



A note from the Pastor

It's hard to believe we are already looking to the fall. Summer has been a fruitful and fun time. As much as we've enjoyed summer, I look forward to the focus and new goals of the fall, a new school year, and a new season in our church. We have made plans to celebrate this summer's accomplishments and plan for the fall at a picnic on Sunday, August 20th after church at the Leechburg Park, Pavilion # 4. I hope to see all of you there.

This fall we want to make the most of every opportunity to connect individuals, families, and students to the life changing power of God. Steps are being taken to do just that. Pastor Paul and Jenny Carter bring new leadership to the youth. We'd like to effectively minister to the younger children as well. I ask you to consider offering your help, energy, and creativity to these ministry efforts. Many have discovered the benefits of being connected to a small group through "Get it Together: Forty Days of Community." These groups will continue where possible. Contact the office if you are interested in connecting to a continuing group. I would love to see small groups become a regular part of church-life for all of you.

During "Taking Action" week, one of the ministry projects involved surveying folks in our community about their views on church, spiritual matters, and ministries they would find beneficial. Over seventy people were surveyed and we learned a lot. Many show interest in ministries we now offer; our challenge is to share what we have to offer through invitation and follow-up. Some ministries our community shows interest in we do not currently offer are: singles ministry, employment
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Pastor Paul and Jenny tell us about themselves... A note from Pastor Paul & Jenny

We are very glad to be part of KVAG and have appreciated the warm welcome shown to us by the congregation. Our passion is to help students grow in their relationship with God. We hope that our youth services show students how to practically live out their faith, connect with other students and are a safe place for them to bring their friends. Our goals for music are to provide an atmosphere of worship and to lead others into the presence of God. We also are planning some activities for young adults in the church and the community.

Pastor Paul is originally from the Kansas City area, living on both the Missouri and Kansas sides. He was a welder for a few years after high school and sensing a call to youth ministry decided to attend North Central University in Minneapolis, MN. While a student, he worked full time for the college. He graduated in 2004 and continued working for NCU. His
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A note from the Pastor (continued from Page 1)

help, and workshops on subjects like marriage, money, friendships, and raising children. The findings from these surveys pose a two-fold challenge for us. Number one: Spread the word about the ministries we do offer. That happens most effectively when you tell people you know about the opportunities we offer. Second, if you have a heart for one of the “missing ministries” and the desire to touch these people, God may just have you in mind to fill the need. Come see me and I’ll help you go for it!

Finally, the surveys also show an overwhelming interest in overcoming addiction and hurts. Celebrate Recovery teaches life changing truths that bring freedom from habits, hurts, and hang-ups. Nagging addictions, pain, and other aggravations are not exclusive to people outside the church. If you battle a hurt or gave up on ever getting through a hang up years ago, come and discover the freedom you can find. I believe this ministry will be of great benefit to our community, and it starts with you. You won’t be sorry if you take that first step and come. Acceptance, freedom, and confidentiality are what you can expect. Come next Tuesday night at 7:00.

I am looking forward to the fall and am grateful to be partnering with all of you. Let’s be free, let’s be fruitful, and let’s be focused!

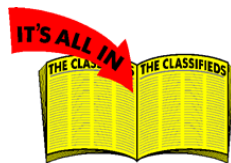
Pastor Todd

Pastor Paul and Jenny tell us about themselves (continued from Page 1)

background includes several years of serving as a youth leader. He has played guitar and bass on several worship teams, as well as doing some worship leading. Jenny is originally from Imperial, PA, which is near the Pittsburgh airport. She attended Valley Forge Christian College in Phoenixville, PA and graduated with a degree in Pastoral Ministry in 2001. After college Jenny did an internship at Allison Park Church. In 2003 Jenny moved to Minneapolis to begin working at North Central University. We knew each other through work and unbeknownst to the other were attending the same church. In 2004 we started dating and got married in June 2005. We don’t have any kids...yet, though we do have a cat named Ashley. In his spare time Paul enjoys working on cars, hunting, snowboarding, and bike riding. Jenny enjoys going to coffee shops, reading, scrapbooking, cooking and bike riding. Paul is still loyal to his hometown team, the Chiefs, though even before Jenny, will root for the Steelers.

Pastor Paul can be reached at pastorpaul@kiskivalleyag.org

Jenny can be reached at jenny@kiskivalleyag.org



FREE – Small house stereo – some records. 724-845-7453 (Bernice)

WANTED: (See page 4 for an explanation of this)

- Carpet padding
- For a kitchen – 48-in. wall cabinet, 36-in. corner base cabinet, 24-in. drawer base cabinet, a range hood & outlet plug, and 10 ft. & 8 ft. mitered countertops.

If you have a need or a blessing and would like it advertised, please submit it to one of the newsletter team members: Bill Bell, Ruth Hazley, Tina Pugh, Jim Montgomery, Diane Swank, or Bernice Wolfe.

Worship Team

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; Psalm 98:4.

What an exciting time for the worship team! Their prayers are being answered. Some talented young people have joined the team. Although the transition from singing to CDs to singing to live music has been difficult, everyone is enthusiastic. Team member Dorothy Reid loves singing to live music and pointed out that it gives the worship leader the freedom to be more spontaneous than he can be with pre-recorded CDs.

Team leader Gene Nacey is impressed with the young people who have stepped up with their time and talent to make a real commitment to the team. Because of these talented musicians, the team is afforded the opportunity tossing new songs that they couldn't sing while using CDs. Gene is looking forward to new singers and musicians joining the team. Although Gene enjoys being part of the worship team, he would like to mentor a young person with a passion for music ministry to take over leadership of the team. Gene warns that during this time of transition things are not going to be perfect.

We at KVAG are very thankful for our worship team. They are such a blessing and we encourage them to keep up the good work, keep trying new things, and Gene, keep on jumping.

Diane Swank

Summer of 2006 "A Community Affected"

Here at KVAG we have had a busy summer and it's only 2/3 over! To kick off the summer, five or six small groups of approximately 8-12 people each spent 40 Days of Community seeking God, loving one another, becoming truer friends, and applying God's teachings by going into the community meeting needs head on! Group projects included gift baskets and gift cards honoring those who work silently behind the scenes. Community service projects included building a ramp for a handicapped child, general house cleaning, yard work, painting and more. All labor and costs were covered by the individuals in the small groups! Yes, a community affected...

We spent our Taking Action mission's week here at home in Leechburg. After a full year of prayerful planning, much work and ministry was accomplished. Our people here at KVAG pulled their resources, talents, and gifts together to tackle the youth room project, which looked like a bombed out building when we started! VBS projects and preparations were completed. Single moms in need in the community were visited, encouraged, prayed for, and given gifts to meet their needs. Teams of two went out into the community knocking on 100+ different doors. The teams found many people were open to prayer, and 21 individuals accepted Christ! Many follow up visits have taken place with more to follow. The Summer Celebration concert event at the conclusion of the week involved setting up for 6 Christian rock bands, kids' crafts and game tents, food vendors, free give-aways, concert sound stage, and more! Over 200 family units were represented at the celebration not including those of us from KVAG! I heard from a friend of the family whose son won the mountain bike that we here at KVAG had truly made this youngsters summer a happier one! Praise be given to our Lord! Yes the community was affected!

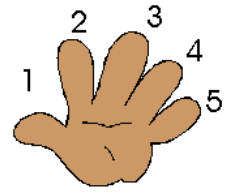
VBS is a five evening Bible school with games, Bible teaching, crafts, snacks, and more. Our annual VBS program was a record setting event as there were a total of 124 different kids present with a daily record attendance of 87. Of these, 42 children were first time attendees with many being totally unchurched! The theme for VBS was Discovering God's Love on Treasure Island. We introduced a new program for boys ages 9-13 with our men's ministry conducting a craft/hobby based class constructing wooden sail boats and building and racing pinewood derby cars! As Christian men, we shared throughout the week about how we talk with God daily in our walk with God. Comments from the boys ranged from "This is awesome!" "Can we build another car?" to "This is my favorite class!" For Sunday's program the kids brought their parents to watch them sing, dance and race their derby cars. A record 67 youngsters attended, with total church attendance of 187 people, also a record! Again, a community affected...

Yes, the community has been, is, and will be affected due to God's grace, the power of His Holy Spirit, and you the people here at KVAG. Not only have we helped connect people to the life changing power of God, we also have stepped out into the community and the community has been affected!

In Christ's love, Bill Bell

The Five Fingers of Prayer

1. **Your thumb** is nearest you, so begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C. S. Lewis once said, a “sweet duty.”
2. The next finger is the **pointing finger**. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.
3. The next finger is the **tallest finger**. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God’s guidance.
4. The fourth finger is our **ring finger**. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger; as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.
5. And lastly comes our **little finger**; the smallest finger of all which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, “The least shall be the greatest among you.” Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.



Are you in Prison?

No, you are not a criminal. The prison I’m talking about is the one in your mind. The hurts, hang-ups, the mental agony, the fears, unforgiveness, the anger you are harboring, the self-pity. You can be set free, pardoned forever.

Come to Celebrate Recovery. We meet every Tuesday evening at Kiski Valley Assembly of God church at 7:00 p.m. A babysitter is provided. Call the church at 724-845-9405. Whatever your prison is, it can be removed and joy will be yours. All discussions are kept private. Please allow us to help.

Stand fast therefore in the liberty where with Christ hath made us free and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. Galatians 5:1 KJV

Bernice Wolfe

Apartment News

If the “Classifieds” have you wondering what in the world we are asking for cabinets and such for, let me tell you. We have decided to restore the upstairs apartment for Pastor Paul and Jenny to live in until they become established in the area and choose to buy a home. They currently commute from Imperial, PA near the airport. We are thrilled they are becoming not only a part of our church family, but a vital part of our community. This will be a temporary situation so we plan to use as many items as we can collect and paint them to match. Thank you for your resourcefulness and generosity.

Tina Pugh



Things to Thank God For

Sheree Collins' knee surgery was a success. Her physical therapist says she is coming along better than expected. Sheree is very thankful for all of those who took the time to bring her and Jack meals after she was released from the hospital. She and Jack were so blessed by your kindness.

VBS was a huge success! Each evening between 75 and 85 kids had a wonderful time learning about the Lord. And the youth room was completed enough for the older boys to have their own space.



The money we collected to send to Pastor Tim in White Earth Minnesota for a new tractor was \$195 short of what was needed. Another pastor friend of his, not knowing about the need for a tractor sent Pastor Tim a contribution of \$195! Coincidence? I think not!

“God still answers prayer”

Did you know...

Galatia, the Roman province where Paul founded many churches is now central Turkey. God's seed never dies, Christianity lives there yet.

“Don't blow your own horn, blow a trumpet for God.”

Bernice Wolfe

Missions Updates

Although there are future plans for more in-depth articles focusing on just one of our mission partners, there are several current items I would like to pass along.

There is a continued need for school funds for the orphans and children under the care of Reverend Babu in India. As we prepare our children with school clothes and supplies, let us remember these children who have so little. Just \$10 per child will buy a school dress; another \$10 will provide study materials for the year. \$20 will provide tuition, fees, and bus fares. In short, \$40 will provide for the academic needs of one child for the year. Whatever we can give will be greatly appreciated by this worthy ministry.

The McKim's have been very busy out in California, PA. They have located and signed a lease on a storefront with a great location on the main street, surrounded by college apartments, with lots of foot traffic. There are plans in the works for weekday and evening Bible studies, along with another “Cookies for Cal U” outreach. The McKim's are also acting as interim pastors at Family Faith Ministries A/G in Carmichaels, PA. The church understands that the new church/coffee shop is the McKim's first priority, and has granted them plenty of flexibility to take care of things in California. They are asking for support to help remodel and furnish the church/coffee shop.

Kevin and Annie Folk are in Tarragona, Spain, attending ministry training. They have found that there are language challenges, as the area they are working in speaks both Catalan and Spanish. Unfortunately, most of the street signs and spoken language is Catalan. They ask for prayers for their continued culture/language adjustment and integration, and that they would have continued opportunities to get to know their neighbors and university students.

These are just a few of the exciting developments and needs our missionary friends have. If you would like to contribute to any of these needs, just mark your Sunday offering envelope accordingly. The office staff will be sure that all donations are passed along to the correct ministry. Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Sheree Collins



The end of summer church picnic and fall planning meeting will be after church on August 20th at the Gilpin-Leechburg Park Pavilion #4. Burgers & hot dogs, paper products, and drinks will be provided. Bring a side dish to share. **Come and join in the fun!**



"Doris, would this have anything to do with your wanting me to wear shorts to the church picnic like everyone else?"

Weekly Schedule

Sunday:

Sunday school	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Nursery Provided	
Children's Church ages 4 – 12	
Youth Service	7:00 p.m.
Women's Book Study & Men's Meeting	are the First Sunday at 6:30 p.m. The youth are invited to attend these groups.

Tuesday:

Celebrate Recovery	7:00 p.m.
For all kinds of hurts, habits, and hang-ups –	
Free babysitting provided.	

Wednesday:

Boys & Girls Clubs	7:00 – 8:15 p.m.
Adult Worship & Prayer	7:00 – 8:15 p.m.

2nd Sunday of Every Month:

Benevolence Offering – Used to help those within the church body or those referred.



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