



IMPACT



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To receive this newsletter by e-mail or to receive the News Blast, contact the NKBA office (859.727.6522 or e-mail lorne@nkbaptist.org)



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For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16 KJV

Matthew ~ Mark ~ Luke ~ **John** ~ Acts ~ Romans ~ First Corinthians



3001 Riggs Avenue ~ Erlanger, KY 41018 ~ 859.727.6522

Jim's Journal



In Jesus' day, according to one of my favorite authors N.T. Wright, a man talking about building kingdoms was a man stirring up a revolution. Israel would experience Jesus' call for a new kingdom as quite the revolutionary act. In fact, it was, though not political. Jesus' revolution began within the heart. His call was for people to overthrow the oppressive and self-seeking kings who ruled over their minds and hearts, usurping the place of God at the center. He called on people to rise up with the subversive act of repentance. "Repent and believe," he proclaimed, "for the Kingdom of God is near."

Knowing that all repression and oppression have sin at their core, Jesus promoted societal transformation through personal transformation. Repentance was a call to turn from self-centered behavior to a selfless life oriented around the values of a perfect Savior.

Real repentance is a revolutionary act. It calls for death to self, It is what Jesus meant when he said, "If anyone wants to be my follower, he must take up his cross and follow me." To build God's Kingdom, we must be willing to die to self.

Of course, we'd rather receive death benefits without death, but there is no shortcut. Even Jesus asked on the night before he died if it could be done any other way. The answer was "no". In order for true forgiveness to happen something had to die. There is no shortcut to fruitfulness. The path always runs through repentance, and repentance always calls for the death of anything that stands between us and God's best.

Repentance is freedom-producing. There is such freedom when I confess and repent of MY SIN and discover God's response is not condemnation but grace. To speak your worst out loud and find that God instead picks you up and carries you into the presence of Grace is the greatest freedom.

Repentance is the opposite of shame. There is no shame in Christ. He is not afraid of our sin or our suffering. He wants to deliver us from it because he loves us. The more transparent we are with ourselves and Christ, the more likely we are to find healing.

Repentance is an act of honesty. Real repentance is the most truthful act we can enter into. It is not self-hatred but the simple proclamation that my only way forward runs through a God who is both grace *and* truth.

Repentance creates change. It is not at all simply saying we're sorry. It is a personal decision to do things differently from this point forward. Repentance doesn't require me to have a complete roadmap out of this pit I've dug, but it does require me to want to get out of it.

Repentance is not the same as confession. It is the completion of it. It is my honest, transparent, humble recognition of sin as sin, followed by my desire to turn from it and move in a different direction.

Revolutions begin, not with being able to name *all* the sins, but with being able to name *my* sin. THIS is where personal revolutions begin, according to Jesus: "Repent and believe. A new Kingdom is near."

Is there any better time to start a revolution than at the time of remembering the birth of our revolutionary Savior and Lord? May this repentance be the reflection of our hearts this season and into the new year as we follow Christ.

Merry Christmas! It is my great joy to serve alongside you!

Your Lead Follower,

Jim

P.S. Thanks to Dr. C Moore at my alma mater Asbury who prompted me to "think on these things."



Widows Helping Widows, Moving Forward With Hope

Widows Helping Widows, Moving Forward With Hope, is an alliance of widows in Northern Kentucky. We meet monthly to offer positive support and encouragement to each other in a safe environment. No one understands the heart of a widow better than other widows.

- ◆ If your needs are emotional, we are a safe place to express your emotions.
- ◆ If your needs are physical, we share resources we have found to help with practical matters such as health, home/car maintenance, etc.
- ◆ If your needs are social, our group is a great place to find friendship with others on this widow journey.
- ◆ If your needs are spiritual, we can lean into each other in prayer and support.

Our meetings are centered around the love of Christ and sharing His love through our circumstances. Whether you are just beginning your widow walk or you have been widowed for years, we believe you will find hope in our meetings. **This is an open invitation to join us, no matter where you are on your journey.**

Saturday, December 7, 11:00 – 1:00

Christmas Brunch – bring a covered dish. Coffee, tea and juice will be provided.
Boone County Library – Meeting Room A at Scheben Branch, 8899 U.S. 42, Union, KY 41091
Bring a new pair of women’s socks or gloves for donation to a local homeless shelter.

Contact Mary Jane Schopp 859-334-0690 (call or text) for more information or to confirm attendance. Confirmation of your planned attendance is not required but is appreciated.



**Baby Grand Piano
Free to Church in Need**
New Banklick Baptist Church has a baby grand piano to give away to a local church. If you are interested, please contact New Banklick, Pastor Tim Cochran, at 859-356-5538 (church) or 859-912-9170.

[REFOCUS]
apologetics & evangelism

Blood River Baptist Association • Hardin
Jan. 27, 2020

Warren Association of Baptists • Bowling Green
Jan. 27, 2020

Immanuel Baptist Church • Lexington
Jan. 28, 2020

Campbellsville Baptist Church • Campbellsville
Jan. 28, 2020

Farmdale Baptist Church • Louisville
Jan. 29, 2020

Morehead State University BCM • Morehead
Jan. 30, 2020

First Baptist Church • Pikeville
Jan. 30, 2020

Visit the KBC website to register at kybaptist.org

NKBA Budget Income by Church
January—November 2019

Church	Giving	Church	Giving
01 Anchor	1,836.57	41 Iglesia Cristo La Luz del Mundo	270.00
02 Ashland Avenue	5,326.79	42 Kento-Boo	1,100.00
03 Beaver Lick	5,282.69	43 Kenton	313.71
04 Beechgrove	1,695.00	44 Latonia	1,669.35
05 Belleview	10,093.84	45 Licking Valley	4,792.00
06 Bellevue, FBC	300.00	46 Living Church	800.00
07 Bethesda Community	1,815.00	47 Living Hope Baptist Church	2,200.00
08 Big Bone	7,567.49	48 Ludlow, FBC	0.00
09 Brooksville	1,459.57	49 Macedonia Missionary	0.00
10 Bullittsburg	862.00	50 Madison Avenue	1,500.00
11 Burlington	27,124.47	51 Main Street	16,125.84
12 Christ Baptist Church	3,988.02	52 Mentor	6,647.00
13 Church @ Garden of Hope	0.00	53 Mercy Ridge	200.00
14 Cold Spring, FBC	5,793.13	54 New Banklick	1,608.41
15 Cornerstone	1,496.39	55 New Reality	0.00
16 The Cornerstone Fellowship	900.00	56 Newport, FBC	1,000.00
17 Covington, FBC 4th Street	300.00	57 Ninth Street	0.00
18 Covington, FBC 9th Street	800.00	58 Oak Island	601.35
19 Crescent Springs	1,927.44	59 Oak Ridge	14,121.27
20 Crosspoint Church	785.00	60 Persimmon Grove	1,450.00
21 Dayton, FBC	3,308.82	61 Petersburg	2,784.00
22 East Dayton	825.00	62 Piner	8,756.00
23 Elsmere	3,285.62	63 Pleasant Ridge	3,169.99
24 Emmanuel Chapel	0.00	64 Redemption	0.00
25 Erlanger	3,836.00	65 Rosedale	1,180.38
26 Fairlane	3,576.49	66 Sand Run	0.00
27 First Twelve Mile	2,610.06	67 Second Twelve Mile	1,306.76
28 Flagg Spring	410.00	68 Silver Grove, FBC	0.00
29 Florence	0.00	69 South Side	110.00
30 Fort Mitchell	4,125.00	70 Union	10,768.00
31 Fort Thomas, FBC	466.18	71 Visalia	2,165.00
32 Good Shepherd Korean Church	700.00	72 Walton, FBC	9,203.86
33 Grace Dry Ridge	0.00	73 West Covington	1,200.00
34 Grace Independence	671.37	74 Woodhaven	1,319.02
35 Grants Lick	3,928.33	75 Zion Chin Baptist	1,200.00
36 Hebron	11,724.67		
37 Hickory Grove	25,357.50		
38 Highland Heights, FBC	3,638.91		
39 Highland Hills	1,600.00		
40 Highpoint	0.00		
		Total Budget Income	\$246,979.29

Northern Kentucky Baptist Association

3001 Riggs Avenue
Erlanger, KY 41018-3045
December 2019

Address Service Requested

**Mark Your Calendars
Upcoming Events**

- December 5—NKBA Christmas Open House, 2—7p
- December 24– January 1—NKBA office closed for the holidays
- January 9—Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
- January 28—Refocus, Immanuel Baptist , Lexington, 12—2:30p
- January 30—February 1—Shepherding the Shepherd, Lexington

