

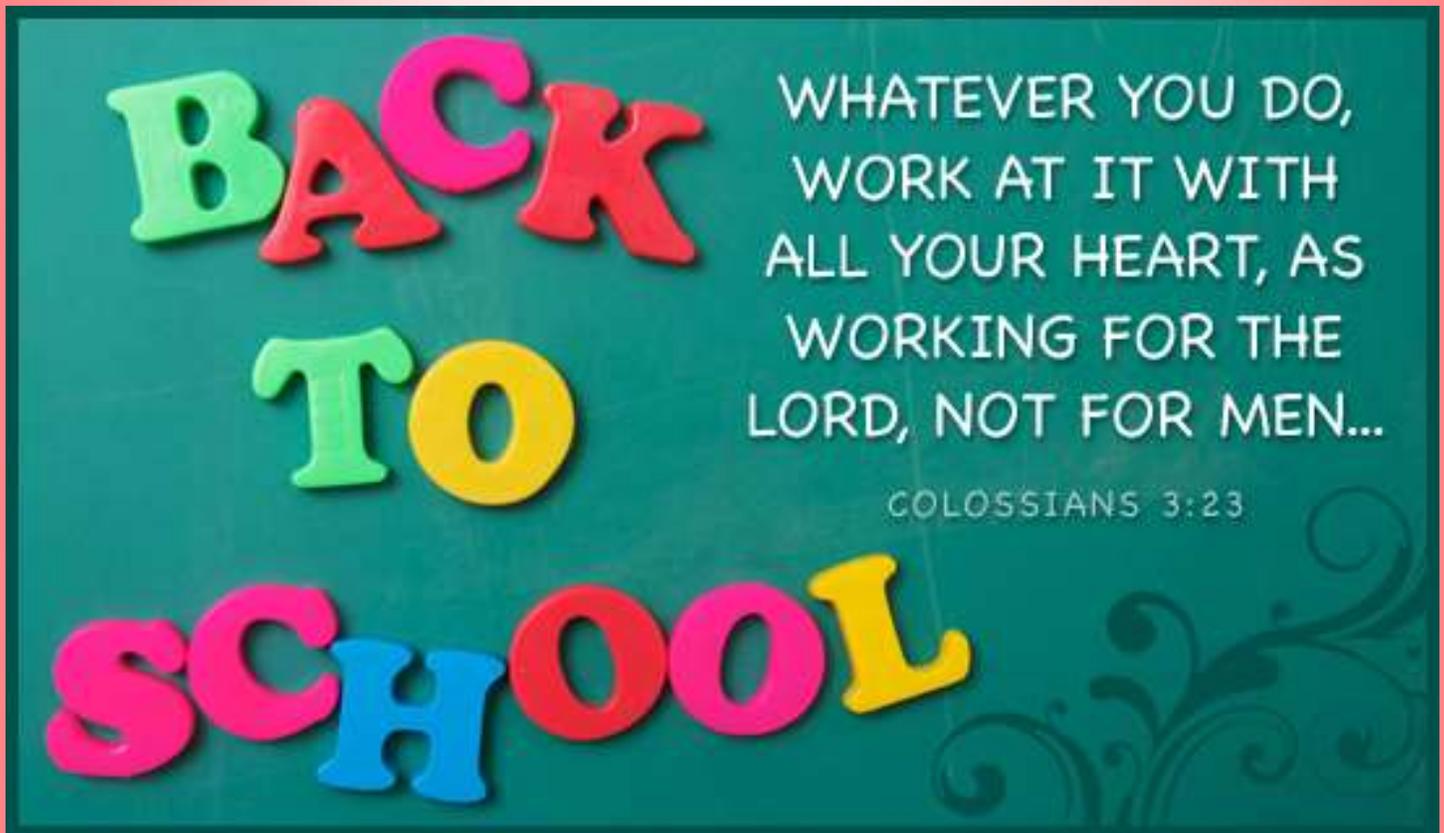


# The Baptist Bridge

August 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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69 Church Street ♦ Philippi, WV 26416 ♦ (304) 457-3206

Jon Villers, Pastor    Jud Bracey, Choir Director    Emily Casto, CRBC Leader

Hannah Dixon– Interim Praise Team Leader  
Lucretia Moyer, Secretary

Michele Moore, Choir Accompanist

Marj Campbell, Organist  
Zvezdana Vlastic, Custodian



The topic of the day for me will be "God's ability to Provide" I use a weekly devotional guide put out by Upper Room Books called, "A Guidebook to Prayer for All God's People." Reuben P Job compiled a series of scriptures, hymns and excerpts from other Christian writings to be a place of inspiration and guidance on a daily basis. Each weekly segment is based on the Revised Common Lectionary series of following the church calendar that includes the Season of Lent leading up to Easter, the Season of Advent Leading up to Christmas along with other Sundays of significance like Pentecost and Trinity Sunday.

At this time of the year, we find ourselves in terms of the church calendar living in Ordinary Time. That is the term used for the weeks in between the two major seasons of Easter and Christmas. As I find myself in the ordinary-ness of life, it is moments like these which gives me purpose and meaning.

I had a meeting in Ravenswood last week. I picked up dad at 8am and we headed out for my 10am meeting. Realizing closer to Pennsboro on Rt. 50, that my gas gauge was warning me I would not make it all the way, we stopped in for a fuel up and ended up arriving 30 minutes late for my meeting. I got there before the committee needed to make their first vote! One of the purposes of this meeting was to approve financial assistance to individuals pursuing an education to go into vocational ministry. My 87 year old dad said this same group provided money for his schooling as they did for me and my oldest son! It was also my privilege to vote for approval of funds for my youngest son who is currently enrolled as a Christian Studies Major at Alderson Broaddus University! God's ability to provide was evidenced first hand by our family stretching over three generations!

One of our missionaries, Debbie Myers, is in on home assignment from Mexico. She was meeting in the same church and we had the honor of having lunch with her and her beautiful daughter, Bailey, who is heading to Biola University in California in a few short weeks to start her studies to be a medical missionary as a registered nurse! The Myers have been staying at the missionary house on the grounds of Parchment Valley Conference Center while they have been on home assignment over these last several months. My wife was the onsite coordinator there at Parchment Valley in Ripley, WV for five years so we are very familiar with this 1500 acre piece of heaven that has been their backyard while back in WV. The cell service is a bit spotty in "The Valley" but they have discovered if they go about a mile from the missionary house to one of the three lakes on the property, they get excellent reception. Debbie was telling me they made a bike trek over to the pavilion next to this lake the other night and brought their laptops and cell phones and were able to catch up a lot of electronic correspondence while having an amazing vista of God's creation all around them! They lost track of time and dusk was upon them. It was then that they realized they had no lights on their bicycles and they had better get back before losing all daylight. They laughed and said they might have to use their cellphones as headlights if they stayed very much longer!

That prompted Debbie to relay a story to me that really is the main point of my article today! Dad and I were truly blessed to hear just one of the many adventures the Myers have experienced while in Mexico. I will relay this next part to you as I recall Debbie's words to me:

"Keith, my husband and I were asked to officiate at a wedding in a very remote part of Mexico. We were very excited about the invitation and prepared for the two day event that included a four hour trip on Friday to get there for the rehearsal and a time of worship and then leading the ceremony on Saturday before the four hour trip back home. Of course this journey took us into the remotest parts of the jungle in Mexico but what really added to the drama was the torrential downpour of rain we experienced from the time we left the house! We got to a pretty substantial hill on basically a single lane



path in our truck with no place to turn around and a mountain gorge on one side with a mountain on the other. The rain literally was causing the road to be flooded with water running off the mountain. A mud slide had occurred in front of us but Keith admitted there was no place to go but up so we forged through the flood and made it to the top of that ridge!

This happened two more times and each time the intensity of the amount of mud combined with the sheer volume of water covering the road made each ascent a treacherous assignment. We prayed from beginning to end of each climb. The last and highest climb brought another challenge in that the flooded road had a hidden pot hole that rocked our truck violently. The tire pressure light came on and, upon inspection, found out the impact had given us a flat tire!"

"Oh, I failed to mention the young man who we were going to officiate at his wedding was in our back seat of the truck along with his mom. He only spoke Spanish and his mom only spoke a native language of Mexico. So after lots of translating we assured our passengers that God would continue to provide! We were able to pull off at the top of the last mountain and found cell service a little more up the side of our location! The young man contacted his brothers which were forty-five minutes away! By this time, darkness had overtaken us! It was nearing midnight. We got the tire changed and headed down the other side to the village. The tire pressure light came on for another tire and upon inspection, found a huge gash in that tire from hitting a sharp rock somewhere along the way! With only one spare, again prayers were in order! Keith had some fix a flat and was able to put enough in the original tire that went flat to get us all the way to the village! As we stopped to use the fix a flat a big truck with cattle rails on the back came barreling down the mountain. The truck had no lights! We were barely off the road as it came whizzing by. The driver had his cellphone held out the window lighting its path! Upon getting there past midnight, they wanted to feed us, but I just asked for a place on the floor to finally get some sleep! The musicians for the wedding did not make it through all the mud slides but somehow, Keith got enough cell service to download Spanish wedding music and praise and worship songs on his phone to use for the ceremony and worship! Again, God's ability to provide is an amazing thing!"

Debbie was so animated in telling my dad and me that story! She was praising the providence of God to always provide not as we may want but as we need! May we all be encouraged in the fact that God continues to have the ability to provide for us today as well! Blessings to you all as we find ourselves on this journey of life together!

Shalom,  
Pastor Jon

*Thank You*

We are so thankful for the labor of love from Barbara Smith as she has provided our church profiles in the Baptist Bridge Newsletter. She has given us a profile piece on everybody from Santa Claus to Easter along with countless numbers of folks that sit in the PBC pews every week! Barbara has announced her retirement of this particular ministry. We were very quick to point out if she ever wants to do one in her retirement, please know we will always have a page available for her!



AB University, Faculty, staff, and students  
Barbour County Homeless  
Phil Bowers and other officials

Mike Burr  
John Cain Family  
Celebrate Recovery  
Code Blue  
Delsey Corley  
Sam Duffy  
Frank Field  
Noah Findley  
Virginia Green  
Hinkle family  
Tommy Knotts  
Leadership  
Local ministries  
Teresa Marsh  
David Mellquist  
Judy Mossburg  
Kenny Phillips Sr.  
Bea Pletcher  
Sara Poling  
Joyce Riffle  
Chuck Scheick  
Cindy Strakal  
Angel Stull  
Bill Walker  
Jim Warfuel  
Austin & Germain Whitman  
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.



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



Pray for these missionary families serving  
around the world:

The Myers in Mexico  
The Aragons in Mexico  
The Smiths in Haiti  
The Vances in Kenya  
The Orners in Madagascar  
The Reeds in Bolivia  
Debbie Mulneix consultant for International  
Ministries



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



**Praises**

Czech Convention  
Harmony Grogan  
Church Camp  
Mark Palmer  
CR East Coast Summit

# 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	6pm

## Children's Volunteer Watch and Teach Calendar for August

	August 6th	August 13th	August 20th	August 27th
<b>Nursery</b>	Wanda Steele	Rebekah Hicks & Margaret Salimi	Zvezdana Vlastic & Bonnie Daugherty	Cheryl Wolfe & Hannah Dixon
<b>Children's Church</b>	Kelly Bracey & Jennifer Weyandt	Koreen & Thomas Villers	Sarah, Pete & Sam Ferguson	Crystal & Wes Gray

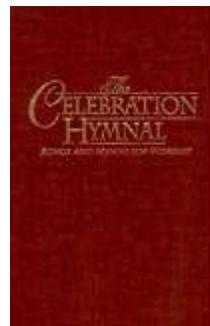
*Happy Anniversary*

5- Jeff & Christie Allen  
9-Derek & Chelsea (Long) McDowell  
7- Chuck & Dawn Scheick  
11- Gerald Fogg & Beth Longo  
15- Hayden & Heather Cottrill

*Happy Birthday!*

4- Debbie Mulneix  
4- Michele Moore  
8- Jennifer Kines  
9- Filip Vlastic  
11- James Steele  
12-Caitlin Davis  
12- Carol Yount  
14-John Cain  
14- April Gochenour  
17- Shirley Jacobs  
19- Clarence Wright  
21- Judy Marsh  
22- Dawn Scheick  
22- Germaine Whitman  
22-Katie Meader  
24- Dean Mulneix  
25- David Daugherty  
30- Stephanie Hinkle

The Board of Worship is doing a collection for the purchase of Celebration Hymnals They are \$10 each and they are recommending that we start with the purchase of 100. Each Sunday please notice the water jug for donations.



We will not have Prayer Breakfast in August and will re-start on Sept. 9.



A memorial service for Barbara Gillespie (Kelly Bracey's mother and Judi Funk's sister) will be held at 10:00 a.m. on August 5, 2017 at Philippi Baptist Church with Pastor Villers officiating. Also in lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to the Alzheimer's Association [https://act.alz.org/site/Donation2?df\\_id=32112&32112.donation=form1&](https://act.alz.org/site/Donation2?df_id=32112&32112.donation=form1&), or West Virginia State Parks <http://wvspf.org/donations.html>.



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# Upcoming Events

Saturday, August 5th– 10:00AM– Memorial service for Barbara Gillespie  
Sunday, August 6th– 10:30AM– Communion & Deacon Relief Offering  
4:00PM– Diaconate meeting  
6:00PM– Union Association Cluster service at PBC  
Sunday, August 13th– 4:00PM– Pastoral Relations Committee meeting  
6:00PM– Board of Trustees meeting  
Tuesday, August 15th– First day of school for Barbour County Schools  
Saturday, August 19th– 9:00AM– CRBC Leadership meeting  
Sunday, August 20th– 4:30PM– Board of Missions & Outreach meeting  
Sunday, August 27th– 5:00PM– Board of Worship meeting



Our Annual Church picnic will  
be September 10th.