greg Kabakjian From the Diaconate Board Ida Rhone

A Living Hope

Do you ever wonder about the fact that we haven't seen Jesus in all HIS glory?

Is that a problem?

Not according to the Bible.

We can even rejoice about that.

Sometimes, don't you wish you could see Jesus and worship HIM in person? I assure you that day will come. But the moment that the RISEN LORD JESUS, KING OF THE UNIVERSE comes in glory for all to see, it will be too late for anyone to be saved anymore.

Right now, of course, we don't see HIM face to face, so it's possible to doubt. But now there is also time to turn away from our sin and to turn to the Savior.

Paul writes, "As God's fellow workers, we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. For HE says, "As in the time of my favor, I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you. I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation." (2 Corinthians 6:1-2)

When the Risen Christ and living Lord comes again, it will be too late to repent and to seek God's forgiveness. Our destiny will be sealed. For this reason, we can rejoice with hope that Jesus continues this day to work quietly through His Holy Spirit to give people new birth.

We rightly long for HIS appearing, but we can also rejoice at His patience in dealing with sinners who still need to be saved.

Another reason to rejoice in the Living Lord, is that He has promised a special blessing to those of us living by faith and hope in Him today. He says, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20:29b)

Right now our eyes can't see what the Risen Christ looks like, but our spirits can sense the loving touch of His Holy Spirit, filling us with hope and trust, a desire to follow and rejoice in Him. "Though you have not seen Him, you love Him; and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls." 2 Peter 1:8-9

That is the living hope offered by the Risen Lord, to those who trust, follow and rejoice in Him. ...and remember this:

We serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today
I know that He is living whatever men may say;
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer
And just the time I need Him, He's always near.
HE LIVES, HE LIVES, CHRIST JESUS LIVES TODAY! AMEN

From the Diaconate Board - cont'd

Benevolence Fund

Do you know about our Benevolence Fund? This fund blesses those both within and beyond our faith community facing financial need. Recently, these monies went toward desperately needed car repairs, a family's first-month's rent, groceries, bus passes for job transportation, electric bills and more. The fund is replenished monthly on the 2nd Sunday by your generous giving. If you or anyone you know need assistance from the fund, connect with Bruce Montgomery (deacon board chair), Greg Hartman (deacon board treasurer), or Pastor Kelly.

From Dr. Hilary Art Nixon

Works And Greater Works => Miracles and Gospel

Jesus said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do" (John 14:12). Our focus is on what work and what greater work God might do in and through a believer.

The Father worked miracles through Jesus. On a Sabbath at the Bethesda pool, Jesus healed a man who hadn't walked for 38 years! "The Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing ... and the Father will show Him greater works than these, so that you will marvel. For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom He wishes" (John 5:20–21). Raising the dead was also part of the disciple's task. "As you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give" (Mt 10:7–8).

A similar commission was given to the seventy. "Heal those ... who are sick, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you' (Luke 10:8–9). They returned euphoric— having channeled the healing power of God and finding the name of Jesus had authority over demons. "The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." (Luke 10:17).

So the works that Jesus and His disciples did included miracles of healing, resurrection and authority over demons. Miracles are a possibility for believers:— "he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also" (John 14:12.) If we believe God can use us as a channel for the glory of His kingdom, miracles could happen! Maybe we will never see one in our life, but they could happen! (They won't happen, if we don't believe they could happen! See Mark 6:5–6).

Yet "greater works than these he will do" (John 14:12)! The greater work lives and proclaims the gospel. Jesus is the Christ (or Messiah Acts 9:22). He bore our sin as God's suffering servant (Isaiah 53:12). Jesus arose from the dead. He gives believers a new nature. He dwells within us (John 14:23). He gives us purpose, forgiveness, and hope. He writes His way upon our life. He gives us fellowship, adopts us into His family, redeems us from slavery to sin, and makes us persevere as we daily grow in love and faith in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Continued...

Christ's priority is Gospel over miracles. "do not rejoice ... that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven" (Luke 10:20). Being a channel for one of God's miracles in no guarantee of salvation. "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you who practice lawlessness.' (Matthew 7:21–23).

Always keep this "greater work," the gospel life and message, first. But don't exclude the remote possibility of God working a miracle through you! Miracles are attention getters for the Gospel. Both the Gospel and miracles signify God's kingdom is at hand – near! Are you a believer in Jesus? **Do you believe God could work a miracle through you?**

From the Mission Board Steve Campbell

"One Great Hour of Sharing" Offering

During the month of June, we will join the American Baptist congregations in giving to the "One Great Hour of Sharing" Offering.

Through this offering we are creating, together, a world where families have access to clean water, education, and medical care-where they can find new homes without persecution.

Thank you, in advance for your generous gifts to this offering. Envelopes will be available in your bulletin and coin boxes are in the Lobby.

Together we are transforming lives in ways that are more than we can imagine.

CAPC Baby Bottle Drive

Please return your filled baby bottles to the designated area in the Lobby by June 16, 2017. **Thank you!**



Mission Board...cont'd

WSBC Clothes Closet

Come and check out our Clothes Closet!



Where: West Shore Baptist Church

2025 Market Street

Camp Hill, PA 17011

When: Saturday, June 8, 2019

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

A variety of gently used men's, women's and children's clothes are available for **free**. Parking is at the back of the building.

For more information: 717-761-0942 or mail@wsbc.org

All are welcome!

Mission Board...cont'd

Earl Besch Project Summer Food Drive

Thank you for supporting the West Shore School District Project ASK back pack food ministry this year! Project ASK is shutting down for the summer and our attention is turning to Camp Hill. When school breaks for the summer, children whose families relied on school meals and weekend food backpacks face great need. In our own community, 52 children from 35 families rely heavily on supplemental food. For that reason the Camp Hill School District's Earl Besch Project is hosting a Summer Food Drive for those 52 children and are partnering with churches to make it happen.

WSBC will fill and deliver 35 boxes filled with perishable & non-perishable food to local families in the month of June. Two other Camp Hill churches will provide the boxes for July & August. This is a tangible way to bridge the Gospel to our neighbors.

Below is the list of non-perishable foods to bring in over the next 4 Sundays (May 26 thru June 16). We are asking each family or group to fill 1 box over the next 4 weeks. Boxes will be at the back of Fellowship Hall starting Sunday, May 26. There will be a pad of large post-it notes and a marker for you to write your name or group name on a note and post it on a box. We recommend bringing up to 7 items on the list each week and placing them in your box to complete the 27 items requested over the course of the month. Check off the items on the list as you buy them each week and on June 16 put your list in your box, so we will know what we lack making a full box. The total cost per box is approximately \$107, based on Karnes EE (Everyday Essential store brand) prices, or a little over \$25 per week for the 4 weeks.

Please prayerfully consider how you, your friends, Sunday School class, and community group can come together to provide a helping hand to those in need in Camp Hill this summer.

Please consider donating the items listed below to our Food Drive. Let's show our community that we care! We are only collecting at least 1 (if possible 2) of the following items to fill 35 boxes:

- Pancake mix just add water
- Mayonaise
- 1 lb Rice
- Jelly
- Oatmeal individual
- Individually wrapped pretzels
- Paper towels large package

- Syrup
- Ketchup
- 1 lb Spaghetti
- Box of Crackers
- Box granola bars
- Laundry detergent Kitchen Sponges
- Saran wrap

- Large Canned tuna
- Mustard
- Spaghetti sauce
- Macaroni and cheese
- Box fruit snacks
- Aluminum Foil

- Large Canned chicken
- Spaghettios
- Peanut Butter
- Cereal
- Dish soap
- Toilet paper large package

We are also collecting a monetary donation of approximately \$1,500 to help purchase perishable items such as: margarine, one dozen eggs, 1 gallon 2% milk, orange juice, white sandwich bread, 3 lb bananas, 3 lb apples, box of crackers, packaged turkey lunchmeat, packaged cheese slices, frozen pizza, chicken nuggets, hot dogs, hot dog buns, Hot Pockets and Uncrustables.

From the Christian Education Board

Judy Brouse and Becky Gentzler

WSBC/Baldwin Scholarship

Just a reminder that applications are to be returned to the Church Office by Sunday, June 9, 2019.

Musical Theatre Camp

It's finally here!

This is the month when we will experience lots of excitement in the church as kids of all ages will



Follow the yellow brick road...

- Please pray for this very important outreach.
- > Plan to attend one of the performances
- ➤ Help paint sets and decorate on June 1st & 15th beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- > Get involved by donating your time to assist during the week

June 24-28, 2019

Monday-Thursday 9 AM – 3 PM

Friday 12PM-6:00 PM

Performances: Saturday, June 29 at 3 & 6 PM (\$5 general admission)

THE WIZARD OF OZ by L. Frank Baum is presented by arrangement with TAMS-WITMARK. www.tamswitmark.com

Church Photo Directory

"It's time!

It's time for us to update our photo directory. Save the date. We will be photographing

Thursday, July 25 – Saturday, July 27, 2019 right here at WSBC. Our directory won't be complete without you. Watch our bulletin/newsletter/etc. for more information in the coming weeks. There is no cost to for having your picture taken. You will be given a complimentary directory and an opportunity to purchase family portraits. Discounts on portraits are available for military, first responders and seniors.

These dates were chosen so that you could include your children, who might be around for the summer. So plan now to work on your tan...find the right outfit...and sign up for a time online at: https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/yqtmq8c6/

Upcoming Opportunities

Men's Breakfast Fellowship

The next meeting of the Men's Breakfast Fellowship will be at 8:00 a.m. on, *Saturday, June 15*, at Front Street Diner in Harrisburg. All men are invited!

Ladies Breakfast Fellowship

The next meeting of the Women's Breakfast Fellowship will be at 8:00 a.m. on *Saturday, June 15*, at Friendly's in Camp Hill. All women are invited! Please sign up on your Connect Card.

American Baptist Women of Pennsylvania & Delaware

Thrive Conference JUNE 28-29, 2019

THEME: 'Virtues Wrapped in Love'

Colossians 3:12-14 NIV

Blair County Convention Center

Altoona, PA

A Conference for women and girls!

Detailed information is on the ABW bulletin board. Register by visiting: www.abcopad.org

BURTHDAY

Special Dates



Birthdays:

3 – Pat Dieffenbach

5 – Andrea Dunkle

Kath Nichols

9 - Carolyn Frischkorn

11 -Ken Whitcomb

15 - Libbie Hitch

19 – Monsy Lopez

Marilyn Ross

20 – Bruce Montgomery

22 - Doug Hill

26 - Terry Fleming

28 - Dick Webb

Anniversaries:

4 - Eric & Kristin Born

5 – Dick & June Karschner

14 - Russ & Michele Miller

28 - Cal & E.J. Stevens

June Meetings

Missions Board Meeting

The Missions Board will meet on *Monday, June 3*, at 6:30 p.m. in the library.

Advisory Council Meeting

The Advisory Council will meet on *Tuesday, June 4*, at 6:30 p.m. in Room G-2.

Board of Trustees Meeting

The Board of Trustees will meet on Monday, June 10, at 6:30 p.m. in Room G-2.

Board of Christian Education Meeting

The Board of Christian Education will meet on *Tuesday, June 18,* at 6:30 p.m. in Room G-2.

"Thank you!!"

Dear Pastor Kelly and WSBC Family,

Thank you so much for the kind and gracious recognition that you gave to us during worship on Mother's Day...it really was unexpected, and in the words of C.S. Lewis, we were "surprised by joy."

We are honored to serve with you and call WSBC "home" and we pray God continues to make His Name known through the ministry we share together.

Thank you...



West Shore Baptist Church

Staff:

Senior Pastor: Rev. Kelly Legg Cell: (610) 775-8203 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

SUNDAY SERVICES:

Christian Education Hour— 9:00 AM

Coffee Café —10:00 AM

Worship Service - 10:30 AM

We seek to be a
L.I.G.H.T.
to our community by: