



The Baptist Bridge

April 2017

By the grace of God, the Philippi Baptist Church shall **Embrace, Model, and Share** the love of God through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Philippi Baptist Church ♦ 69 Church St. ♦ Philippi, WV 26416 ♦ (304) 457-3206



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You can give online at pbcwv.net



E-mail: office@pbcwv.net

Website: www.pbcwv.net

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Jon Villers, Pastor Jud Bracey, Choir Director Madison Riffle, Youth Director Emily Casto, CR Leader

Sarah Hamman—Praise Team Leader
Hannah Dixon—Assistant Praise Team

Michele Moore, Choir Accompanist
Lucretia Moyer, Secretary

Marj Campbell, Organist
Zvezdana Vlastic, Custodian



I will give my allotted space in our monthly newsletter to be used for an update from our Finance Committee! Blessings to you all!!!

Dear PBC Family:

We are nearing the home stretch of our first quarter in 2017. With our current level of giving, we will essentially finish the first three months needing two more weeks of collections to meet our goal of \$50,000 in the first quarter.

As it stands right now, if we receive in this last week our normal receipts, we will need to reduce our missions and staffing budgets by a little over \$6400 or 17% of each of those line items to bring our budget in line to start the second quarter. (We will be only 13% behind in our overall budget figures but that includes right at \$13,000 that we are considering fixed expenses that cannot be adjusted.)

Our request is that you consider giving 3 times what you would normally give on this last Sunday of the quarter and lets fully fund each and every mission and staff position that we as a congregation voted on to be a part of our budget in 2017.

We have been a part of some amazing ministry opportunities in this first quarter and want to see those ministries grow and continue in the second quarter of 2017!

Thank you already for your response so far and prayerfully consider the triple challenge placed before you of what you will be giving for this coming week!

Please feel free to utilize our giving options online as this may give you the opportunity to spread out the additional amounts over the next ten days!

Go to this link: www.tinyurl.com/pbcwvgive

Prayerfully Submitted from the Finance Committee
Clarence Wright, Chairperson



The Board of Missions and Outreach will be collecting 4 packs of toilet paper and 1 or 2 packs of paper towels for Heart & Hand during the month of March and April.

The Board of Christian Education is asking for donations of individually wrapped candy or small toys for the Easter egg hunt. Donations are needed by April 9th and can be put in the youth room.





YOU—a Volunteer!

The dictionary definition of “volunteer” is simple—“a person who performs a service willingly and without pay.” The legal definition is more exact—“a person whose actions are not founded on any legal obligation, a person who pays the debt of another where HE or she is neither legally nor morally bound to do so, and has no interest to protect in making the payment.”

But wait! That last one reminds us of a couple of stories we learned in Sunday School—like the Good Samaritan or the woman at the well who gave Jesus a drink of water or Joseph rescuing his brothers and his father or—yes, the stories go on and on, RIGHT ON TO JESUS’ LIFE AND CRUCIFIXION. .

But what about today? What are WE, what are YOU doing that fits the definition of “volunteer”? Shoveling snow in front of the church or in front of a neighbor’s house? Taking food to a shut-in or helping with a Fellowship Dinner? Making a quilt for Weirton Christian Center or making new curtains for the Sunday School rooms? Tutoring a kid after school or teaching Sunday School? \

Yes, the possibilities are endless. What are YOU volunteering for? Maybe one of these quotations will get you going.

“What is the essence of life? To serve others and to do good.” --Aristotle

“Only a life lived for others is worth living.” –Einstein

The best way to find yourself is to use yourself in the service of others.” –Mahatma Gandhi

“No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another.” –Charles Dickens

“Service to others is the rent you pay for your time here on earth.” –Muhammad Ali

“Wherever you turn, you can find someone who needs you. Even if it is a little thing, do something for which there is no pay but the privilege of doing it.” –Albert Schweitzer

“It’s easy to make a buck. It’s a lot harder to make a difference.” --Tom Brokaw

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?” –Martin Luther King, Jr.

“The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.” –William Shakespeare

YOUR CHURCH AND YOUR SAVIOR NEED YOU! VOLUNTEER!



Easter—The Holiest of Holidays

As every Christian knows, Easter is the most important observance of the Christian year, for it commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ after his death and crucifixion. The celebration begins on Palm Sunday, the Sabbath preceding Easter, a remembrance of Jesus' ride into Jerusalem on a donkey. Palm branches and other greenery were strewn in his path, an event symbolized in many modern churches. Palm Sunday is followed by a week of observances such as Holy Tuesday and Good Friday, the week culminating in worship services on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. Thus the actual date of Easter fluctuates annually. Records indicate that the early Christians prepared for weeks and held baptisms on Easter Sunday.

The word "Easter" is actually German in origin and refers to the goddess of spring. Customs during this holiday (holy day) season vary from country to country, but several are virtually universal.

Eggs, for instance, were a forbidden food during Lent in Europe, so eggs were hardboiled and thus preserved to be eaten in celebration on Easter. The original color by which they were dyed was red, symbolizing the shedding of Christ's blood. Jelly beans are also of Biblical era origin, possibly originating with a sweet called Turkish Delight. It was during the 13th century that chocolate came to be shaped into egg form for the celebration. Legend has it that as early as 1307, King Edward I of England had 450 eggs hardboiled and coated with gold and distributed to palace servants.

Pretzels also began as a Lenten and Easter food, the twisted shape symbolizing arms crossed in prayer. Another common Easter food is ham or pork, considered by Indo-Europeans as a symbol of good luck or prosperity. Easter breads have also been popular: "pasko," made with milk, eggs, and raisins in Russia, "baba" in Poland (15 egg yolks in each loaf!), "weihkuchen" (translated "blessed cake") in Austria, hot cross buns in many other countries (the cross of course representing Jesus' crucifixion).

Prominent Easter symbols, in addition to eggs, include the cross, as mentioned, flowers such as lilies with their trumpet-shaped blossoms emerging from bulbs, butterflies representing changed life and resurrection, lambs symbolizing "the Lamb of God," and the Easter bunny. That last custom probably originated in Germany as the Oschter Haws, introduced to the United States by German immigrants and their legend of an egg-laying rabbit. That symbol of fertility and new life was so important to the Germans that their children made nests for the hare's eggs, left carrots for the hungry rabbit, and received eggs and candy as rewards. The nests have been replaced by colorful baskets and artificial "grass," but the rewards remain the same, sometimes augmented by other gifts.

The most important symbol is still the cross, representing Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. May it ever be so.



AB University, Faculty, staff, and students
 Barbour County Homeless
 Phil Bowers and other
 Mike Burr
 Celebrate Recovery
 Code Blue
 Delsey Corley
 Noah Findley
 Anthony Hinkle
 Hinkle family
 Bailey Larrison
 New Leadership
 Local ministries
 Blair Marks
 Teresa Marsh
 Mary Mosesso
 Judy Mossburg
 Kenny Phillips Sr.
 Chuck Schieck
 Debbie Spinnenweber
 Janet Stephens's grandson
 Cindy Strakal
 Catherine Vaughn
 Darlene Waddell
 Bill Walker
 Elizabeth Wentz
 Sarah Weyandt
 Sue Wolfe
 PBC Abide Youth

Unspoken requests for family members, unsaved people, community concerns, job and home loss, financial difficulties.

Also, in need of prayer: Our nation, state, and country leaders and officials. Please pray for victims of crime, war and violence throughout our country.



Pray for protection for military personnel and their families throughout the world and those serving our country:

Captain Aaron Cross
 Tim Jenkins,
 Brian Lundell
 Corporal Anthony Perry, Sr.
 Amber Underwood
 Major Kris Wood



Blair Marks, Vangie Shaffer
 (Mansfield Place), Germaine &
 Austin Whitman



10- Glenn & Jan Sweet

16- Ken & Darlene Waddell

17- Randy & Michelle Moore

20- William & Shirley Jacobs

25- Jim & Wanda Steele



2- Christian Stull

2- Jody Sperry

2- Allison Villers

4- Brenda Price

12- Jacob Gray

13- George Sommer

27- George Davis

28- Darlene Waddell

Weekly Events

Sundays	Sunday School AM Worship	9:15am 10:30am
Mondays	Celebrate Recovery Praise Team Practice Celebrate Recovery	4:45pm 6:30pm
Tuesdays	Women's Bible Study (@ Sarah Cobb's house)	12:45pm
Wednesdays	Midweek Service/ Abide Youth Ministry Chancel Choir Practice	6pm 7:15pm

Children's Volunteer Watch and Teach Calendar for April

	April 2nd	April 9th	April 16th	April 23rd	April 30th
Nursery	Wanda Steele & Emily Meader	Rebekah Hicks & Margaret Salimi	Zvezdana Vlastic & Bonnie Daugherty	Cheryl Wolfe & Hannah Dixon	Zvezdana Vlastic
Children's Church	Kelly Bracey & Jennifer Weyandt	Koreen & Thomas Villers	Sarah, Pete & Sam Ferguson	Crystal & Wes Gray	Zvezdana Vlastic

American Baptist Women's MINISTRIES

American Baptist Women's Ministries will meet at 9:30AM on Tuesday, April 4th

Violence Against Women
Hostess: Barbara Spring & Jody Sperry

Bible Book of the Month - Nehemiah

We will be collecting Campbell's Soup labels and Box Tops for Education throughout the year.



There is a new College & Career Sunday school class at 9:15AM on Sunday mornings. They are meeting in the special Topics Café in the fellowship hall.

The next Men's Prayer Breakfast will be on April 1st at 7:30 AM at the Medallion. All Men and Boys are invited to come for some good fellowship, food and to talk about almost anything. Come and get to know someone you've seen, but never had a chance to talk to. Rev. Lewis Villers will be speaking.



Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 1st– 7:30am– Men’s Prayer Breakfast at Medallion. Rev. Lewis Villers will be speaking

Sunday, April 2nd– 10:30am– West Virginians at Philippi Baptist

11:30am– Communion & Deacon Relief Offering

3:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice

6:00pm– Diaconate meeting

6:00pm– Union Association Lenten Service at East Clarksburg Baptist Church

Tuesday, April 4th– 9:30pm– American Baptist Women’s meeting

Wednesday, April 5th– 12:00pm– Barbour Co. Lenten service at St. Elizabeth’s. ~Rev. Lewis Villers speaking

Sunday, April 9th– **Palm Sunday**

12:00pm– Board of Christian Education meeting

3:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice

6:00pm– Pastoral Relations Committee meeting

6:00pm– Board of Trustees meeting

6:00pm– Union Association Lenten service at Middleville Baptist Church

7:00pm– Quarterly Business meeting

Wednesday, April 12th– 12:00pm– Barbour Co. Lenten service at St. Elizabeth’s Catholic Church

Saturday, April 15th– 9:00am– Celebrate Recovery Leadership meeting

Sunday, April 16th– **Easter Sunday**

7:00am– Sunrise service on the back porch of Burbick Hall

8:00am– Easter breakfast

12:00pm– Easter egg hunt to follow morning worship service

Thursday, April 20th– Blue & Gray Choir practice

Sunday, April 23rd– 3:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice

5:00pm– Board of Worship meeting

Thursday, April 27th– 7:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice

Friday, April 28th– 5:00pm– Philippi Art Stroll

Saturday, April 29th– 8:30am– Adopt –a-Highway

Sunday, April 30th– 3:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice



Adopt-A-Highway cleanup schedule: Our next Adopt-A-Highway cleanup is scheduled for Saturday morning, April 29, 2017. We will meet in the church basement at 8:30 AM, and should be finished by about 10:00 AM. We will be participating in the AAH Statewide Cleanup, and volunteers will receive a free gift. Those participating for the first time, please report at 8:00 AM to view the mandatory safety video. Youth, 12 years of age and older can participate. All youth, 18 years old or younger will be part-

nered with an adult. Please wear leather shoes or boots and long pants, and jackets and hats according to weather conditions. Blaze orange safety vests and garbage bags, and work gloves will be provided. Our assigned highway is 2.2 miles of Rt. 119, between the Covered Bridge and the Rt. 57 intersection. Please contact Craig Cobb at [304-457-3467](tel:304-457-3467) if you have any questions, or email him at crc1950@frontier.com. May the good Lord bless those who help to keep His world clean.



The Board of Christian Education needs volunteers for the Sunday School Nursery. Please contact Hayley Dadisman or Crystal Gray if you can volunteer.



Philippi Baptist Church
69 Church Street
Philippi, WV 26416

Celebrate Recovery Barbour County

A Christ-Centered Recovery Program

**MONDAY NIGHTS
6:30-8:30PM**

**The Landing (6th– 12th grade)
Celebration Place (K-5th grade)
Nursery Provided**

Philippi Baptist Church

