



SEEDS NEWSLETTER

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MEET THE FAMILY

Ken and Lauren Canterbury



Ken was raised in Colorado by devout Christian parents and attended a Christian school. He was saved in 1973. Lauren grew up in Pennsylvania. Her family attended a Lutheran church, but God was not a strong presence with them.

The couple met while working together at an equine veterinary practice in Florida. In 1999, they moved to Lexington when Ken got a position at a company now known as Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, where he still works. Lauren has her own practice.

On the side, they raise registered Angus cattle on their farm.

They were both focused on their careers, but after Jade was born in 2007 they began looking for a church home. At a Baptist church in Midway, Lauren understood for the first time that it was possible to enjoy a personal relationship with Jesus. She was baptized in 2013. They became members of BBC in 2016 and feel completely blessed to be part of the church family.

Jade received Christ as her Savior in 2017, followed by baptism. She attended the Frankfort Christian Academy for 10 years and will be attending Midway University this fall as a dual credit student.

They have two grandsons born to Ken's son and his wife who live in Alaska.

Ken and Lydia Au



Ken's parents are from Hong Kong. He was born and raised in Horsham, PA. Lydia's mom is originally from Hong Kong, and her dad is from Malaysia. Her family moved from Singapore to Allentown, PA when she was 7.

Ken grew up in a Christian home, receiving Jesus into his life during his elementary school years. Lydia's family were regular church attenders, and she remembers asking Jesus into her life at age 12. They met in 2011 when Ken was

living and working in the Washington, D.C. area. Lydia was living and working in Pennsylvania and was a member of the church where Ken's brother served as a pastor. When the Lord moved Lydia to the D.C. area for a new job, Ken's brother and sister-in-law played matchmaker and they were married in 2012. Now they have two children, Christian (9), and Evelyn (5).

Ken works as a contractor to help improve financial systems for Veterans Affairs. He is also Assistant Farm Manager to Lydia, whose primary job is as a full-time, homeschooling parent. They also raise Alpaca on their farm in Cynthiana, where they moved in 2022 to escape the hustle and bustle of Northern Virginia. Finding Bluegrass Baptist Church nearby has been a great blessing for the family. It did not take them long to become involved in the children's ministry and they look forward to being active blessings in our church and in the surrounding community.

Jim and Brenda Horton

Jim was born in Louisville and his family later moved to Lexington. He was saved at Faith Baptist Church in 1978, at the age of 24. Brenda was raised in Lexington. At the age of 12, she and her family started attending Faith Baptist Church where she was saved during a revival service a few weeks later.



The couple met at the church in 1979, during a Thanksgiving Dinner. Jim proposed three weeks later, they were married in May 1980, and now have six children. Two are in heaven, four adult children remain (two sons and two daughters), and five grandchildren.

Covid kept them out of church for a while. Encouraged by their son, Benjamin, they began watching Bluegrass Baptist services online and finally attended a service in October 2022. They knew immediately that

this was where they wanted to be and joined our church at the Thanksgiving Dinner a month later.

Although they have been saved for many years both Jim and Brenda love the fact that they learn something new in every service from the preaching of God's Word, and the sweet fellowship they enjoy here. Jim recently retired from Kroger, so he and Brenda will soon do some traveling together.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

On Being Fundamental (Part Two)

Last month we introduced our core beliefs and practices by stating that we are an Independent Baptist Church grounded on fundamental biblical principles. We are not, nor have ever been, part of the Independent Fundamental Baptist Church (IFB) movement, and are not part of any other denominational governing body. Neither do we accept Reformed theology.

Our baptist philosophy is drawn from core New Testament tenets that apply to the church as an independent local assembly, under God. These tenets fit neatly into the word "Baptists": **B**iblical authority, **A**utonomy of the local body, **P**riesthood of the believer, **T**wo ordinances (communion and baptism), **I**ndividual soul liberty, **S**aved church membership, **T**wo offices (pastors and deacons), and **S**eparation (individually from the world, the flesh and the devil, and ecclesiastically from the State).

Church history reveals that there was a persecuted third rail of Christian faith during the Dark Ages and well into the Protestant Reformation era.

Nonconformists came to be known as Anabaptists because they practiced believer's baptism and opposed infant baptism. ("Ana" comes from a Greek word meaning "again"). Reformed theology linked infant baptism to the Jewish ceremonial ritual of circumcision, but nowhere does the New Testament teach that baptism saves anyone, adult or infant. Thus much of Anabaptist doctrine serves as the proper forefather of those who simply hold to the clear doctrines of the Bible, especially the New Testament — fundamental beliefs that caused these groups to be persecuted and martyred by Catholics and Protestants alike. We can conclude from this that a fundamental mindset is easy to hate (John 15:18, 1 John 3:13)!

Reformed theology also sees the church and Israel as one, and that there are two covenants—of Works (pre-Fall), and of Grace (post-Fall). Clearly, we do not agree with the Reformed fundamentals. Their understanding and interpretation of Scripture is not what our church follows.

On the other hand, our church in its autonomy does share traits in both methods and mannerisms with other churches (even some that are within the IFB church movement). The bottom line for us is to hold true to what we believe while exercising grace towards other true believers who may follow theological variations. Many corrupt Protestant churches along with many Fundamentalist churches have done great damage to the cause of Christ by publicly attacking each other.

As a body, Bluegrass Baptist Church must know and practice what the Bible teaches, show grace to others where necessary, exercise discernment pertaining to associations, affiliations and movements, and let God sort out the details in our eternal future.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

VBS: Kingdoms and Knights and Dragons at Bluegrass!

by Youth Pastor Zach Kirchner

Of all weeks of the year, the week of Vacation Bible School is one of the most exciting and encouraging. The devotion of parents to bring their children each night is a great source of encouragement, while the excitement of children interacting with the Word of God, with each other, with their dedicated teachers and with a colorful and entertaining program is always a shared joy for everyone involved. The astounding servant-mindedness that abounds within our church makes it possible.

Many people are needed to ensure that VBS is both enjoyable for the children and is spiritually beneficial. This year required our volunteer workers to go above and beyond expectations when attendance numbers reached record levels. We anticipated 60 to 70 children, a slight increase on last year. Instead, almost 90 children registered for the first night!

The ladies at the registration desk handled the surge of VBS-goers in as peaceful a way as they could. Those serving snacks turned 5 loaves and 2 fishes into an abundance, and each leader in crafts was able to find things for each child to do! God gave much grace, and we had an excellent week. I would be remiss if I didn't mention our fearless leader (literally, you have to be fearless!), Wes Wade. He has been preparing to lead the children's ministry at BBC, and he did a great job ensuring that everything ran smoothly.

Our theme this year was based on the Answers in Genesis' VBS program, "Keepers of the Kingdom." The church was decorated accordingly, in spectacular fashion. The children learned about God's domain, the Kingdom of Light, and Satan's kingdom, a kingdom of darkness (1 Pet 2:9), and about the armor that Paul lists in Ephesians 6:10-20. The most important truth is that there are only two kingdoms. There is no third kingdom (our own, neutral kingdom). We can only serve one kingdom at a time, and we must choose wisely.



(L) Sir Wesley and Lady Jessika Wade at the "Castle" (church) entrance. (R) Children gather inside the Castle



(L) Warring dragons Ethan Graham and Pastor Kyle. (R) Water wars break out!

Homebuilders LifeStage

By Shane Colvin

The Homebuilders Lifestage kicked off 2023 in February with an evening of pizza, minute-to-win-it games, and of course great fellowship at the church. While the weather outside was chilly the competitive fire was hot as four teams battled it out in games of skill like "It's Getting Dicey," "Face the Cookie," and "Penny Stack."

In the end it was Team TJ Hanna that took home the inaugural title as Minute-to-Win-It champions.

In May we came together again for "Movie Under the Stars" in the church courtyard. A huge inflatable movie screen was the centerpiece for a perfect evening of popcorn, ice cream, and a great movie! Upcoming events to round out 2023 include participating in Gospel Blitz, an outing to watch Vintage Baseball at Historic Ward Hall and a chili cook-off/movie night in the Fall.

For more information please see Shane and Erica Colvin. And as always check the Lifestage Bulletin boards and Church App for all the latest information.



A BRIEF HISTORY OF GREAT REVIVALS

A Continuing Series

THE FIRST GREAT AWAKENING (Part Three)

David Brainerd's ministry was little known or celebrated during America's first Great Awakening, but his passionate devotion to God had a profound influence on generations of missionaries who came after him.

He labored amongst Indian tribes in New England, with little success until finally witnessing a great spiritual revival in 1745-1746 with Indians near Trenton, New Jersey. By the fall of 1746 he began coughing up blood and died a year later from tuberculosis. He was 29 years old. In an earlier diary entry he had written: "I want to burn out in one continual flame for God."

Brainerd was born in 1718 to a Puritan family in Connecticut; was orphaned at the age of 14; was influenced at age 21 by the Great Awakening and met Jesus Christ as his Savior, and enrolled at Yale College to study for the ministry at age 24. But Yale was already replacing spiritual life with religious formalism and Brainerd was dismissed for describing one of his tutors as being no more godly than a chair (a statement he later regretted for being divisive).

After being ordained by the Presbytery of New York, he began his work among the Indians. But his ministry was ineffective, and he suffered bouts of despondency, loneliness, and repeated illness, determining nevertheless to live wholly for God, whatever his outward success. Suddenly, at his last place of ministry in New Jersey, Indians by the hundreds came to hear him preach and teach until he was so weakened by tuberculosis that he could barely stand.

Jonathan Edwards, already famous, brought Brainerd to his home in Northampton, MA, where he spent his last months, nursed by Edward's daughter Jerusha. A few months after his death, Jerusha contracted tuberculosis and died at the age of eighteen. During their last months together it became clear that they were deeply in love and looked forward to being reunited in heaven.

Edwards published David Brainerd's diary, describing it as providing an example of a life "most worthy of imitation." A quote from Brainerd perhaps sums him up best: "I love to live on the brink of eternity!"

He also declared that he did not care where or how he lived in this world, or what hardships he endured, "so I could but gain souls to Christ." He saw nothing in the world that could yield any satisfaction besides pleasing God.

Among the many missionaries who imitated him were William Carey, who went to India in 1793 and became known as "the father of modern missions", and Jim Elliot, who gave his life in 1953 at the age of 29, ministering to the Auca Indians in Ecuador.