



## Meet KAYN's Interim Director: Dr. Joshua C. Strunk



Dr. Joshua C. Strunk, his wife Allissa and their 9 children have been a part of our community since September of 2011 when he began pastoring the Community Church of Pine Run EMC in Apollo. Dr. Strunk earned his Bachelors in

Bible/ Theology and Pastoral Ministry at John Wesley University before earning both his Masters in Religion and his Masters of Divinity at Liberty Theological Seminary. In 2015 Dr. Strunk completed his Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Liberty University and began teaching as an online adjunct for Ohio Christian University. This past August Dr. Strunk became the Interim Director of the Kiski Area Youth Network and the transition has gone smoothly with the school district administration and the students! He looks forward to being able to provide strategic and pastoral leadership over the course of the next year as KAYN goes through this transition.

## Prayer Requests

Pray that the **transition to having Joshua as the Interim Director** continues to go smoothly in all areas of the ministry.

Pray for guidance for the KAYN board members as they continue to make decisions regarding the **renovation of the new Youth Center**.

Pray for the **search for KAYN's new Executive Director** which will begin in the near future.

Pray for the **students and teachers** at Kiski as they are beginning a new school year.

Pray that students will show even **greater interest in the various KAYN programs** throughout the fall season!

*Send your prayer requests to us at [kiskiareayouth@gmail.com](mailto:kiskiareayouth@gmail.com) or find us on at [www.facebook.com/KiskiAreaYouth](http://www.facebook.com/KiskiAreaYouth) or on Twitter @KiskiNet*



## Raising KAYN: Racing Towards Our Goal

The past several weeks have been quite busy for those involved in the KAYN ministry. From the students returning to school to the projects and changes within KAYN, the need for KAYN has never been more evident and the momentum has never been stronger. However, making these changes and meeting these needs comes at a cost, which is why our fundraising has never been more important. In August, 92 golfers participated in our **Second Annual Golf Outing** which raised over \$8,700. We are busy preparing for our next fundraising event, the **Turkey Trot** on Thanksgiving morning. Last year we had 433 runners and we are excited to see that number grow this year! Online registration is now open so please visit [kvturkeytrot.com](http://kvturkeytrot.com) for the registration link and additional information. **Remember to register by November 2<sup>nd</sup>** in order to ensure that you get a newly designed, long sleeved event shirt! Finally, we wanted to remind you that KAYN participates in an ongoing fundraiser called **Amazon Smile**. **Simply go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)** and choose to support KAYN. Then shop as usual and a percentage of your order total will be donated to KAYN!

## (Interim) Director's Corner: Notes from the Front Lines of Ministry

With current research indicating that as many as 7 out of every 10 people who leave high school as a Christian abandon their faith by the age of 23, grounding students in Biblical truth has never been more important. What is more, roughly 56% of those who are completely unchurched find Christ through the love and support of Christian friends when they are going through a time of crisis. This data highlights the reasons why KAYN is such a vital ministry in our community, and why I am so excited to have been invited to be a part of it. The lessons which the teenagers of our community learn now, as they navigate their present challenges, will go on with them through the rest of their lives. So from character coaching to crisis intervention, from cultivating safe spaces for building relationships to developing the next generation of servant leaders; KAYN is a ministry full of potential.

Having been in this area for the last 5 years I have already had many opportunities to pour into this community and in doing so it has truly become my home. It has also given me the chance to see the ministry of KAYN within the context of this community. There are many issues here in Kiski that need our attention, from addiction to poverty to a general sense of hopelessness that pervades every life of those who have not yet found rest in the presence of the LORD. Yet there are also so many reasons to celebrate the goodness of God here. KAYN is supported by a diverse and beautiful array of stakeholders: school leadership that is open to our ministry, churches that are excited about supporting our work, and small groups of intercessors all across the district - and even some from outside it - who are ceaseless in prayer for us. Perhaps our greatest blessing though comes from those individuals and families who have chosen to be poured out as an offering to God so that they can be a part of seeing the Gospel of Jesus Christ bring redemption and reconciliation and restoration to this community.

God is at work here. He is proclaiming good news to the downtrodden. He is setting free the captives. He is bringing sight to the blind. He is healing the broken. He is... And He is inviting us to be a part of that work. Together, we are His hands and feet in Kiski. That I get to join you all in such a fantastic opportunity fills me with an excitement that words strain to express. ~ Dr. Joshua C. Strunk

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### Youth Center Renovation Update!



We are excited to see most of the demolition completed inside of our new Youth Center. We would like to thank all of the students and adult volunteers who worked in stifling heat, building debris and dust over the summer to make this happen! We filled two 22 foot dumpsters to overflowing and can now see the true potential that our building holds. We are finishing up Phase One building plans to submit for our building permit, which is needed for construction to begin. We have currently raised about 20% of the \$50,000 needed to complete Phase One. Our target date for opening is now the first of the year pending funds raised. We pray God continues to financially bless our efforts.

We are praying that the Lord brings skilled volunteers who can do mason work, electrical, HVAC, plumbing, drywall, or general contracting. If you or someone you know fits this need and would like to volunteer, please contact Duane Prusia at 724-244-7271.

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