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Official Paper of the Pennsylvania Association of Regular Baptist Churches

# Keystone BAPTIST

## A CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP: WHY WE OWE THE LORD EVERYTHING!

By Dr. Charles L. Dear  
Crescentville Baptist Church, Philadelphia



In a day when everything seems to revolve around ourselves, it is an increasing challenge to believers to recognize and reject such thinking from the unbelieving world that presumes a relationship with Christ exists only in terms of what He will do for us, rather than what we should be doing for Him. Unfortunately, we can be drawn into an evangelistic outreach without subsequent discipleship, much like the Bill Hybels analysis of his own ministry over nine years ago that found little spiritual growth among their professing believers. Perhaps we should take a closer look at whether we have followed through our evangelistic outreach by fulfilling the Great Commission in making believers disciples of Jesus Christ. In the Great Commission, Jesus would have us press believers to continue on into becoming true disciples of Jesus Christ:

*And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach (matheteusate) all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. (Matthew 28:18-20)*

The word “teach” in verse 19 translates “make disciples of” all nations. While everyone must begin with believing in Jesus Christ as a personal Savior, discipleship builds on that foundation to encourage believers further to become a lifelong learner and follower of Jesus Christ. The practices of learning and following are the essence of discipleship, and Jesus used those concepts more often than we may realize, sometimes in different words. For example, consider the following familiar verses:

*And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. (Matthew 4:19)*

*Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. (Matthew 11:28-30)*

These verses, and other like them, underscore the necessity of our faith in Christ and our commitment to follow Him if we would bear His yoke of service and preach His Gospel to lost souls.

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### Encouraging One Another

Encouragement, according to Webster's Dictionary, is an act of inspiring to courage, in spirit and in hope. It also can mean lifting up or cheering on to the victory. We see that

most vividly portrayed in an athletic setting where a coach is encouraging his players. And even those watching the sporting event join in supporting the team with loud shouts and applause to encourage those in the game.

I am always, always encouraged by positive comments from others, aren't we all? And I try to encourage others with positive words and deeds, too. Receiving a banana cream pie does wonders in encouraging my heart!

It is similar when our Lord watches over us. Deuteronomy 3:28, says, "*But charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him: for he shall go over before this people, and he shall cause them to inherit the land which thou shalt see.*" There really is a need to be encouraged. Sometimes it is before we do something or sometimes it is during our mission, and sometimes it is at the end. But encouragement is **NEEDED** and **NECESSARY**! Our Lord would not have declared it so for Joshua if he did not need encouraging. That brings the challenge for us to encourage one another and for us to encourage our church

Association of Regular Baptist Churches exists – to encourage one another in the faith, to stand fast together! To help and assist one another in times of need is encouragement. There is a need to give encouragement and a benefit in receiving it. It is a blessing to give it and a reassurance in receiving it.

You see it expressed by Paul when he said, "*For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and*

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## From the Parsonage Window



### JOY

by Grace Roofner, Faith Baptist Church, Waynesburg

**"It's a joy every morning to wake up!"** I looked with amazement at the young man before me as he struggled to speak, every word a straining effort. This man, in his early 20's, had cerebral palsy. I, a senior in high school, was feeding him at a special get-together for people with this disability. He had one arm restrained to keep it from flailing and knocking the spoon. His body was constantly twisting, yet his face lit up with—yes, JOY! "I want to be a preacher some day," he affirmed, drawing his words out in tortuous syllables. Well, that young man already was a preacher! He preached the pure joy of Christ to me that day.

**Joy.** I've been thinking a lot about it lately. What exactly produces joy? I know that it is a fruit of the Spirit. *Gal 5:22 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, ..."* However, I must confess, when I see the news, or read the paper, I don't feel joyful. So I have been praying on this. In my life of 66 years, I have met some people that truly embodied joy. I remember a preacher in New England that would smile as he prayed. How did I know? Well, I peeked.

Then there was the tall, bony red-headed missionary lady who arrived at our parsonage in Maine with her trailer and her cat. She said she would have brought her horse, but he wouldn't fit. She had been a missionary to the Navajo Indians for many years, and had severe back pain from lifting heavy farm gates as she crossed the reservation. Yet she exuded joy.

**My mother, Helen (Miller) Brechbiel, was my best earthly example of joy.** She passed away in October of last year at the fine age of 96. In her 90's she developed severe scoliosis of the spine, and so she was completely bent double. In spite of having lost three husbands and being confined most of the time to a wheel chair, she beamed with joy—all the time! At her funeral, which was more of a celebration, so many talked about her life touching theirs with her joy. Joy is so uplifting, not only to the person, but to all those around. Well, what do the Scriptures say we must do to have joy, and just how did Mother fulfill these in her life?

**We know that to have the Fruit of the Spirit, we must be filled with the Spirit. And that begins by being yielded to and desiring the will of God.** *For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth; Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. Eph 5:9-10.* Mother was 19 years old when she heard the gospel, and she could hardly wait for the pastor to give the invitation the second Sunday that she attended the Baptist church. She gave her heart to Christ that day, and the first thing that she thought of was, "The Lord has

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# WHO GETS TO DEFINE SIN?

by Clay Nuttall, D. Min.  
taken from Shepherd's Staff with permission

The answer to this question has to do with who your God is. For the true believer, this has to be the Sovereign Creator God. He is the spiritual Father of all who truly believe. If you are not a true believer, your God is man and your father is the devil, the father of lies.

The first problem here is that, in the circle of professing Christians, you are likely to end up with a variety of definitions. That is because, on the right, "externalists" have put things into the Bible text that were not there originally. On the left, the "libertines" simply reject what the Bible does clearly define. The first question is "Who is right?" The answer is that only God is right, and His definitions are in the Bible text. They were placed there by divine inspiration and are true. They are clearly understood only when the reader approaches the text with the one biblical hermeneutic.

## THE HAZING OF AMERICA

In our nation, the definition of sin and wrong has been forcibly changed. The most egregious of sin and wickedness is now celebrated by those who control education, government, economy, entertainment, sports and, sadly, the professing church. How did this happen?

In his book, *Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania*, the author, Erick Larson, records a terrible truth from the past. It is a clear statement of where our own nation is today.

Captain Reginald Hall is described and quoted on page 350 of the book. He visited Germany and Austria in 1934. Ever the intelligence man, he reported his observations about the National Socialist movement to the government. He also described his experience to a friend in America. "All the young are in the net," he wrote; "anyone who tried to keep out of being a Nazi is hazed till they change their mind; a form of mass cruelty which exists only in such a country." He added, "It will sometime soon be the duty of HUMAN BEINGS to deal with a mad dog. When that time comes, your people will have to take their share."

By using federal education (falsely called public education), the minds of generations have blindly accepted "liberal, progressive socialism". It has created a nation of intellectual pagans who support everything they believe with lies. They are expert at turning truth into lies and lies into truth.

To ensure that everyone follows their "lie pact", anyone who disagrees has been, is, and will be "hazed". They are made persona non-grata, ridiculed, punished, and dismissed from the public sector. The socialism described by Hall is the very same destructive, liberal, progressive socialism being forced on this nation. If you want an example, all you have to do is turn on the liberal media for one day.

This process of making sin acceptable may begin with redefining words, but it continues with derogatory name calling. If you have any sense of godliness, you are called homophobic, Islamophobic, etc. Political correctness only adds to the hazing. Change your speech, fall in line, be silent about what you believe - or else. This plan ultimately includes legal and physical force until you submit to the wicked ideas of liberal, progressive socialism.

## TELL ME IT ISN'T SO

The church in America should be first in line to speak strongly to the definition of sin that God has given us in His Word. The liberal church has long ago turned its back on the clear statements of God. Sadly, this has given momentum to the paganizing of America. With a low view of scripture, this group has become complicit in the removal of God's moral standards.

Mainline evangelical church leaders have simply hid in the shadow of liberalism. For whatever motive, they hold their silence; and their pronouncements find them guilty of teaching people to sin. It seems that if a person is very good at communicating he gets a pass on what they are communicating. Anyone who challenges one of these popular gurus is subject to "hazing".

Without any shame, the Emergent, Emerging, and now Millennial churches are on a dead run to leave God's standard for holiness in the dust. It is no wonder that these churches ignore or offend basic doctrines. The way one

## Upcoming Events

Youth Retreat & Talents for Christ – March 31 – April 1, 2017

Calvary Baptist Church, Bloomsburg

Spring Conference – April 24-25, 2017

Hope Baptist Church, Hanover

Fall Conference – Sept. 11-13, 2017--1st Baptist of Elimsport, Allenwood PA

Spring Conference – April 9-10, 2018

Fall Conference – September 17-19, 2018

SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

## PRAY FOR THESE 14 CHURCHES SEARCHING FOR PASTORS

Bible Baptist Church, Brownsville

First Baptist Church, Corry

Springside Baptist Church, Distant

First Baptist Church, Ebensburg

Sharon Baptist Church, Hermitage

First Baptist Church, Lock Haven

Chestnut Street Baptist Church, Port Allegany

Carmel Baptist Church, Saegertown

Bible Baptist Church, Shickshinny

Thompson Baptist Church, Thompson

Tidioute Baptist Church, Tidioute

Calvary Baptist Church, Union City

Waterford Baptist Church, Waterford

Worthington Baptist Church, Worthington

## PARBC SPRING ACTIVITIES

March 31 – April 1, 2017

Youth Retreat & Talents for Christ

Calvary Baptist Church

Bloomsburg, PA



April 24-25, 2017

Spring Conference

Hope Baptist Church, Hanover, PA



One cannot be a true disciple of Jesus Christ and not be saved. During His earthly ministry, there were those who followed Jesus, but would not really qualify as disciples because they did so for the wrong reasons. From John 6 we read:

*Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled. (John 6:26)*

Their interests in Jesus were mundane. Their motivation to follow him was for the food He could provide them not what they could learn from Him, despite the glorious gospel that He preached and the miracles they had witnessed that demonstrated His power. Later in John 6 we read, "From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him" (John 6:66). They took offense at His teaching and, when His doctrine proved too hard for them to accept, they willfully turned back from following Him any more. What a contrast with the twelve who stayed:

*Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God. (John 6:67-69)*

Peter's testimony reveals the settled confidence they had in Jesus' teachings. Christ was not one among many to whom they could swear allegiance. His claim upon them was exclusive as the only One who is the way of Salvation, the only Son of God sent to earth to be the once for all sacrifice for sin. They were to be witnesses unto Him (Acts 1:8), not themselves. There was no earthly gain, no riches nor fame acknowledged by a first century society, no entourage of fans nor favorable recognition by those in power, yet Jesus' disciples were faithful unto death.

Those who always ask, "What's in it for me?" will be disappointed. Counting the cost of what it takes to be a true disciple may be daunting to those consumed by their own self interests. Jesus spoke of disqualifications of discipleship in Luke 14:26-33 that may be summarized by the following:

The first disqualification: Loving anyone or anything more than we love Jesus Christ (14:26). In the strongest of terms, Jesus made it clear that His disciples should love Him so much more than they love anyone or anything else, that it would seem like hatred by comparison. While it seems extreme, it also challenges our thinking to realize how much He loves us. When we read in I John 4:19, "We love Him, because he first loved us," we understand it is not only the degree of love but also the kind of love being exercised. This verse uses agape, godly love, the highest form of love, for what we both receive and return to Him. Brotherly love (phileo) could have been used but it wasn't, which reminds us of our Lord's conversation with Peter after His resurrection from the dead:

*So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest (agape) thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love (phileo) thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. (John 21:15)*

The question was whether Peter loved Jesus more than the others loved Jesus. In a moment of candor, Peter, perhaps reflecting upon his repeated denial of Jesus before He went to the cross, could not respond in kind to Jesus' agape love for Peter. By the third time Jesus asked Peter the question, in verse 17, He asked Peter if indeed he loved Jesus with brotherly love. It was a painful concession to Peter's weakness and failure to live up to his professed loyalty to Christ before He was arrested and taken to be crucified.

The second disqualification: Unwillingness to follow our Savior in bearing our cross (Luke 14:27). Crucifixion was/is a terrible form of execution practiced by the Romans, not the Jews, in Bible times. To carry your cross to the place of execution was to publicly own the punishment inflicted as well as bear the scorn and mocking of all those who taunted the victim on his way to death. Though perfectly innocent, the Lord bore His cross in acceptance of the suffering and death inflicted upon him for our sakes, as we read in Philippians 2:8, "And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." To bear our cross is to be identified with Christ and to "bear His reproach" (Hebrews 13:13). It is to not be ashamed of either our Savior or His Gospel (Romans 1:16).

Thirdly, we are disqualified if we are uncertain whether or not being a disciple of Jesus Christ is worth the sacrifice of everything that has possessed us throughout our lives (Luke 14:33). Loyalty to Christ, no matter what the cost, should be a settled conviction that cannot be swayed by circumstance or time. The young man in Matthew 19 who asked Jesus about eternal life was challenged to give away all his possessions and come follow Jesus, but verse 22 says, "But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions." More precisely, they had hold of him. Likewise, the question comes to us: What has such control in our lives that we would rather indulge those things than give ourselves completely to the Lord?

*spiritual understanding.*” Colossians 1:9. That is a need and a burden to come alongside encouraging and faithfully holding one up before the Throne of Grace. Yes, there is a sense of compassion moving one to encourage another, especially one that faces difficulty or has a definite need. You can see that compassion in Paul for the church at Colossi. He cared for them. He wanted to encourage them and a part of that was done by prayer.

There is a tremendous blessing and benefit in encouraging others. We have several ways to do so in the PARBC. Two of the most obvious are our conferences (spring & fall). Our coming Spring Conference is a very special opportunity to be encouraged for we will have a special team from Baptist Church Planters ministering to all of us. The theme is “Revitalizing Our Church”. See the conference schedule and speakers bio on other pages in this issue of the Keystone Baptist.

There will be intense instruction, challenges, helps, fellowship and encouragements for two days – Monday, April 24, and Tuesday, April 25. I trust you will make plans to participate in this unique time of encouragement. We all need it. We need to gather together and stand together in the challenges ahead as we are reminded by scripture: “*For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.*” Ecclesiastes 4:10. Don’t be alone – Come to Hope Baptist Church in Hanover, for our Spring Conference!



**PARBC Spring Conference**

**April 24-25**

**Hope Baptist Church**

**Hanover, PA**

**Revitalizing... our church**  
**Program Details on pages 8-10**

lives always rises from what he believes. The more you degrade the Bible and its pure doctrine, the easier it is to throw off moral and righteous constraints. If anyone dares challenge this moral runaway, they are “hazed” with words like “legalist”. It is no wonder that cults have found a place to hide among these movements.

### WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS?

In the end, the biblical church must bear some fault for this. Almost everyone you talk to, it seems, has their head in the sand. They want no part of truth when it brings conflict and rejection. Silence is the watchword when it comes to what is happening in our own world. Remember that “silence is not always golden; sometimes it is just plain yellow”. Leaders tend to hide behind things like “political” and deny that we have responsibility to speak the truth on every subject, even outside the pulpit. It is true that much of the problem is ignorance; leaders often simply don’t know. A careful reading of Acts 20 will help with that problem.

Paul’s words in his two letters to pastor Timothy make all this very clear. He was not afraid to speak the truth, no matter what the consequences. Timothy was instructed not to cut corners, run and hide, or be silent about what God has said. Paul made it clear that people would not listen and would reject the truth, but that did not mean this young pastor should be silent.

It appears that the silence of those who have the truth in this country has cost us deeply. Religious and theological games are very expensive. If we had preached the gospel fearlessly, taught sound doctrine with passion, and clearly defined the holiness of God and His instruction in the Word, things might have been different.

### THAT’S NOT A CHURCH

You will have to wait for the February, 2017, Shepherd’s Staff for this, but we don’t expect much from those who aren’t really churches. They really don’t disappoint us, but the real churches are those we look to for truth and sacrificial effort to do battle and define the wickedness of this hour. These pastors will give an account in time. (Hebrews 13:17)



Dr. Clay Nuttall has been a pastor, missionary teacher and theologian. He has blessed many of us with his ministering of God's Word.

done so much for me, what can I do for Him? I know—I'll be a missionary!" Later she learned that we are supposed to ask God what He wants us to do, but as it turned out, that is what He did want for her.

After my parents served four years in India, they learned that the Indian government would not let them return. My father felt the Lord was calling them to begin a work in E. Pakistan (now Bangladesh). Mother really did not want to go there, but she knew that if she was not willing to go anywhere, the Lord would not use her anywhere. So she told the Lord, "Lord, I am not willing to go, but I am willing to be made willing." Soon she found that she could not wait to go! Mother truly gave herself to God, and it brought joy.

**Of course, we cannot be filled with the Spirit without faith.** *But without faith it is impossible to please him:...Heb 11:6* It was Mother's faith that amazed and inspired me when going through hard times. After two and a half years in Bangladesh, my father suddenly contracted polio while in the city of Chittagong on business. At our new station in the Tribal hills, we learned that he had been taken ill, so we took a dugout canoe, then bus, then train to the city. To our shock, he was already dead and buried. I cannot imagine Mother's feelings, but recently I have been reading her diary, and it gives a little glimpse. "*Gene (Gurganus) told me Paul has gone to be with the Lord. Thy will be done...My heart about breaks at times.*" (On the following Sunday) "*...I had to lead off in songs and had thought I couldn't sing a note in Sunday School, but God helped me...the Lord is giving wonderful peace and even joy!*" Oh, as I read on, there were many entries where Mother's heart was breaking. She felt half of her died with my father. But then I see her encourage herself in God. "*I felt so lonesome after they (some friends) left, so sang and read the Bible until fairly late...truly the Lord is giving me joy and peace.*" Through all of her entries, I never saw her faith waver, and the Lord gave joy.

Mother felt the Lord wanted her to stay on in the Tribal hills at Hebron for awhile, using her skills as a nurse to treat a multitude of ills, set bones, even perform minor surgery. More and more tribal people were being saved as she and other missionaries worked and taught, along with two tribal evangelists. She was very bravely trying to home school us four children as well, but after a year, she felt she could not do an adequate job with that. We returned to the US, and then proceeded to the Philippines, where there was an established school.

At one point in her life, Mother was almost penniless. Her car died, and she told me on the phone that she was so excited. "I can't wait to see how the Lord will supply another car!" Her faith was real.

**Throughout my childhood and teen years, Mother majored on all things beautiful and lovely.** This is closely associated with joy, for how can we have joy if we are always allowing ourselves to dwell on—for example—all the bad news? *Phil 4:8 if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Phil 4:8* In the Philippines we collected gorgeous butterflies, which Mother carefully mounted and framed. In traveling to report to our supporting churches in the US, we stopped to hunt agates and crystals. Mother was always arranging a picnic outside to enjoy God's world. It became a standing joke in the Philippines, where we finished several picnics in the dark as night falls suddenly in the tropics, with no twilight. But because of her love for life, I can look back on my growing years with many good memories.

In her nineties, Mother developed macular degeneration. Her eye sight grew very dim, but she still enjoyed what beauty she could see. I would ask her on the phone how she was. "Oh, enjoying life," was her favorite reply. The birds at her bird feeder caught her attention, and she was fascinated by their activity. Whenever I took her for a ride, she would exclaim in delight over the beautiful clouds. While pushing her wheelchair around in the garden, she would pat the roses and caress the lilacs.

**Praise and thanksgiving are closely related to joy.** *Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Eph 5:19-20.* Mother grew increasingly thankful, the older she grew. The aides all adored her where she lived for over three years in assisted care. She thanked them for everything they did. As I was cleaning out her things after she passed away, one of the aides told me she never heard her say a cross word. She said, "Your mother lived her faith!"

Mother loved to sing. She was blessed with a beautiful alto, and she would often burst into song. We had an old pump organ in Bangladesh, and we would beg Mother to sing and play "*Master, the Tempest is Raging.*" There in that bamboo house with grass roof and mud floor, she would get that organ pumping out those notes with all her energy, and we would be thrilled by that powerful song.

I came across a letter that she wrote at age 86 to a missionary friend. "*Your wonderful letter for Nov. started with just the right verses—Psalm 67:3,4. 'Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.*

*O let the nations be glad and sing for joy...' It wouldn't surprise me if you too have a song in your heart day and night as I do. Such joy as the Lord gives is precious indeed.*" Mother closed her letter with the news that her third husband had stage four cancer. She wrote, "*He coughs a lot, but his spirits are good, and our faith is strong. I sing for him...*"

Mother confided in me that she constantly had a song running through her head. I thought it might be the same song getting "stuck," so I tested her. I suddenly asked her, "Mother, what song are you singing in your head right now?" Immediately, she answered, "*Fairest Lord Jesus.*" About an hour later, I asked, "What song are you thinking of now?" And it was, "*What a Friend We Have in Jesus.*" I asked several more times, and each time it was a different hymn. Her favorite was, "*Trust and Obey,*" which pretty much summed up her life.

Do I have joy like Mother displayed? No. But perhaps this little study on joy, and the example my mother left will help. As I yield to the Lord, learn to trust Him without reservation, take time to appreciate beauty, and remember to praise Him more, joy will grow.

# PARBC Conference Schedule – April 24-25<sup>th</sup>

Hope Baptist Church • 5460 Hope Way • Hanover, PA 17331

Dr. Allen G. Harris, Pastor

## Revitalizing...the church

*“...Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise” (Eph. 4:14-15, KJV.)*

### Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>:

2:00 – 2:55 pm - Opening Session: **Our Passion as Christ’s Church** – Jon Jenks

*We will review from scripture Christ’s desire for His church. Are we focused on the main thing? Do we keep our church’s actions and passions connected to His mission? We are that church which He has chided to wake up and walk with Him, together.*

3:05 – 4:00 pm – Session # 1: **Our View of Church Membership** – Steve Little

*The old saying: “How you get them is how you keep them.” We will lay down a brief scriptural basis for church membership, then practical ways to make membership class exciting, make it vital to church life, highlight various privileges that come with it and learn how to celebrate the covenant that binds us together.*

4:10 – 5:00 pm – Session # 2: **Our View of Evangelism** - Tim Weeks

Pluralism, postmodernism and an assortment of other worldviews dot the landscape of our respective corners of God’s vineyard. How do we sow the seed of the Gospel effectively in such diverse soils? Does the Bible have anything to offer as a model for going forward? A biblical objective for evangelism coupled with an effective assessment tool to understand the culture in which we minister will be explored in this session.

Dinner out at restaurants

7:00 – 8:15 pm – Session # 3: **The Building of Relationships** – Jon Jenks

*We believe that the Christian life revolves around our relationship with God and with mankind through Jesus Christ. We will look at God’s gospel ingredients for building relationships intentionally. You will endeavor to practically apply these ingredients to one relationship in your life during this session.*

8:15 – 9:00 pm - Ice Cream Social in Fellowship Hall – fellowship & interact with one another & speakers.

### Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>:

9:00 – 9:55 am - Session # 4: **Reaching children in a broken culture** - Chip Wood

*The culture is changing at record pace and the world we grew up in is vastly different than our children’s. The wonderful thing is that God’s Word and His truth has not. Let’s take practical principles from God’s Word and let it direct us to the answers. There are philosophies outside and inside our doors that are hindering the efforts of the church to affectively reach them.*



10:05-11:00 am - Session # 5: **Raising children that bear lasting fruit** - Chip Wood

*Your schedule is already full. You may find yourself with little time to brainstorm a fresh idea for the youth again this week. This session is rapid fire ideas to glean from. We hope to help you minimize prep and maximize impact.*

*Simple ways you and your church can invest in your youth to bear quality and lasting fruit*

11:10 – 12:00 noon - Session # 6: **Local Church Discipleship** – Tim Weeks

*What was the great commission again? Are we focusing on making disciples or counting heads? As churches seed to grow and become healthy again, building solid, open and nurturing relationships is at the core. Relationships as well as discipleship take time and require a carefully thought through plan. Not everyone is at the same level of spiritual maturity. God's design is clearly laid out in 2 Tim 2:2 – We will explore this model and offer some practical suggestions for implementing it in this session.*

Noon – 1:00 pm - Luncheon at the Church

1:00 – 2:00 pm - Session # 7: Business Sessions - *Representative, Paul Connor & Chairman, Pastor Harris*

**\*\* If the meeting ends early, Steve would like to do a 10-15 minute presentation about BCP.\*\***

2:00 – 2:55 pm - Session # 8: Purposeful Prayer Time – Jon Jenks

*We will be adoring, thanking, confessing, and committing to the biblical pursuit of church together before the Lord with a special focus on the needs of PARBC churches, pastors and families.*

3:00 – 3:15 pm - Coffee Break

3:15- 4:00 pm - Session # 9: **Our Expectations for Leaders in the Local Church** – Jon Jenks

*The Bible tells us to discipline ourselves unto godliness as reconcilers of the world to God. How are we as men and women intentionally bringing men and women to this? What benchmarks should guide the evaluation of our obedience? Remember, we have grace upon grace for this very pursuit.*

4:10-5:00 pm - Session # 10: **The Local Church Pastor** – Jon Jenks

*How can we as lay people and pastors enable our pastor to balance His role as shepherd, ruler, teacher? What has God declared should be His role? Maybe the body needs to be advancing in their role in order for the pastor to accomplish his. The pastor must shepherd! But what does this entail in the day to day working of your church?*

Dinner in local restaurants, encouraging “Conference Conversations” over dinner.

- ☐ *Does my church reflect the cultural diversity of its community?*
- ☐ *How do I motivate my people to reach out to our community? Do I model it?*
- ☐ *Do I have stories of gospel encounters? Do I tell those stories to my people at church?*
- ☐ *Am I teaching my people the Gospel? Is our prayer meeting gospel centered or needs centered?*
- ☐ *How deliberate have I been in making disciples? Training disciples?*

7:00 – 8:00 pm – Session # 11: **Our Pursuit as Local Church Leaders** – Jon Jenks

*Examining our church to see if we as men and women are forging together the carrying out of the one another commands as we intentionally worship, serve, and equip together.*

Bios for Pennsylvania Association of Regular Baptist Churches  
Conference 2017



**Steve Little** and his wife, Becky, left their dairy farm in 1984 to enter the ministry. God has used Steve and Becky to plant a church in Brazil and two churches in the US. Steve is currently serving as the president of Baptist Church Planters in Grafton, Ohio.



**Tim Weeks** and his wife, Marsha, served as associate pastor in Edwardsville, PA, before spending almost 20 years in France as church planters. They returned to the US in 2004, pastored their home church in NJ and served as a Hospice Chaplain in PA while helping to revitalize four churches before joining Baptist Church Planters in 2013. Tim is currently serving as the East Coast Regional Field Director.



**Jon Jenks** and his wife, Jeniffer, have served over 21 years at Calvary Baptist Church in Wisconsin Rapids (17 years as senior pastor). He has served on the GARBC Council of 18 and the WARBC Council of 8. He has run a regional connect for pastors in the Midwest for several years and is currently chairman of the board for Biblical Counseling Ministry. God has allowed him the privilege of providing leadership training for over a dozen churches in a multiplication format. He is the newest member of the BCP team, moving from board member to Director of Training and Enrichment, a ministry to both church plants and their pastors as well as mother churches.



**Chip Wood** and his wife, Karen, have been working together in youth ministry for 27 years. God has given them a great love for the church and its youth. They currently travel throughout the states conducting seminars on family, marriage and teaching. They have a strong desire to strengthen the church and encourage its leadership.