

THE CHURCH VOICE

William C. George, Pastor

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301 942-4400

Web Page: www.kensingtonbaptistchurch.org

Newsletter

JANUARY 2020

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

This Advent/Christmas season is over and a new year (2020) and decade is beginning full of possibilities. Our vision, as a church, is to be “a lighthouse that brings hope and purpose to the lives of people in our communities by sharing and modeling the good news of Jesus Christ”. This requires us to be a people of prayer. We need to turn to God in prayer on a regular basis throughout the year.

I believe prayer, the Bible and our hymnal are all important components in our “dream and discern” process. Bob Dale says “the Bible records God's revelation of himself to us; the hymnal celebrate our response to God's love.” (To Dream Again, Again!, p.46). And prayer is our direct line to God. . Join us as we take a journey through Scripture, music, verse, and prayer as we seek to understand our beliefs so that we can follow the path that God would have us follow.

In Thessalonians 5:16-18, Paul wrote: “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” What Paul was trying to say in his words to the churches and what Jesus was constantly revealing in His actions, was that the renewal of the human body, mind and soul always begins with prayer. That is why “calls” to pray are so important.

Let me invite you to join the DREAMteam in making 2020 a special year of prayer. Let us pray for one another, for our communities, and the world. Let us pray for clarity of vision, the ability to dream God-sized dreams, and a willingness to commit to follow God's leading for this church. Pray that we will not grow weary and succeed in our praying.

The work of living out and sharing our faith continues as we enter a new year. May our prayers help us to be more inspired by the Holy Spirit so that individually and collectively we will be a source of light bringing hope and purpose to people's lives.

As we dream and discern,
Pastor Bill

A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

We know, O Lord, that our time is in your hands. Help us to use it wisely in all things as we seek to follow your guiding hand. A new year is beginning. We pray for strengthened spirits so that we might give you our praise and be faithful in our service. Open our eyes as individuals and as your church so that we may seek to dream God-sized kingdom dreams and discern wisely.

In Jesus Name, we Pray.

DREAMteam UPDATE

The DREAMteam has met and has looked over the timeline that the church put together during the meeting this fall (November) that many of you were involved in.

There were some underlying themes from the inception of our church up to now. We have been Kingdom-centric from the beginning. Always looking to God as we grew. Prayer has been an important part of our church and we must continue with prayer as a church going into the future.

Some other facets of our church over the years has been our outreach and inclusion of those from other cultures. Multi-culturalism in our church is determined by our location. Many people come to our region looking for a better life and we are glad to welcome them.

Another, as we all know, is the ever-present music. We have cantatas each year. Music concerts occur several times a year on Sunday afternoons. These have been with us from the start.

The DREAMteam knows that we are a family. We will keep you abreast of what we are doing. And we look forward to your involvement with us. Please feel free to ask you questions.

Charlie Doty for DREAMteam

MISSIONS PROJECTS

COLLECTING GLOVES, MITTENS, HATS & SCARVES: Your help is needed. Please help us to redecorate the Christmas tree found in the Church Parlor.

Winter is here! Many folks in our communities do not have hats, gloves, scarves or mittens. So during the month of January, we are collecting gloves, mittens, hats and scarves for the tree.

All sizes are needed. We need these items for preschoolers, children, youth and adults. Hang your gift(s) on the tree. The challenge is to decorate the tree to overflowing. Please help those in need. At the end of January we will take all items collected to the local clothing closet and/or shelters for distribution.

LOOKING AHEAD TO FEBRUARY

In February, we will decorate the tree one more time. This time we will gather socks. More information will be shared in the February newsletter and bulletin.

CHRISTMAS MISSIONS OFFERING DEADLINE: 1/19/2020

Missions is one way we demonstrate our gratitude and thankfulness to God for his gift of Jesus Christ. We live in a world full of darkness, hopelessness and people lacking purpose. We have said as a church that “we are to be a lighthouse that brings hope and purpose to people in our communities by sharing and modeling the good news of Jesus Christ”.

It is our missionaries that go beyond our Jerusalem and Judea into the Samarias and utter most parts of our world. Without our generosity the task becomes more difficult. We support two missionary “sending” groups through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) Global Mission Offering and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions (SBC). By giving to one or both of these missions offerings you demonstrate your belief in being a light that pushes out darkness by sharing the good news of Jesus. The choice is yours to make.

As of December 15th, we are still sort of our \$800 goal. We have received \$276.00. What is it that God would have you give?

AFTER WORSHIP FELLOWSHIP AND QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING WITH VOTE ON 2020 BUDGET (JANUARY 5th)

Our next scheduled Quarterly Business Meeting will follow the After Worship Fellowship on Sunday, January 5. We will be voting on the Proposed KBC 2020 Ministry Action Budget without discussion. If you still have a question or concern, please contact Cathy Muse (Resourcing Ministry Team) before the January 5th meeting.

Ministry team leaders ad hoc committees and others giving reports are asked to have a written report ready to give to our church clerk for the church records.

For the After Worship Fellowship, every family unit is asked to bring either a fruit, snack, or finger food. Our host and hostess for the day will set up and clean-up. The church provides the beverage.

**WOMEN'S CARE & SHARE GROUP MEETING
(SATURDAY, JANUARY 11th)**

Don't forget to sign-up for the next (1/11) Women's Care & Share Group Meeting. The sign-up sheet can be found in the vestibule. The group meets from 10:30 am-12:30 pm with a time of crafting, sharing, devotional, and prayer. The cost is \$10 per person.

**UNDECORATE PARTY
(SUNDAY, JANUARY 12th)**

You are invited to stay and help undecorate KBC's sanctuary and other parts of the building from Advent/Christmas season. This will take place immediately following Morning Worship on January 12th.

Many hands make light labor. We will provide pizza and beverage for all who stay and help. Won't you plan to stay and help as we fellowship and work together? See you on January 12.

LISTEN LOCAL CONCERT

Our next Listen Local Concert takes place on Sunday January 26th (2020) at 3:00 pm. The group performing is National Chamber Brass. Concert is free. Donations gladly accepted. Reception will follow the concert.

BIBLE STUDIES

Everyone is welcome. Invite a friend to come with you. Regular study is an important aspect of growing as disciples of Christ. **ALL ARE WELCOME.**

Wednesday morning (January 15th): The Wednesday Morning Bible Study meets from 10:15 am -11:30 am in KBC Social Hall. For January the group will meet on the 15th and 29th as we continue our study of apostles.

HOW ARE YOU CALLED TO SERVE?

God has gifted you with spiritual gifts to be used in His service through the church. Volunteers are always needed to be a part of our ministries. Worship, Discipleship Relationship Building Mission/Outreach, and Resourcing. Which area is God calling you to serve?

2020 PROPOSED MINISTRY ACTION BUDGET

This year you are challenged to see the “good news” that is happening at KBC. There is much to be “thankful for” and much is being accomplished because the KBC family is “stepping out in faith” on a continuing journey to impact our world for Jesus.

At the January 5th Quarterly Business Meeting each of us will have the opportunity to approve the 2020 Proposed Ministry Action Budget. Hopefully, we will do more than vote for a budget, but commit to grow in our giving so that we as a church, will truly be a “Lighthouse” sharing the love of Christ in tangible ways. **IT TAKES ALL OF US DOING OUR PART ON A CONTINUING JOURNEY TO FOLLOW GOD'S LEADING.**

This proposed budget of \$228,200.00 is designed to help us fulfill KBC's strategic initiatives and share the good news of Jesus Christ with the world around.

Challenge: The goal for 2020 is for everyone in the KBC family to intentionally grow in their giving over 2019 so the KBC will strengthen its mission and ministry to the world around. Simply put, may our generosity grow in 2020 so that we will be a true blessing to the world around.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2020

Offering Envelopes for 2020 will be available in the Sanctuary hallway. If you have not picked yours up yet, please do. Your faithful financial support of KBC and its ministries does make a difference. Thank you for helping KBC to let its light shine within our communities and the world all around us as we continue the journey under God's leading

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Stewardship defines my relationship in God. He is creator owner. I am steward. Jesus Christ is Lord. Under his Lordship, I am steward. As his steward I am responsible for my life, for others, for the gospel, for material things, for spiritual gifts, etc. God entrusts these resources and relationship to me. I am accountable for how I use them.”

R. Hamilton (2016)

HOMEBOUND CHURCH FAMILY: In January our featured homebound is Ann Riddle, 10019 Cedar Lane, Kensington, MD 20895. Why not send a card to offer Ann encouragement since getting out is getting more and more difficult. Also, Ann will celebrate her 97th birthday on January 3rd!

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DEACON MINISTRY

CALL ON US: Please feel free to call on your deacon if you have a need. We are willing to lend a listening ear and helping hand. Please know we are praying for you. Deacon Family Ministry lists are found on table in vestibule. Deacons presently serving include: Barbara Bryant, Di George, Sharon Hutko, Brett Jones, and Rosalind Walker.

IN HOME COMMUNION: If you are homebound and interested in receiving communion at home, please talk with Brett Jones (301 946-5305) or Di George (443-621-4378). The Deacons are glad to make a visit and serve communion.

OFFICERS FOR 2019-2020: Chairperson – Brett Jones, Vice-Chairperson – Di George, Secretary – Rosalind Walker, and Sunshine – Barbara Bryant.

LIFTING UP IN PRAYER

PLEASE LIFT UP IN PRAYER THOSE WHO HAVE A BIRTHDAY OR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN JANUARY

JANUARY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 1 - Samantha Hutko
- 3 - Sonia Barry, Ann Riddle
- 9 - Reid Flumbaum
- 13 - Helen Ray
- 16 – Cecilia Marino
- 17 - Tidiane Barry
- 20 - Sylvia Crabbe
- 23 - Ighodalo Okoawo Atohengbe
- 29 - Serena Laney

Marck & Pam Maienschein, Jan. 21

PRAYER THOUGHT

We pray in order to see the world with God's eyes, and then to join the stream of power as it breaks loose.”

P. Yancey (2006)

**INCLEMENT WEATHER (SNOW, ICE)
REMINDER**

If Montgomery County Public Schools are closed or close early during the week, then ministries and/or functions scheduled for that day or evening are cancelled. If services on Sunday are to be cancelled, the Diaconate will seek to make sure everyone is notified. Safety of our church family is a high priority.

You can also check the KBC website for closings or listen to WTOP Radio (103.5 FM, 103.9 FM, or 107.7 FM) to see if we are closed as well.

Also, you can call church office (301-942-4400). A message will be left if services are cancelled.

GRACIAS THANK YOU!

Your church staff wishes to say “Thank You” to the KBC family for making our Christmas a little brighter through your generosity. All of us are most appreciative of your monetary gift to us during the Christmas Season.

You are a special family to us. We are blessed by your caring, sharing and partnering with us as we seek to help Kensington Baptist truly become the lighthouse that shares Christ's love and offers hope to our communities. We are excited to see how God will partner with KBC in 2020 as we seek to truly be a church “on Mission” as we continue the journey together.

Your Staff
Pastor Bill, Julie, Craig, Rosalind and Andrew

WE SAY “THANK YOU!”

It is hard to believe that we have celebrated our 19th Christmas with you. You have been our blessing in so many different ways over the year. It is our privilege and joy to call you “our family.” Thank you for your encouraging words and the many acts of kindness you have shown us during the Advent/Christmas season.

Your calls, cards, prayers and other remembrances make this season very special to us. Thank you for showing your care and concern. We love you all. May 2020 be a year filled with renewed hope and purpose as we each let our light shine as we continue the journey!

God bless you!
The George Family
Pastor Bill, Di, Melissa and Will