

March
2020

WEST SHORE BAPTIST CHURCH

UPDATE



From the Desk of Pastor Kelly

Several years ago I shared a picture similar to this one during a sermon, depicting how each one of us are placed purposefully in the Body of Christ and we are unable to fully show Jesus' heart, hands, and feet without one another. As the smiling faces of people within the church began to fill the "body", suddenly a woman exclaimed from the back of the room, "I'm an armpit!?"



She immediately realized those thoughts had actually exited her mouth and turned bright red.

The congregation exploded with laughter. And we got, perhaps, the best learning experience, yet. You see, she was very much struggling with her role in the local body of believers. She wasn't a teacher, serving on a board, or elevated into front-line leadership. She could not see how Jesus desired to use her in His Church and, frankly, thought that parts of her story ought to disqualify her from being used by Him. And while I genuinely just put her photo in the collage because I knew she belonged to our Body, the LORD used its placement to speak truth: He uses each of us, where He places us in the Body, if we will offer Him our time, talent, and treasure.

What she didn't realize at the time was that her gift of encouragement and willingness to invest time in a few angry teenage girls would one day lead them to passionately pursue Jesus, her uncanny ability to budget would open the doors for a few folks who struggled to save a few dollars to turn their finances around when they chose to submit their wallets to the LORD, and her love of singing would cause a worship leader considering leaving ministry to stay. It turns out the LORD can do a great deal in His Church through an "armpit."

Whatever your place in this Body, Jesus has put you here. This, friend, is where you belong. And we are made more like Christ because you serve Him well, even if it feels to you like what you bring isn't much.

Love ya,
Pastor Kelly

From Pastor Greg

Since finishing seminary, I have been able to read more in my free time. For the first time in years I've been able to sit down and enjoy fiction. I can finally enjoy the beautiful gift of sitting on my couch with a book in my lap that requires no translating, no straining, no memorization – just my imagination and the colorful world the author has painted for me to admire. I recently finished a delightful book titled *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr.

The book takes place in France during WWII. Because I don't want to spoil the book (It's an amazing read), I'll only make one observation that I thought striking. The book is a work of historical fiction and every detail is carefully described by the author and paired with real events such that the reader could easily believe the whole story actually happened. And yet, in the middle of all the history, there's an almost comical strain of obvious fantasy. Doerr tells of a rare diamond that brings eternal life to all who possess it. And every once in a while the author returns to a peculiar character, Sergeant Reinhold von Rumpel. Von Rumpel has cancer, is dying, and is desperately searching for this diamond. As his tumors grow larger and his strides grow shorter, von Rumpel searches ever the more frantically for the mystical diamond he believes will save him.

The genius of this single strain of fantasy in the midst of a profoundly historical novel is this: we are von Rumpel. We are all actively dying, searching for an answer, searching for a cure, for meaning, for significance. The author brilliantly pokes a hole in the secular worldview and shows that even the staunchest atheist is (inconsistent with their naturalism) feverishly searching for meaning. We immerse ourselves in our work, hoping that somewhere in our labors we will discover a fantasy diamond to bring us peace. We, as lonely as we are, get married, hoping that our spouse will be the diamond. We fill our free time, scrolling through our phone or glued to the television, trying to find a diamond. We all are searching for answers.

This has reminded me that one of the beautiful hopes of the Christian message is this: we have found the Diamond. Christ is the Diamond. He is the source of hope, meaning, and significance. He is rest for the weary, He is hope for the dying, He gives meaning to the lost, and He gives peace to the broken. Christ is the answer. If you are tired, ridden with guilt, ashamed, anxious, looking for answers, overwhelmed with grief, suffering, or lonely – run to Him. Trust in His sacrifice. He will bring you peace.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Associate Pastor Greg Kabakjian

Prayer of Consecration, by Hannah Smith

Recently a fellow parishioner here at West Shore Baptist Church asked what a holy life looks like. In answer, the following is taken from Hannah Whitehall Smith's Journal, May 31, 1869: "The Christian's Secret of a Holy Life: The Unpublished Personal Writings of Hannah Whitehall Smith", 1997, Oak Harbor, Logos Research Systems, Inc.:

Lord, I am yours, yours wholly, and yours forever! I am yours by the purchase of your blood, and I present myself to you now as a living sacrifice, body, soul, and spirit to be as clay in your hands.

I give you my heart, Lord, to love only what you love; to hate what you hate; to endure all things, to suffer long and be kind, to be not easily provoked; to think no evil, not to seek my own. Help me, oh my God!

I give you my intellect to be wholly devoted to your service, and perfectly under your control to think only those thoughts that will please you, to devise only such plans as you suggest, to yield the management of all its affairs to you! I give it to you that you may fulfill the purposes of your grace by casting down my imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. Help me, oh my God.

I give you my body to be used by you. My eyes to see only what you would have them see, my ears to hear only what you would have them hear; my feet to go only where you lead, my hands to do only what can be done in fellowship with you, my tongue to speak only words that please you. I give you any appetite to be under thy control and regulation. I give my time to you, Lord, to be all employed for you.

I leave my reputation in your hands. I give you my children, my husband, and everyone whom I love to be disposed of according to your will. I leave to you the ordering of my whole life, and with your help will follow you wherever you lead. I will give you the control of my feelings and of my prejudices. I submit, in short, my whole being and life all that I am and have and will be to your complete control, and only ask that your will may be perfectly done in me, through me and by me! Take me and keep me oh my God!

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.

Holy Week

April 5 – Palm Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m.

April 9 – Maundy Thursday Worship, including prayer stations and communion at 7:00 p.m.

April 12 – Easter Sunday Worship at 6:00 a.m. (location TBA); breakfast to follow at WSBC.

Easter Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Clothes Closet

Saturday, March 14, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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



To help sort clothes in advance or to volunteer that day, please connect with Dawne Strock at: dawne1954@aol.com

You can also sort clothes on Friday from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Steve Campbell

This is another installment in our series of articles on the organizations we support via the Mission budget at WSBC. This one is on Bethesda Mission in Harrisburg.

Bethesda Mission of Harrisburg, PA Web Site: <https://www.bethesdamission.org/>

From their Web Site:

Our Mission:

Since 1914, Bethesda Mission has been a missionary arm of the local church, reaching out to men, women, and children of all races, nationalities, and creeds, providing the poor and homeless with shelter, food, clothing, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, and discipling them in the Christian life.

Our Core Values:

- Jesus Christ is our Foundation
- Relentless Pursuit of Excellence in All Things
- Integrity Without Compromise
- Faithfulness in Transforming Lives

Our Vision: Rescue, Redeem, Restore

Rescue: A soft pillow, a warm meal, and peace from life's storms are what Bethesda offers the men, women, and children who walk through our doors. Our walls offer safety from chaos-filled homes and noisy streets, and our hospitality returns a small portion of the grace we've been given to the people we serve.

Redeem: A brightly lit green cross is the trade-mark symbol of our flagship facility at 611 Reily Street in downtown Harrisburg. This city icon defines our driving passion – to introduce others to the power and love of Jesus Christ.

Restore: Equipping each person with tools for life is the aim of Bethesda's community re-entry blueprint. From learning to balance a checkbook to finding a Christ centered, nurturing church, these foundational skills help existing guests lead lives of character and great purpose.

America For Christ Offering

During the month of March we will be receiving a special offering. Each dollar given increases the ministry and impact of ABHMS to serve neighbors with ministries incarnating Christ's love, justice and compassion. Further, a portion of this offering (28%) will be shared with our American Baptist Churches region for strengthening local church leaders through programming, pastoral search support and other efforts to help our local church thrive, especially in these times when North America is its own challenging mission field!

Offering envelopes will be available in the pews on Sunday.

From the Trustee Board

Frank Strock

Church Cleaning

The Trustee Board is looking for volunteers to clean the church the week of March 9-15, 2020. Our regular Church Sexton, Rimma Torchilo will be preparing for her daughter's wedding.

If you are interested in volunteering please email Janet at j.spriggs@wsbc.org or contact Frank Strock at frankjr@strockinsurance.com. You can also sign-up on your Connect Card.

From the Christian Education Board

Alexis Kabakjian

Musical Theatre Camp

Mark your calendar!

Musical Theatre Camp will be June 22-26 with performances on Saturday, June 27.

Registration will be open soon!



Upcoming Opportunities

Men's Breakfast Fellowship

The next meeting of the Men's Breakfast Fellowship will be at 8:00 a.m. on **Saturday, March 21, 2020** at the Front Street Diner. All men are invited!

Ladies Breakfast Fellowship

The next meeting of the Ladies Breakfast Fellowship will be at 9:00 a.m. on **Saturday, March 21, 2020** at Perkins Restaurant. All ladies are welcome!

World Day of Prayer Service

"Rise! Take Your Mat And Walk", sponsored by Church Women United and written by the women of Zimbabwe, is the theme of the 2020 World Day of Prayer Service. The service will be held at 10 am, Friday, March 6, at St. Theresa Catholic Church, 1300 Bridge Street, New Cumberland. Questions? Contact Gayle Campbell, 774-4186.

WSBC Women

On Saturday April 4th from 11-1:30 p.m. there will be a "Spring Tea with fashions by Christopher and Banks". A light lunch will be served with tea and other beverages. Fashions from Christopher and Banks will be modeled. A 40% coupon will be given to each attendee. There is a need for volunteers for models. Please contact Dawne Strock with questions or if you are interested in modeling.

This is a great event to bring an unchurched friend!

American Baptist Women Conference

Thriving Through Seeing

May 15 - 16

Blair County Convention Center
Altoona, PA



Pastor Kelly is this year's keynote speaker. Cost is \$100 (not including hotel). Register online at www.abcopad.org or using the forms at the resource center.

American Baptist Men Retreat

American Baptist Men of Pennsylvania & Delaware
Continuing to Forge Servants for 66 Years!

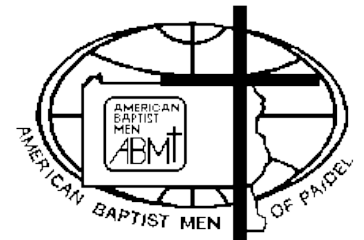
Retreat for Men and Young Men

Friday, July 24 – Sunday, July 26, 2020

Shippensburg University; 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257

Theme: Do Not Just Listen – Do Something! (James 1:22)

Details are at www.abcopad.org and forms are at the resource center.



March Meetings

Advisory Council Meeting

The Advisory Council will meet on **Tuesday, March 3**, at 6:30 a.m. in Room G-4.

Board of Trustees Meeting

The Board of Trustees will meet on **Monday, March 9**, at 6:30 p.m. in Room G-4.

Missions Board Meeting

The Missions Board will meet on **Tuesday, March 17**, at 6:00 p.m. in the room G-3.

Board of Christian Education Meeting

The Board of Christian Education will meet on **Tuesday, March 17**, at 7:00 p.m. in Room G-4.

Diaconate Board Meeting

The Diaconate Board will meet on **Tuesday, March 24**, at 7:00 p.m. in Room G-4.

Special Dates



Birthdays:

- 1 – June Karschner
- 6 – Earl Blust
- 8 – Pearl Tomlinson
Carolyn Wolf
- 9 – Jason Barth
- 11 – Diane Auten
Shirley Wall
- 14 – Ken Saltzer
- 17 – Pat Zulaica
- 19 – Alice Orozco
- 25 – Anna Carr
Alexis Kabakjian
- 26 – Zoe Kennerly
- 27 – Patty McCown
- 30 – Edie Kennerly

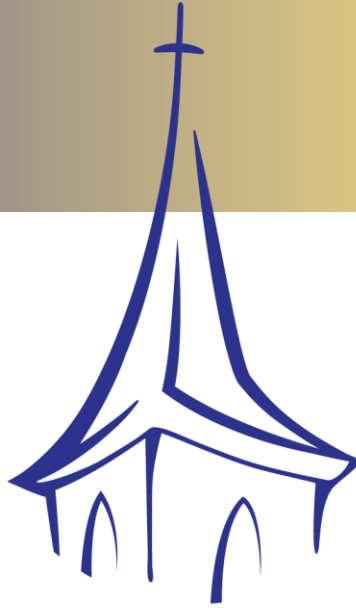


Anniversaries:

- 14 – Doug & Amy Hill
- 24 – Ed & Anne Bihl

Spring Forward!— Don't forget to change your clocks next weekend (March 8) as Daylight Savings Time begins.





WEST SHORE

BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES:

Christian Education Hour— 9:00 AM

Coffee Café —10:00 AM

Worship Service— 10:30 AM

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	