



SEEDS NEWSLETTER

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MEETING THE FAMILY

Ryan and Jenna Vance



Ryan and Jenna are both from Scott County. They attended the same high school but did not begin dating until after graduation, and were married in September, 2011.

Both received Jesus as their personal Savior in 2014. This came about from a simple prayer, asking God, "What is truth?" God answered by sending a follower of Jesus Christ to clearly and simply explain the way of Salvation in Jesus alone. It was a free gift that had been awaiting their acceptance all their life!

For the next two years they attended a weekly Bible study (at a dog grooming salon!), and joined Bluegrass Baptist Church "because of the excellent Bible-centered preaching and teaching".

In 2017 they welcomed their first child Aariah. Owen came a year later. Jenna is a stay-at-home mom while Ryan supports the family through his business, "Pathway Contracting".

They are active in church life, feeling that God has richly blessed them as they seek to do His will. "Though we fail, He does not. His grace is sufficient in all areas of our life!"

Joe and Judy Pack



Joe hails from Louisa, Ky, and Judy is from Frankfort. They met at a dentist office in Frankfort, where Judy worked, and were married in 1977. Sixteen years later, in 1993, Joe surrendered to Christ as his Savior after a man with the same last name (but not related), and just a year younger, died suddenly of a heart attack. Judy met Jesus in 1994.

After Joe retired from the Kentucky State Police, and Judy left her job as a registered nurse, they moved to Arizona and then back to Georgetown in 2021 to be close to their son Clayton and grandchild Nona. A

Gospel Blitz flyer on their door prompted them to check online that we use the King James Bible. Before the year was out, they joined our church family.

Chang Min and Joy Kim

Both were born in South Korea and met while attending church during their college years. They were married in 1996.

Chang Min was saved as a 4th grader while attending revival services led by U.S. missionaries who visited their small church in South Korea. His mother was a relatively new believer. Joy was saved in the summer of 1992 at Pikes Peak Baptist Church in Colorado Springs. She and her mother were baptized together that year.

Chang Min began working for a local pharmaceutical company in August 2022, after moving from Iowa City, Iowa, where the family attended Crosspoint Baptist Church. Pastor Mike Barr, a friend of Pastor Fannin, recommended our church.

They have five children, Hannah (17), Isaac (15), Jonathan (12), Gideon (8) and Hope, (5). Jonathan has autism and is grateful for the accommodations our church provides by reserving the last row in the auditorium for the family.



The sounds Jonathan sometimes makes during services are an expression of his enthusiasm at being in the Lord's house. His parents focus a lot of their attention and energy on the challenges he faces, but note that each member of the family desires to become a functioning member of the church, based on their gifts and callings from the Lord. *(In helping to know Chang Min, the English pronunciation of his name is "Chung Min").*

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

On Being Fundamental (Part One)

People often ask me — as the Pastor of Bluegrass Baptist Church — what we believe and practice. It's an important question. Hopefully, our members who attend here and enjoy the fellowship and the preaching and teaching, have a clear idea of who we are and what are our core beliefs and practices.

For those on the outside looking in, my hope is that we are transparent enough so that what goes on here is not a mystery to anybody. That's particularly true in the age of YouTube, where anyone interested enough can stream our services and quickly determine what we're about. But lest there be any doubt, it may be useful to state in unambiguous terms what we mean when we say that we are an Independent Baptist Church grounded on fundamental biblical principles.

That last part needs to be carefully explained because "fundamentalism" is a controversial topic classified by unbelievers as extremist and by many Reformed and Liberal theologians as damaging to the cause of Christ. For the

record, we have never been, nor will be, part of the so-called Independent Fundamental Baptist (IFB) church movement nor do we advertise ourselves as such. Our reasoning is simple: we believe that an independent local assembly of God's people should not be part of any "movement" except the moving of the Holy Spirit within our midst, encouraging us to grow in the Grace and Knowledge of God while we share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our assembly and in our community.

We are Bluegrass Baptist Church, and our purpose is to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus Christ who love God, love one another, and intentionally share the Gospel. Our independence lies in our autonomy and self-governance, under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Decision making within the church is through pastoral leadership and congregational assent. You may say we are a democracy of biblical decision-makers, independent of outside resources or investments and directives from denominational governing bodies. Nor do we solicit support from likeminded churches. We sink or swim by dependence on the gracious provisions of God, and carefully steward everything that is "laid in store" within this local assembly. See Acts 4:32-37.

Our fundamental beliefs are drawn from a dispensational interpretation of Scripture. This differs from a Reformed approach that draws from Protestant theology which makes correcting Catholic doctrine the primary objective. Their fundamental understanding of Scripture differs from what we believe and practice. (*See Part 2 next month*)

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

Dads and Kids Campout / by T.J. Hanna

Fathers and their young children recently gathered for the First Annual BBC Campout at Ken and Lauren Canterbury's beautiful farm on the Kentucky River in Anderson County.

Setting up camp was the only major obstacle as several of the tents were big enough to host a small circus and nobody thought to bring instructions! But with the help of their children the dads finally managed to get the job done. Then the campers turned to football, kickball, a nature hike, and deer spotting, before the sun dipped below the horizon and a large bonfire came alive for marshmallows and S'mores galore! More food appeared the next morning as Shane Colvin made gourmet pancakes and eggs for breakfast, washed down by Ryan Vance's special brew of campfire coffee, while Jamie Davidson shared a brief devotional about the greatness of God and His creation.

Plans are already in the works for a campout next year!



End of the Beginning: K5 Graduation

Before posing for their funny face picture, six K5 graduates were congratulated by Pastor Kyle for successfully crossing their first educational hurdle.



(Front row, from left): Avery Foster, Evelyn Au and Jase Preston.

(Back row): Lydia Stewart, Jairus Davidson and Ariaiah Vance.

The person on the far left shall remain anonymous for this caption.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF GREAT REVIVALS

A Continuing Series

THE FIRST GREAT AWAKENING (Part Two)

In the early 1700s the 13 American colonies lacked a sense of unity or common purpose. They were also religiously divided. New England colonies were largely Congregational; the middle colonies were a mix of Quakers, Anglicans, Lutherans, Baptists and Presbyterians; the southern colonies were primarily Anglican, Baptist and Presbyterian. When the Wesley brothers, John and Charles, arrived in 1738 to do missionary work in Georgia, they were accompanied by George Whitefield, whom they had known since their college days in England.

In the next few years, Whitefield made seven visits to the colonies (crossing the Atlantic Ocean 13 times), traveling on horseback from Georgia to Maine. In one year alone he rode over 5,000 miles up and down the seaboard and preached over 350 times, mostly in open fields because no church was big enough to hold the crowds.

People gathered by the thousands to hear him preach the Gospel of Salvation. Ben Franklin was so impressed by his preaching in Philadelphia that he measured the distance covered by Whitfield's booming voice and estimated that 30,000 people standing in the open air could hear him! (The two men became close friends).

A direct consequence of the spiritual awakening sweeping through the 13 independent colonies scattered along the East Coast was not only its impact on the religious climate but the way it inspired feelings of unity, nationalism, and individual rights, profoundly influencing the later Revolutionary War against British rule. It also led to the establishment of educational institutions like Princeton, Brown, Dartmouth and Rutgers universities.

A strange quirk in Whitefield's life caused some controversy. The evangelical preacher went out of his way to include slaves in his outreach, condemning their cruel treatment while energetically defending the rights of black people. Yet, he was a slave owner, having received a plantation as a gift to pay the costs of his frequent travels. This caused a rift with the Wesley brothers who denounced slavery as "the sum of all villainies."

By the time of his death at the age of 55, in Newburyport, Massachusetts, Whitefield owned 49 slaves. They were devoted to him for his kindness. One wrote a poem calling him a saint. John Wesley, who had bitterly condemned his slaveholding, preached his funeral.