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While including thousands of stories, the Bible actually tells one long story. The individual narratives – like Noah and the big boat, Jonah and the big fish, and Jesus feeding the big crowd – fit together into one grand narrative. These smaller stories are individually helpful as they convey truth about God and man. But more importantly, they provide context, curves, and content for the larger plot that is unfolding through the course of human history. The Creator God is doing something in His creation. This work is much more significant than rescuing animals two-by-two, saving a man inside a fish, or providing lunch for a hoard of people.

The larger story does not diminish the smaller ones; instead, it brings them to life in a way that makes them powerful to transform us. Many Christians in our context – 21st century American churches in the rural south – have been taught Bible stories as if they are Aesop's fables. It's as if the stories of Gideon, Samson, and Esther are tales (albeit true tales) given to present morals or proverbial wisdom for living. Aesop's most famous fable is perhaps The Hare and the Tortoise. Who doesn't remember the slow tortoise beating the much faster hare because the former steadily plodded along while the latter slumber in arrogance? The lingering moral of that story is certainly true, "the race is not always to the swift."

Despite the value of Aesop's writing for teaching and illustrating good character, it is entirely different than biblical narrative. First, the Bible's stories are true. Noah was an actual person who built an actual boat and survived an actual flood. Jonah was a real person who jumped into a real sea and was swallowed by a real fish. Fundamentally, the Bible is not a book of fables.

But second and perhaps more importantly, Aesop's fables and the Bible's stories are more profoundly different at the level of purpose. While the Bible contains wisdom for life and numerous good and bad examples to apply it, the purpose of its story-telling is much grander than making moralistic humans. The Bible is using these stories to reveal God and His grand plan to establish a Kingdom on the earth by saving sinners from His wrath. To be sure, we should acknowledge, applaud, and even emulate wise living. But a careful

read of the Bible yields the distinct impression that none of the characters in the story are worth emulating. This thread of weakness and failure is not incidental; rather, it's at the very heart of each individual story and the grand story. These men and women reveal our utter hopelessness and drive us to trust in God as our only hope. The point of Bible stories is not to encourage us to be moral, but to reveal our immorality and lead us to trust in God. The stories point beyond a simplistic moral to the divine Savior.

This grand narrative culminates in one Person who is the perfect example of wise living fulfilling God's standard in every way. Of course, this One is Jesus. But even He is not shown primarily as a model to follow; instead, He is presented as altogether different than every other person in the narrative. The stories about Him in the Gospels don't so much call us to be like Him as much as they demonstrate how unlike Him we really are. While there is a call to follow Him and pattern our lives after His, that call is grounded in the unique work He did to die for our sin and rise from the dead. He becomes a model for us only after we acknowledge our hopelessness, embrace Him by faith, and receive the Holy Spirit. Then, and only then, do we have ability or power to follow His example.

So why does all this matter? Because as your pastor I don't merely want to you to read the Bible, appreciate the stories, and find principles for living. I want to equip you so that the stories act as windows that reveal God, mirrors that reflect you, and shadows that point to Jesus. Don't set your sights on becoming like Noah or Esther; rather, look through their story to see the One who is greater than they are and trust fully in Him.

ON MISSION

**HERE &
NOW**



**Join us in celebrating
Parkway Baptist Church
collected**

\$13,647

towards North American missions

JUNE 03 **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PRAYER WALK / NOON**
 Even if you can't volunteer for VBS, help us pray over our campus for a successful week. We hope to have a huge crowd gather for prayer in our sanctuary, then spread out to walk our campus while praying for VBS.







JUNE 4-8 **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**
 Register today on our website, www.parkwaybaptist.com
 4 years old - 8th grade
 9:00 AM - Noon

JUNE 5 **WMU MEETING 7:00 PM**
 The WMU will meet at Yvonne Jones' house. This event is open to all women in our church! We hope you will come and participate!

PRAY FOR OUR PARTNERS
 Prayer for our missions partners is valued and appreciated. In an effort to encourage you, we have listed a specific partner to pray for each day on the calendar below.

Join us June 8 for FAMILY NIGHT
KIDS WILL NEED TO BE IN THEIR CLASSROOM BY 6:00
Fun, Food & Bouncy Houses

UPCOMING EVENTS - JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Scarlet Hope	2 20 Schemes
3 Lakes Community Church, NC VBS Prayer Walk	4 Petra Churches Nicaragua 	5 Chris & Lori Hart WMU Meeting 7:00PM	6 Crossing Church Vacation Bible School 9 AM - Noon 4yr old - 8th grade	7 Barren Heights Retreat Center	8 North American Mission Board 	9 M. Haydon
10 Gideon's International Camp Payments Due	11 Sunrise Children's Service Student Ministry Boys Basketball	12 Samaritan's Purse KidZone Fun Day Student Ministry Girls Volleyball	13 IMB Student Ministry Indoor Games	14 Leon & Lynn Muir Preschool Play Date Middle School Madness Student Ministry Boys Basketball	15 New Life Center	16 Practical Shepherding
17 The Church of Delmas 32, Haiti	18 Ron Sutton, IMB Ecuador Student Ministry Boys Basketball 	19 Bluegrass Christian Academy Student Ministry Girls Volleyball	20 D & K Wilson CentriKid 5th - 6th Grade	21 Hispanic Ministry Preschool Play Date 	22 Bread For Life	23 Baptist Global Response
24 Ky Baptist Convention	25 Redemption Church Missoula, MT 	26 Coreluv	27 Jason & Amanda Aaron CentriFuge 7th-10th Grade	28 Bethany Haven	29 Scarlet Hope 	30 20 Schemes

JUNE 14 & 21

PRESCHOOL PLAYDATE

Two different dates, two different days of fun!

June 14

Strawberry picking at Gallrein Farms, Shelbyville, KY

June 21

American Legion Water Park, Elizabethtown, KY

Email deena@parkwaybaptist.com or check the bulletin for more details!

KidZone Fun Day
June 12

MIDDLE SCHOOL MADNESS
 6th - 8th Graders!
YOU ARE INVITED
JUNE 14

June 18-22
CentriKid camps

 **FUGE CAMPS**
 June 25 - 29

JUNE PRAYER GUIDE

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people....Ephesians 6:18

Like Paul encourages the Ephesian church, we are to be faithful in our prayers for our church family. If you would like to be included in July's Prayer Guide, please email gretchen@parkwaybaptist.com.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mike Davis
Norma Whittington
Dana Cull
Barbie Keen
David Whitney
Ed Rogers
Lance Boston
Alexia Lange
AJ Livers

summer missionaries 2018

Ryan Livers

Crossings Camp
Jonathan Creek, KY
May 19 - Aug 1



Cole Newton

PBC Apprentice
Bardstown, KY
May 27 - Aug 5



Anna Vincent

PBC Apprentice
Bardstown, KY
May 27 - Aug 5



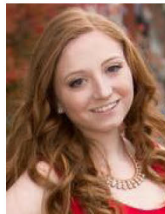
Britany Boling

CU Crew
KY, OH & Haiti
May 29 - July 29



Alyssa Buchner

PBC Apprentice
Bardstown, KY
May 27 - Aug 5



Sarah

Kozanecki

KCU Summer
In the Son
Grayson, KY
June 10 - July 1



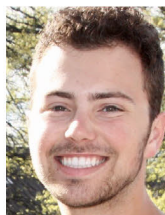
Lindsey Magruder

myLIFEspeaks
Haiti
May 30 - Aug 4



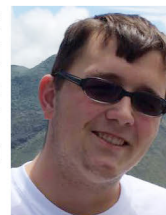
Jacob Newton

Crossings Camps
Jonathan Creek, KY
May 15 - Aug 1



William Shultz

Springfield
Christian Church
Springfield, KY
ongoing



Mackenzie Lynch

Intern at Christ
Fellowship
Bowling Green, KY
June 3 - July 29



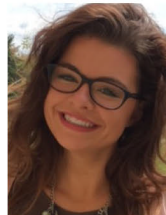
Adam Hicks

Younger's Creek
Baptist Church
Elizabethtown, KY
ongoing



Katie Bowles

IT Project
Costa Mesa, CA
June 3 - July 26



Stephen Haynes

PBC Intern
Bardstown, KY
May 27 - Aug 5



Parkway commissioned 13 college summer missionaries on Sunday, May 27. Please remember to pray for them throughout the summer.

MISSIONARIES SERVING AND/OR IN TRAINING

Jason and Amanda Aaron (Michigan)
Chris and Lori Hart (Wisconsin)
M. Haydon (Asia)
Leon and Lynn Muir (New Zealand)

MILITARY LIST

Ryan Campoamor
Daniel Carey
Logan Crady
Scott Hunt
Clayton Richardson
Dakota Snook
Jack Whitfield

CONDOLENCES

Glenn and Karen Derting on the loss of brother, Steve Derting.

Chris and Tina Richard on the loss of father, Keith Bartley.

CONGRATULATIONS

Dan and Amy Duncan in the birth of their son, Collin.

FOR THE RECORD

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

04/29	430	04/29	463
05/06	405	05/06	457
05/13	381	05/13	421
05/20	430	05/20	485

04/29

General Fund	\$ 17,796.60
Other	\$ 7,009.45
Total	\$ 24,806.05

05/06

General Fund	\$ 20,665.75
Other	\$ 17,321.24
Total	\$ 37,986.99

05/13

General Fund	\$ 16,824.78
Other	\$ 1,460.25
Total	\$ 18,285.03

05/20

General Fund	\$ 22,886.46
Other	\$ 5,679.24
Total	\$ 28,565.70

YTD Budget \$ 384,486.05
YTD General Offering \$385,322.87
YTD Expenses \$361,741.43

Weekly Required \$ 20,412.90

GEAR UP FOR LIFE'S BIG GAME VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 4-8 // 9:00 A - Noon
4 yrs old - 8th Grade

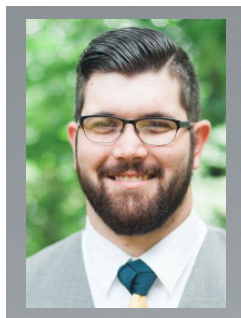


Register online today at www.parkwaybaptist.com

NEW MEMBERS - MAY 2018



Craig Frey
Letter



Kurtis Howland
Letter

Don't forget
to pick up
a Summer
Calendar for
children and
students!

