



WEST SHORE BAPTIST CHURCH UPDATE

October
2019

*West Shore Baptist Church • 2025 Market Street • Camp Hill, PA 17011 • (717) 761-0942
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From the Desk of Pastor Kelly

I spent most of Monday gathering with clergy and lay leaders from across ABCOPAD (American Baptist Churches of PA & DE). We dedicated our time to designing our 2020 biennial leadership conference. It is going to be a very beneficial time, centering around encouraging people from different generations to “see” one another – noting the value each brings to the work of seeing Jesus’ Kingdom come today!

I found our primary task energizing and fruitful. Yet I found some of the stories shared across our table draining. Why? Because they were about churches that absolutely refused to fix their eyes on Jesus and to view His Bride through His eyes. Pastors told stories of congregations comprised almost exclusively of Builders & Baby Boomers who ran off Millennials & Gen Z (those born from 1980-2000 & 2000-now, respectively) because their kids made noise or they did not dress according to unwritten codes. Others recounted churches where those in their middle-age years and younger all but wrote off those who were older, acting as if they had nothing to learn from people who express their love for the Lord differently than their generations. They spoke of churches that were more deeply invested in *tradition* than *truth*, *preference* than *purpose*, and their *club* than the *Church*.

Those stories were all from this year. Several of those churches no longer exist.

While it was saddening to listen, those same stories drove me to my knees in thanks and in need. They made me rejoice with our Father about how hard we work to be one body bound together by one faith. It made me celebrate the way our music ministry crosses generational lines. I thanked Jesus for how both the Searchers classroom on Sunday mornings and our Young Adult living rooms on Friday evenings fill to capacity. Both groups gather to believe and belong; they do so in different ways, and neither takes away from the other. And I found myself calling upon the Spirit to continue the work of creating mentoring relationships that bridge age gaps, as those a bit farther on their journey with Christ help ones coming on the road to pursue Him.

Those same stories also made me pray. It’s hard to do church together. It’s tough to put 5 generations together in the same space. It’s difficult sometimes to truly see one another as people made in God’s image, loved by the Savior, and filled by the Spirit. And it’s completely, totally worth it, because it is completely, totally God’s design.

Thank you for continuing to trust that we who believe the Gospel belong with one another.

Love ya,
Pastor Kelly

From Pastor Greg

Growing up, I remember being captivated by stories of heroic Christian martyrs. Men and women with other-worldly courage, doing great works for God, and then dying a horrific death, all while never losing an ounce of faith. A protestant man being burned at the stake for his declaration that justification was by faith alone; and even while his skin shriveled, belting out hymns with such exuberance that onlookers, taken aback by his faith, were converted on the spot. That sort of thing. I so greatly admired the faith, courage, and all-out commitment of these saints of the past that I unwittingly began to place those who experienced extreme persecution or accomplished much for the Lord in a more “spiritual” category than the rest of us normal Christians. I esteemed and idealized this manner of living the Christian life so much that it was almost as if I was doing something wrong, or at least spiritually inferior, if I was not in perpetual danger of being waterboarded, burned at the stake, or thrown to starving lions. And I don’t believe I’m alone in thinking of the Christian life this way. I believe most of us are inclined to think in a similar fashion.

For instance, we all tend to place vocations into spiritually ranked categories. We might not ever say it, but we’ve determined that being a nurse in Haiti is somehow spiritually superior to being an electrician in Mechanicsburg. Using your law degree to fight sex trafficking in China is spiritually superior to using it to reform property law in Camp Hill. And being a pastor is spiritually superior to being a plumber. That’s why pastors, not plumbers, are always asked to pray at dinner, pray at board meetings, pray at lunches, pray at business meetings, pray at potlucks, and pray at every other event where there could possibly be prayer. After all, what else are pastors but professional Christians? The point is, we so often subconsciously divide Christians into more-spiritual and less-spiritual categories and venerate the Christian whose life is more ‘exciting.’

The Bible, however, does no such thing. Rather, Scripture repeatedly commands Christians to live normal, quiet lives (1 Tim. 2:2, 1 Thess. 4:11). In other words, doing ‘great’ things for the Lord often probably looks less like nailing theses to doors and more like minding your own business and not causing too much of a fuss, less like being burned at the stake while belting out hymns and more like careful Bible study with an obediently humble heart, less like being mauled by lions and more like a grateful spirit and a committed prayer life. Granted, nailing a thesis, being burned at the stake, and being mauled by lions for acts of faith are not inherently bad things at all, but they also should not be presented as normal or more spiritual – and definitely not as necessary components of a faithful Christian life. The faithful Christian life, as the Bible portrays it, is not marked primarily by bold, public declarations of faith, but by characteristics such as quietness, love, humility, sober-mindedness, a smallness in one’s own mind, meekness, joy, patience, an others-centeredness, love for God’s word, peace, prayerfulness, slowness to speak, gentleness, a quickness to repent, and self-control – to name just a few. Let us strive to become Christians who put away notions of false piety and yearn to love God, live faithfully, die well, and be forgotten.

Soli Deo Gloria,
Associate Pastor Greg Kabakjian

“I’M SO EXCITED!”

Most people who know me, know I get excited about a lot of things, and they also know I’m very dramatic in the way I show it; singing, attempting to dance, performing, which often includes dressing up in Disney costumes, and because of my contagious energy, convincing people to join me in my often theatrical exuberance!

I was thinking of the Pointer Sisters song: “I’m so excited, and I just can’t hide it, I’m about to lose control and I think I like it...” hmmm...do I do that when I talk about Jesus? I was thinking about the ways in which we as Christians show our excitement about what God does in our life? Do we really Go Tell It on the Mountain”, do “We Sing because we’re happy”? Do we “Shout to the Lord all the Earth”?

On Sunday mornings, do we say we HAVE to go to church, or do we look forward to worshipping with our friends because we GET to go to church? When we leave, do we feel energized, and ready to “Go and make disciples”, or does the feeling pass, and we are we off to lunch, and then home for a nap?

Right now at West Shore Baptist, there is so much excitement, and enthusiasm about preaching, teaching, learning, growing, and community; do you feel it? Are you part of it? If you don’t, or you aren’t, why not? Pastor Kelly brings us thought provoking, challenging messages, that make me want to know more, love more, and tell others!

I admit, I sometimes fail at my execution, but I’m doing better, because “I’m so excited”!

I’m excited about continuing to grow our incredible Music Ministry; by the way, if you missed the Night of Music, you missed an exciting evening! The Praise Team, Choir, and Baptones, were really excited to share there amazing gifts and sing praises to God – I was blessed to hear my son Michael, and daughter Ashley sing a beautiful duet!

I’m excited about the next Clothes Closet, the EMS dinner, the float in the Halloween Parade, the children that are taught stories from the Bible by our great Sunday School teachers, the young adult retreat coming up lead by Pastor Greg, all those going on the mission trip, next year’s Musical Theatre Camp led by the awesome Christian Ed Board, about the plans the dedicated Trustee Board is proposing for 2020, and about the future of our church!

What I’m most excited about, is how we are all changing! I know I am, and I see others changing too; how we can’t wait to serve, and how we are working together in creating opportunities to open our doors, and share the Gospel!

Tuesday I got to go to a staff meeting in the morning, and then a productive Diaconate meeting at night, and when I left this morning, I saw two of our hard working senior men doing a project that some might never notice, but I noticed their faithfulness, and quiet excitement, about their ability to serve - I could tell how much they love this church and Jesus!

I know people know how much I love my grandchildren because of the way I talk about them, but I want others to know how much I love Jesus because of the way I talk about HIM!

I want others to be as excited about Jesus as we are here at West Shore Baptist Church! I pray they see the joy in our faces when we talk about Him and serve Him, I pray they hear it in our voices when we sing, and I pray they can feel it in their hearts as we share our faith.

From the Diaconate Board – cont'd

“I'M SO EXCITED!” cont'd

Whether we Shout it from the Mountain top, or we quietly “Go Make Disciples”, let us rejoice as we tell the world what we Believe, and we share the love of Jesus!

“I'm So Excited”, are you?

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.

Pastor Kelly – Vacation

Pastor Kelly will enjoy vacation October 7-16. While she is away, please direct pastoral care needs to Pastor Greg and your watch care deacon.

From the Mission Board

Steve Campbell

We are going to Puerto Rico!

You are invited to join the team serving in Las Cruces, Puerto Rico February 12-19, 2020.

To secure your place on the team, return a completed application (found at the Resource Center) and a deposit of \$50 (make checks payable to WSBC and put “Puerto Rico Missions Trip” in the memo line). Must be 12 or older to participate.

Please place your completed application with the deposit check in the designated tray in the Church Office.

Prayer Walk

Our Father placed us at the corner of 21st and Market Street in Camp Hill strategically. We will honor His choice and seek His will, as we engage in a prayer walk on Sunday, October 6. Following a light lunch, we will divide into groups and walk along specific routes surrounding our church, praying for the people who live there and asking our God to open doors for ministry and mission. If walking is difficult for you, still plan to come! We will have prayer exercises you can engage in from inside.

From the Mission Board cont”d

Operation Christmas Child



**It all starts with a shoebox gift,
packed in Jesus' Name and full of love and prayer**

...and you can be a part of it

Watch for the bulletin insert On October 6th.

We will receive completed boxes throughout October. Please place them on the table in the Fellowship hall and if possible, please consider including the shipping cost of \$9 (make checks payable to WSBC).

World Mission Offering

Every September and October, congregations come together for a time of awareness, advocacy and action for global mission. Churches across the country celebrate and support the ministries that God is using to transform the world. This is the World Mission Offering.

For the 2019 World Mission Offering, we are highlighting the **Ministry Priorities of Evangelism and Discipleship, Immigrants and Refugees and Education**. While these represent only a fraction of IM's ministries, they provide a window into what God is doing worldwide through our 123 global servants, 900+ volunteers, 43 home staff and 250+ global partners.

At WSBC, we will be promoting this offering from October 6-27, 2019. Our goal is to raise \$5,000.

Offering envelopes will be available in your bulletin and in the church pew.

Thank you for your faithful generosity!

From the Mission Board – cont'd

Clothes Closet

Saturday, October 12, 2019

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



Gently used clothes and toys may be dropped off in Room G-1 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

From the Trustee Board

Steve Norford

On Monday, October 21 at 7:00 p.m. there will be an informational meeting with the local police to address how to react if an Active Shooter is present. There will also be a walkthrough of the WSBC building to address suitable evacuation plans and safety and security issues. All are invited to attend.

Upcoming Opportunities

Men's Breakfast Fellowship

The next meeting of the Men's Breakfast Fellowship will be at 8:00 a.m. on, **Saturday, October 19, 2019**, Friendly's in Camp Hill. All men are invited!

Ladies Breakfast Fellowship

The next meeting of the Ladies Breakfast Fellowship will be at 9:00 a.m. on, **Saturday, October 19, 2019**, at Peppermill Restraunt on Wesley Drive in Mechanicsburg. All ladies are welcome!

Men's Ministry

Carl Trueman, a Luther scholar, once quipped “drinking beer with friends is perhaps the most underestimated of all Reformation insights and essential to ongoing reform; and wasting time with a choice friend or two on a regular basis might be the best investment of time you ever make.” In the spirit of wasting time with good friends, all men are invited to the Strock’s residence (495 Stony Run Rd., Dillsburg) October 18th from 6:30pm – 9pm for an evening around the bonfire. There will be snacks provided. Join us for Christian fellowship and study as Pastor Greg teaches about biblical manliness.

Women's Ministry

Ladies, mark your calendars! The ABCOPAD Women's Conference will be May 15-16 at the Blair County Convention Center. Pastor Kelly will be this year's keynote speaker, as we consider how being seen by God transforms the way we see ourselves and others. This is a fantastic way to connect with other women in our church and region. Details and registration forms will be available in the new year. See Gayle Campbell or Patty McCown for more information.

October Meetings

Advisory Council Meeting

The Advisory Council will meet on **Tuesday, October 1**, at 6:30 p.m. in Room G-4.

Missions Board Meeting

The Missions Board will meet on **Monday, October 7**, at 6:30 p.m. in the library.

Board of Christian Education Meeting

The Board of Christian Education will meet on **Tuesday, October 15**, at 6:30 p.m. in Room G-4.

Board of Trustees Meeting

The Board of Trustees will meet on **Thursday, October 17**, at 6:30 p.m. in Room G-4.

Diaconate Board Meeting

The Diaconate Board will meet on **Tuesday, October 29**, at 7:00 p.m. in Room G-4.

Special Dates



Birthdays:

- 3 – Donna Sweigard
- 5 – Sue Sweigard
- 6 – Elana Stine
- 7 – Gary Stefanic
- 8 – Ellen Boyd
- 13 – Richard Zulaica
- 15 – Elaine Deimler
- 17 – Jorrie Gentzler
- 19 – Dottie Lebo
- 23 – Steve Goff
Dawne Strock
- 24 – Ida Rhone
- 27 – Kristin Born
Doug Ice
Linda Neubaum
- 28 – Eric Born
Janet Howell
- 29 – Tom Kennerly
Lindsay Neve

Anniversaries:

- 10 – Steve & Tina Goff
Bryan & Judy Spangler
- 14 – Dave & Stacey Kennerly
- 16 – Bob & Kristine Zoll
- 23 – Wayne & Janet Howell
- 26 – Frank & Dawne Strock
- 31 – Judd & Judy Brouse



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 make disciples who

Believe • Belong • Bridge • Become