



KETTERING HERALD

KETTERING BAPTIST CHURCH LEGACY CENTER NEWSLETTER

MINISTRY IN THE SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE

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To Vaccinate Or Not

It has been over a year now that we have been collectively shut in doors and restricted from normal activities such as visiting with loved ones, out of town vacations and in person worship to say the least. The truth is, I suppose, to some degree we have grown use to our new norm in some ways but the question is, are we comfortable with it?

On December 14, 2020, vaccines began being given to those who met the stage requirements. Vaccination is designed to minimize one's risk from catching the disease, becoming severely ill, requiring hospitalization and ultimately from death. Since the vaccines began being issued here in the US., over 151 million doses have been given and more than 93 million people have been fully vaccinated. Those numbers continue to climb steadily as more vaccines are made available and stages of opportunity open up.

With all that said there is still a silent battle raging among a variety of groups of people as to whether to get vaccinated or not. Now I will try to stay away from being too medical and share a few practical thoughts to consider that may help resolve some of the tension. Now I do know there are some anti-vac people out there that regardless of what I say they shall not be moved. Fair enough but read on anyway because miracles do happen.

The first question I will ask is, "How long are you willing to remain in the lockdown restricted state that we are currently in?" The reason I ask this is because if we all refuse vaccination; we will have to remain on restriction. This has far reaching financial, emotional and psychological implications on many people and maybe even you.

This issue of time needs to be understood in its larger context. The longer we are in restrictions with no resolu-

tion or means to slow or stop the virus, means, loss of need for many products such as clothing, textiles, gasoline, eating out, office supplies, and so on. The reality is that it doesn't stop there because each reduction of demand impacts someone or something else. Consider the farmers who will have a greatly reduced demand for his vegetables, fruit and livestock, less paper use impacts the tree harvester and they all impact the truck drivers and delivery persons. Now if you are thinking, well that's not me. Consider that your 401K plan, annuity, investments, the social security check and or benefits as well as your cost for basics essentials will be directly impacted and consumed when the global economy collapses. Oh you forgot everything we use here and even the payouts of our investments are not only connected to the United States, we buy and trade with other countries. That means when they collapse we collapse and we all suffer.

As you ponder those ideas some, have said that they wanted to wait until others received the vaccine first. OK your excuse is up because nearly one hundred million people, that's fifteen percent of the entire US population have already been vaccinated. Others have said, the vaccination was created too fast and didn't go through the normal processes. News flash!!! The process was the same but because of some of the time issues and impacts that I mentioned earlier, the United States and several other countries put all of their best people on the case and provided an open check book to researchers and developers to come up with a vaccine quickly. Now I say quickly but in researching the process I learned the following from a December 15, 2020, Medical News Today article:

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Luke 12:21 So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.
Reprioritizing Our Lives





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“Researchers were not starting from scratch when they learned about SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. SARS-CoV-2 is a member of the coronavirus family. According to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Trusted Source, there are hundreds of coronaviruses — including four that can cause the common cold, as well as the coronaviruses that sparked the SARS, or severe acute respiratory syndrome, epidemic in 2002 and the emergence of MERS, or Middle East respiratory syndrome, in 2012.

Dr. Eric J. Yager, an associate professor of microbiology at Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Albany, NY, told MNT that scientists have been studying coronaviruses for over 50 years. This meant scientists had existing data on the structure, genome, and life cycle of this type of virus.

Under normal circumstances, making a vaccine can take up to 10–15 years. This is because of the complexity of vaccine development. Dr. Michael Parry, the chair of Infectious Diseases at Stamford Health in Stamford, CT, told MNT that vaccines train our immune system to remember an infectious agent — without our having to contract it.

“Traditionally, they have contained weakened or inactivated parts of a particular virus (antigen) to trigger an immune response within the body. These vaccines will prompt the immune system to respond, much as it would have on its first reaction to the actual pathogen.” However, amid a global pandemic, time was a luxury the world could not afford. Researchers quickly mobilized to share their coronavirus data with other scientists.

Dr. Yager said that thanks to advances in genomic sequencing, researchers successfully uncovered the viral sequence of SARS-CoV-2 in January 2020 — roughly 10

days after the first reported pneumonia cases in Wuhan, China. The ability to fast-track research and clinical trials was a direct result of this worldwide cooperation.”

OK I know I said I wasn’t going to get too medical but I felt that was critical to the discussion. So one more thought I think I will share in this discussion and that is as you ponder vaccination or ventilation, consider that the virus is still out there looking for a place to live but as more are vaccinated there are fewer places for it to live but you without a vaccination are fertile ground.

We all have choices and I wish not to take that away from anyone but I do want to at least raise our awareness of the consequences of our choices and how they impact us but also others in ways we may have never considered. Taking the vaccine involves risks but so too does eating the sandwich or meal from the restaurant which is selling food that you know not where it came from or what evaluation it has been through and drinking the newest coffee from the coffee shop without having had time to see how it may affect people, yet without a blink we eat or drink it and go back for seconds. We also think little of the risks involved with the multitude of medicines Dr.s prescribe, or those we buy over the counter, even though if you ever looked on the bottle or listened to the possible side affects you would probably would not be willing to take that risk just to remove acne or improve hair growth or the like.

I will conclude my article with the words of Romans 1:7, Galatians 3:11 and Hebrews 10:38, which gives grace and wisdom to each one reads this article whether pro or con, “The just shall live by faith.”

Loving My Sheep
Pastor Bucas Sterling, III

Pastor Bucas Sterling III
The Newsletter Ministry Members
Sis, Brenda Brown
Sis. Letitia Hinton
Sis. Jaime Eley McDowney
Sis. Debbie Mosby
Sis Tamara Tisdale
Bro. Kenneth Trass

Our Mission Statement

To lift up the name of Jesus Christ, that all men may be drawn to Him. To inform, edify, and encourage the members and ministries of Kettering Baptist Church Legacy Center. To inform and encourage our community.

Article deadline: 25th day of the previous month

Please send articles to: KetteringNews@ketteringministries.org

The Newsletter Ministry kindly reserves the right to edit or alter all submissions for publication. The Pastor has the final authority on publication.



By K Trass

I was blessed in my conversation with the 2020 Kettering Baptist Church Living Legends, David & Vivica Ware. They are a couple who has Christ at the foundation of their lives. They joined KBC in 1989 and have been workers in the Vineyard from almost Day 1. The two things that brought them to join Kettering, first were the Youth Programs. They felt their three sons would benefit from the programs that were available here. The second driver was that it was the intimacy they felt when walking through the doors of the church. You were not just a member but a member that mattered, the Pastor was accessible and it was a welcoming environment. The Church was Christ centered and Bible teaching.

Sister Vivica put her professional financial talents to work almost immediately after joining, as a trustee and a teller. She was a key member of the team that put together the financial package for the building of Education Wing for 1 Kettering Drive. She continued in to the Stewardship Ministry, eventual becoming the church treasurer. Sister Vivica stepped away from church treasurer in 2018 after over a decade of service. The demands placed on her as her banking career advanced, as a mother, and a wife kept Sister Vivica from working in other ministries at KBC. As an example, as of February 2020 she was appointed Senior Vice President for Regulatory Policy for the Independent Community Banking Association.

The Marine Corps brought the Colonel and family here in 1988. I have to say, it is a rare thing to know a black Marine Corps Colonel so I know Brother David is an exceptional individual. A few years after joining Kettering, he joined the Trustee Ministry and became the Chairman. A position he served in for than more than a decade. He also works with the Transportation and Security Ministries. He and Sister Vivica had key roles in developing the requirements, finances and project management of the building of the Kettering Baptist Church Legacy Center.

The Wares accepted Christ at young ages, Vivica 11 and David 6. David points out he accepted but without knowledge. He said knowledge you have to work to get and it came sometime later. Vivica shares this view of her early walk. In their Christian walk, David shared that it took some drama in my life to show me why I needed God. He advises us to develop an intimate relationship with God you will see how you can't survive in life without Him. Vivica remarked that as she grew in knowledge of the Word, she saw how it affected her work life. She used the skills of her work life in ministry in her spiritual life.

David discovered Psalms 23 as his favorite scripture. It was shown to him years ago but was highlighted at the passing of Vivica's mother. He read the Psalms 23 as she transitioned with the family



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REPRIORITIZING OURS LIVES REPRIORITIZING OUR LIVES



We have entered a new year, 2021, and it has already shown us that life is not what it used to be and that we are in need of new priorities. On January 6, 2021, the unimaginable actually happened. A sitting president of the United States, enabled by the Republican Party, launched an attack on lawmakers and an attempted to overthrow the results of a democratic election. This may seem minor to some but in reality it is major. If the tenant of our democracy can be disrespected and threatened then the foundation of what we stand upon as a republic is in fragile danger to the keeping of order, law and all that makes us the country we are.

Casting the earlier conversation aside, each new year gives us a chance to consider if the things we hold as priority in our lives really matter. Life has a way of getting us off and worried about chasing the emptiness and vanities of this world. Money seems important, promotion, looking good, staying up on the latest celebrity news, being first to get a new game or car or maybe being admired by people around you. All of these seem like great priorities to have when we are blinded by the enemy regarding the brevity of life we have.

I am reminded of Luke 12:16 -21, of the rich man who had much crops and tore down his barns to build bigger ones, only to be called a fool by the Lord, because that night his soul would be required of him. In this Covid 19 climate that we are in, I believe we are becoming more aware that our lives can be gone very quickly. The challenge to us is even more necessary now that we reprioritize our lives, to that which is important. When you are fighting for your life or faced with the reality of how dangerously close you are to losing it, none of the other priorities matter. No one cares about their outfits or their bank account or the car parked in the garage nor what position you have at work. None of it matters.

I want to appeal to you as a reader to carefully consider your priorities. The government has hinted its instability and given us reason not to put our priority in men and politics. While the pandemic is raging all around us and nearly four thousand people are dying each day in America, perhaps, God is sending us a warning there too that life is brief and our time here limited. Shall we take heed the warnings that God is providing and reprioritize our lives, to value one another, love God with our all, seek the way to help and encourage people as well as to serve God with the days you have. If tonight your soul is required of you, I pray that your priorities will have been organized in such a way that the Lord will be well pleased with you.

Loving My Sheep

Pastor Bucas Sterling, III

2020 LIVING LEGENDS (CONT)

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present. David feels it best describes his pathway to God. Vivica's favorite is Proverbs 3:5-6, *"5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall [a]direct your paths."* It became her favorite 1999. There was a high likelihood she might have cancer. She called the deacons and they came over and prayed for her. Proverbs 3:5-6 was read and all of her anxiety evaporated. She says that this scripture applies to any situation she has encountered.

David and Vivica are authentic, loyal, compassionate individuals. They are one of the friendliest couples you will ever meet. David enjoys fishing and projects around the house (the engineer in him). Vivica is a reader. As long-time members of Kettering Baptist Church, when telling someone about the church they say it's a Bible based church. KBC provides a variety of opportunities for spiritual growth. Any one who visits Kettering will see we project our motto, Ministry in the Spirit of Excellence.

Congratulations again to Vivica and David Ware, the 2020 Living Legends.





ASK A HIRING MANAGER WORKSHOP NOTES REPRIORITIZING OUR LIVES



By: Christina Farmer with contributions from Joyce Ferrell and Debi Day

On January 30, 2021, the Employment Ministry hosted an *Ask a Hiring Manager* workshop. The workshop, moderated by KBC member, Teri Brown - Walker, featured a panel of experts who shared insights on how job seekers can stand out in the hiring process. The private sector panelists included:

Christina Robinson with Washington Gas
Lai-Julia Ross with Verizon
Nisa Edwards with Perspecta
Darryl Durrington with Leidos
Sidney Johnson with R2C

Here are a few key points from the workshop that will help individuals looking for their next career opportunity in 2021.

Resumes:

Resumes should be no longer than two pages regardless of years of experience. The only exception is with federal resumes, which can be five pages or longer. Resumes should be tailored to the position you're applying for and should highlight your education, key experiences, and skills.

LinkedIn:

LinkedIn is a valuable tool when searching for jobs. Create a LinkedIn profile and align it with information shared in your resume. Your photograph should be professional.

Utilize LinkedIn effectively by connecting with family, friends, and associates to expand your network. Additionally, network with employees at organizations you'd like to work for, who can help your resume get passed along to a hiring manager or consider you for an interview.

Where do recruiters seek candidates?

The recruiter is the gatekeeper and is responsible for providing information to the applicant and the hiring manager. Many recruiters use online job search platforms such as LinkedIn, Indeed, etc. They also attend career or job fairs and more specifically diversity hiring events. Recruiters also utilize their companies' employee referral program (referrals from current employees), and it's a great way for job seekers to get their foot in the door.

Job seeking during the COVID-19 Pandemic:

Many companies are still hiring during the pandemic and it has improved the candidate pool as many job seekers now have more time to dedicate to their job search. Candidates should be prepared to engage with employers virtually through all phases of the hiring process. You should be competent in your ability to conduct a virtual interview, sharing your screen and present virtually. Practice your virtual interviewing skills with others, and be sure to have proper lighting and a clean or virtual background.

Common applicant mistakes:

1. **Unprofessionalism.** Many applicants do not have a professional email address or a professional voicemail. Consider creating an email address with your first name and last name. Ensure your phone is accepting voicemails and that you have a professional greeting. Also respond back to employers within 24 - 48 hours.
2. **Shocking social media profiles.** A part of many companies' process is a background check that may include reviewing your social media profiles. Clean up your social media, be mindful of what you post, and enact privacy settings while you are job searching.
3. **Poorly formatted resumes and resumes with spelling or typographical errors.** Read your resume before you send it out and consider using a MS Word template to improve your formatting.
4. **Canned Resumes.** Don't be a lazy candidate. Take the time to tailor your resume to meet the qualifica-

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Pastor & 1st Ladies Anniversary



Join us as we celebrate our Senior Pastor...Pastor Bucas Sterling the Third and First Lady Carolyn Sterling for their 21 years in ministry here at

Kettering Baptist Church! They will be honored on Sunday, April 11th at both the 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. services. The Guest Pastor will be Senior Pastor W. Clyde Pearson of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Temple Hills, Maryland.

Missions Ministry



The Missions Ministry is seeking members who are passionate about building local and national partnerships to help us carry out our

mission. If interested, please email missions@ketteringministries.org.

Evangelism Walk



Jesus told His disciples that they would be witnesses for Him in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth. Like the disciples we have to

start where we are. Join the Missions Ministry at 10 am on Saturday, April 10th, by going out into the community where you live to lift up prayers and carry the Gospel to your neighbors.

Virtual Couples Game Event



Attention Married Couples! The Marriage Ministry is hosting a free Virtual Couples Game event on Saturday, April 24th at 12 noon.

Come and be a part of this opportunity to engage, connect, fellowship, win prizes, and just have fun! Its Game Time! Are you ready for some competition? Come with your Game Faces On! Click here to register. Registration ends Thursday, April 22nd. Point of Contact is Pastor Williams at andre.williams@ketteringministries.org.

ASK A HIRING MANAGER WORKSHOP NOTES (CONT)

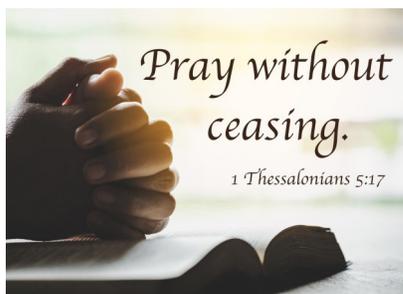
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tions of the specific position you're applying for, especially if you're applying to multiple positions within the company.

Following up during the job search process:

A thank you note is highly recommended. An email is sufficient, but a handwritten note allows candidates to stand out. If you aren't offered the position, you may reach out to a recruiter for feedback, but how you ask for feedback is important and must be done professionally. Additionally, understand that rejection is a part of the process. Don't allow the feedback to get you down, but rather use the information shared to learn and grow.

The Employment Ministry offers guidance for a variety of career and job search topics including





By Sister Dottie Chicquelo, Children's Ministry

While Rudolph was singing about his shiny nose so bright, children of Kettering Baptist Church participated in a virtual Craft Night hosted by the Children's Ministry on Friday, December 4, 2020. Instructors, Dottie Chicquelo and Dreama Gray, helped the children create Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer necklaces for themselves and for needy children at the Prince George's County Family Justice Center (FJC).



30 necklaces and 15 McDonald gift cards for the older children, were delivered and donated to the FJC on Thursday, December 9, 2020. The FJC used our donations for their annual Holiday Hope Children's Party (Contact-less -drive-by this year) which was held on Saturday, December 12, 2020 for children of domestic violence victims.



Sisters Dreama Gray and Dottie Chicquelo also volunteered their time at the FJC on Thursday, December 9, 2020. They had much fun working with the staff, matching up hats, gloves, and scarves, and sorting many



Sister Lisa Mitchell and son, Jaelan Mitchell volunteered their time at the FJC on Friday, December 11, 2020, wrapping many gifts.

Thanks again to all the children who participated in Craft Night. Your help made a big difference in the lives of other children during this 2020 holiday sea-





Congratulations to KBC's 2nd Quarter 2020 – 2021 Honor Roll Students

Elementary School

Jonathan D. Clerkley
Kyla A. Hill
Peyton McDowney
Emma E. Sims
Dominic Thomas

Barack Obama Elementary School
St. Pius X Regional School
Maya Angelou French Immersion School
Shabach Christian Academy
Bladensburg Elementary School

Middle School

Kyle A. Logan
Chimdi Maduka
Chizitelu Maduka
Sydney R. Owens
Jayla R. Reed
Darius Thomas, Jr.

St. Pius X Regional School
Annapolis Area Christian School
Annapolis Area Christian School
Imagine Andrews Public Charter School
Benjamin D. Foulois Academy
Greenbelt Middle School

High School

Nyla D. Adon
Paris L. Adon, II
Khairi A. Hill
Dominic Hines
Mackenzie King
Naomi Morgan
Michael J. Simmons
Elijah Z. Smith
Malachi L. White

Bowie High School
Eleanor Roosevelt High School
St. Vincent Pallotti High School
DuVal High School
Charles H. Flowers High School
Worcester Academy
McLean School
Westlake High School
Calvert High School

*We are so proud of you!
May God continue to guide your path.*



*To our precious Kettering Seasoned,
Wonderful, blessed by God Brothers and Sisters*

Be encouraged, never give up,
for your change is on the way,
As God controls tomorrow
though you live within today.

No matter how tough the trial,
deep the pain, or difficult the task,
There is a season for all things
and your troubles, though tough, won't last.

As bleak as things may seem now,
my dear sister, my brother,
Even as you are suffering
from one thing or another.

Jesus said, "Lo I am with you always,"
and His Word is True,
And when He spoke those words...
He meant them especially for you.

Though you may be in the valley now,
you will not always be.
You will ascend to God's mountaintop,
stroll along his beautiful blue sea.

So while God holds tomorrow
and you feel the struggle of this day,
Remember that the rain which comes in April...
brings the flowers which come in May.

Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be fresh and flourishing Psalm 92: 13-14

By Minister Larry Camper