



# The Baptist Bridge

January 2015

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



## Inside this issue:

*Pastor's Message... 2*  
*Birthdays... 3*  
*Prayer requests...3*

*Getting to Know... 4*  
*2015 Officers... 5*  
*Schedules... 6*

*Announcements...6-7*  
*Upcoming Events...7*

E-mail: [office@pbcwv.net](mailto:office@pbcwv.net)

Website: [www.pbcwv.net](http://www.pbcwv.net)

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Jon Villers, Pastor    Jud Bracey, Choir Director    Eddy Poling, Youth Director

Jennifer Wheeler– Praise Team Leader  
Michele Moore, Pianist

Emily Casto– Assistant Praise Team Leader  
Lucretia Moyer, Secretary

Marj Campbell, Organist  
Zvezdana Vlastic, Custodian



## A Word from the Pastor

Hello Column Readers and Beyond!

I want to welcome Dr. Lauren Lindsey as our guest columnist. We are very excited about an opportunity coming to Barbour County and want you to pass on the Good News!! Shalom- Pastor Jon

“Have you ever experienced hurt, grief, anger, addiction, physical abuse, mental abuse, sexual abuse, purity issues, relationship issues, insecurity, control issues, procrastination, adultery, co-dependency, hypocrisy, financial struggles, or trauma? **CELEBRATE RECOVERY IS FOR US!!!!** This wonderful program is coming to Barbour County starting on December 31<sup>st</sup> for a New Year’s Eve party at 9:00pm at Philippi Baptist Church on Church Street. It will be a formal event and the whole family is welcome. Communion will be shared as well as a **CELEBRATE RECOVERY** “chip” ceremony to surrender something as we ring in 2015. The official kickoff for regular meetings will begin on **January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 6:30pm** at Philippi Baptist Church. The program will meet every Monday night at 6:30pm and provides both large and small group sessions for all issues that we ALL experience in our lives. **CELEBRATE RECOVERY** offers groups for men, women, teens, and children. The entire family can learn and grow together. There is a worship time, a large group session, and then small group sessions each week. A typical meeting will last for two hours. Snacks and coffee will also be provided following the meetings

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** is a program that provides a solution for all problems based on the Beatitudes from the Bible (book of Matthew). The program is a Christ-centered ministry that allows people to relinquish their hurts, habits, and hang-ups to their Higher Power – Jesus Christ. The ministry is “group based.” All groups are gender specific and use very specific guidelines that foster anonymity and confidentiality. Each meeting will offer a chance for everyone to openly share about their week and reflect about a testimony or lesson that was shared. This type of sharing encourages personal growth and allows everyone to build what will become your “forever family.”

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** started in 1991 at Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California. At that time, the church was meeting at a high school gymnasium. John Baker wrote Pastor Rick Warren the “now famous concise 13-page single-spaced” letter outlining the vision God had given him for **CELEBRATE RECOVERY**. After reading John’s letter, Pastor Rick said, “Great John, go do it!”

The first night 45 people attended, and **CELEBRATE RECOVERY** was born. Beginning with only four Open Share Groups (small groups) – Men’s and Women’s Chemical Dependency, and Men’s and Women’s Co-Dependency – the ministry has grown to over fourteen groups today. Over 8,500 people have gone through the program at Saddleback Church, and many of them are now serving in **CELEBRATE RECOVERY** and the church. **CELEBRATE RECOVERY** has become the number one outreach ministry at Saddleback Church, with over 70 percent of its members now coming from outside the church.

The first ten years were the birth stage of **CELEBRATE RECOVERY**, and now God is calling us to take it to the world. There are now thousands of **CELEBRATE RECOVERY** ministries around the world and it is growing – now to BARBOUR COUNTY. We are part of a movement that is bringing the hurting and broken to the healing power of Jesus Christ.

In addition, **CELEBRATE RECOVERY** is not just growing in churches, but in recovery houses, rescue missions, and prisons around the world. New Mexico was the first state to adopt **CELEBRATE RECOVERY** into their state prison system. Now, New Mexico has **CELEBRATE RECOVERY** pods in all their state prisons. In August of 2004, **CELEBRATE RECOVERY** was announced as California’s state approved substance abuse program for prisons. This is an exciting and growing outreach opportunity for every **CELEBRATE RECOVERY**.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** is a program where you are encouraged to come as you are. The biggest and best step is to show up. This program is built on the principle that we don’t change or get well by ourselves. We need each other. Fellowship and accountability are two important components to recovery from any hurt, habit, or hang-up.

Bring yourself, a friend, and your family and join us at Philippi Baptist Church for a New Year’s Eve celebration on December 31<sup>st</sup> at 9:00pm. Then join us again for regular meetings starting on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Philippi Baptist Church. Activities are provided for teens and children of all ages. Join us on any Monday night at 6:30pm to **CELEBRATE RECOVERY!!!!**”



AB University, President Creehan,  
Faculty, staff, and students

- Steve Baker
- Stephanie Bassel
- Lee & Sue Beuckman
- Connie & Gary Booth
- Jean Bowles
- Linda Burton family
- Emily Casto
- Celebrate Recovery
- Church van
- Code Blue
- Rev. Jim Crouch
- Debbie Demure
- Carole Greene
- Stephanie Hinkle
- Betty Hoffman
- Cameron Kelley

Jaclyn Lee's grandmother's family

- Detra McVey
- David Mellquist
- Aaron Miller
- Debbie Mulneix

Myers missionary family in Mexico

- Rakeime Parker
- Michael Perry
- Michael Perry's family
- City of Philippi leadership
- Daniel Prussa
- Chuck Scheick
- Elody Shrader
- Melinda Utterback
- Christina Wentz
- Dianna Wright

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

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 & Pearl Marks, Dr. Shearer, Mary Tamulitis  
Vangie Shaffer (Mansfield Place), Germaine &  
Austin Whitman



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.
- Major Kris Wood

# Praises

- Emily Casto
- J.D. & Linda Long
- Melvin Richter
- Pastor Gina Stewart
- Louise Villers



- 3- Elizabeth Sweet
- 4- Elizabeth Withers
- 6- Clyde Sphon
- 9- Robert Digman
- 9-Sue LoBello
- 10- Jeff Allen
- 10- Petar Vlastic
- 17- Marija Sommer
- 20- Linda Long
- 23- Dennis Stull



### All for Kids

“Anything to do with kids—I’ll be there,” Wanda Steele says, and over the years, she has lived up to her word.

Growing up in Charleston, the middle one of five children—two girls and three boys—Wanda’s most vivid memory of Christmas is “going for drives with my dad to see the lights.” They were not a church-going family, so Wanda did not become a Christian until she attended Glenville State College and became a member of the Christian Fellowship. It was there that she met her husband, Jim. “We were all really close,” she says. “We had Bible study as a group as well as in the dorm, and we formed a choir that went all over the state, not only to churches but also to the Moundsville Penitentiary and to Weston State Hospital. We’d go for week ends, and the churches would house us. Those experiences determined the shape of our lives. Several of the members—including Jim—even became pastors.”

Wanda and Jim were married in Wesleyan Chapel on the Glenville campus. They came to Philippi when Jim accepted the pastorate at Philippi United Methodist Church. He also ministered to the congregation at Crossroads Church. Until their son Jacob was born, Wanda did her “kid thing,” teaching in elementary schools including the Smithville school in Ritchie County.

Then Jim decided to become a Physician Assistant, and while he was going to Alderson Broaddus, he was responsible for five country churches in the Volga Charge. For several years he has been a PA at Sharp Hospital, where Dawn Scheick has also been employed.

The Steeles were led to Philippi Baptist Church by Jacob. “There were no children in those little country congregations that Jim was leading, so we let Jacob choose which church he wanted to attend. He chose this one because of his buddy, Brad Allen.”

Since then, Wanda has truly followed her calling to be with young people. She is a member of the Board of Christian Education, and she has, with Jim, taught elementary and Middle School classes. They also lead Children’s Church, and she has been a part of Vacation Bible School.

No doubt about it, the children of this congregation—and the congregation as a whole—are blessed by Wanda and Jim and their commitment to Christ and to kids.

# PHILIPPI BAPTIST CHURCH

## OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES – 2015

MODERATOR Dianna Wright (2015)

VICE MODERATOR Charles Scheick (2015)

FINANCIAL SECRETARY Olin Campbell (2016)

ASSISTANT FINANCIAL SECRETARY Clarence Wright (2016)

TREASURER Jeff Allen (2016)

ASSISTANT TREASURER Craig Cobb (2016)

CLERK Carolyn Davis (2015)

TERM EXPIRING 2015

TERM EXPIRING 2016

TERM EXPIRING 2017

### DIACONATE (NINE TOTAL MEMBERS)

Ken Waddell  
Cheryl Wolfe  
Gary Price

Eddy Poling  
John Hicks  
Barbara Smith

Gerald Fogg  
Jovan Vlastic  
Christie Allen

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES (SIX TOTAL MEMBERS)

Greg Mouser  
Marj Campbell

Scott Springer  
Bob Boyer

Wes Gray  
Jimmy Runion

### BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (SIX TOTAL MEMBERS)

Rebekah Hicks  
Wanda Steele

Kelly Bracey  
Sarah Poling

Carolyn Davis- SS Superintendent  
Hayley Dadisman  
Chuck Scheick

### BOARD OF OUTREACH & MISSIONS (SIX TOTAL MEMBERS)

Dawn Scheick  
Dianna Wright

Sarah Ferguson  
Madison Riffle/ Michael Perry  
(unexpired term)

Emily Casto  
Koreen Villers

### BOARD OF WORSHIP (SIX TOTAL MEMBERS)

Brenda Price (Unexpired term)  
Jud Bracey

Glenn Sweet  
Margaret Salimi

Drew Noffsinger  
Sue Lobello

### PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE (FIVE TOTAL: THREE ELECTED AND TWO APPOINTED BY THE PASTOR)

Dawn Scheick  
Pastoral Appointments (2):

Jan Sweet  
1. Mary Boyer

Judi Funk  
2. Lauren Lindsey

### FINANCE COMMITTEE (FIVE MEMBERS NOT COUNTING THE TWO EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS)

1. Olin Campbell (Financial Secretary) 2. Jeff Allen (Treasurer) 3. Gary Price 4. Bruce Blankenship  
Ex-officio – 1. Clarence Wright (Assistant Financial Secretary) 2. Craig Cobb (Assistant Treasurer)

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE (FIVE MEMBERS)

1. Chuck Scheick 2. Rebekah Hicks 3. Barbara Smith 4. Crystal Gray 5. Bob Boyer

# Weekly Events

Sundays	Sunday School AM Worship	9:15am 10:30am
Mondays	Celebrate Recovery	6:30pm
Tuesdays	Women's Bible Study (@ Sarah Cobb's house) Baptist Campus Ministry	1pm 8:38pm
Wednesdays	Midweek Service Chancel Choir Practice	6pm 7:15pm
Fridays	Code Blue (ages 13-17)	6pm-9pm

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

	January 4	January 11	January 18	January 25
<b>Nursery</b>	Wanda Steele	Christie Allen		Cheryl Wolfe
<b>Wee Church</b>	Rebekah Hicks	Koreen & Thomas Villers	Hayden & Heather Cottrill	Wes & Crystal Gray
<b>Junior Church</b>	Angel McCullough	Sara & Eddy Poling	Pete & Sarah Ferguson	Kelly Bracey

### COME SEE WHAT ABW HAS TO OFFER

American Baptist Women's Ministries will meet at 9:30am on Tuesday, January 6th.

Jody Sperry will be presenting.

**Bible Book of the Month - Acts**



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



To: Church congregation  
From: Mark Benjamin

Thank you for the prayer support. Looks like I will make a full recovery... Things are going well here. I know I'm not worried about my eyes, because I know God sees what's going on, and has a plan for every situation. Ministry is tough in north country, but it's a good way to get introduced into ministry. We got over 4 feet of snow up here now and winter is just starting. I'm back to work in the factory now. So thank the Lord Jesus for that. I'd like to pray that the Holy Spirit fills your church body, that's been my prayer fro Barbour County, that there is a move of the Holy Spirit there. Thank you for your prayers and be blessed, joyful and thankful always in Christ Jesus Amen. P.S. I want to encourage ya'll to use only weapons we have against the enemy prayer/fasting/ and knowing the Word.

# Upcoming Events

Thursday, January 1st– New Years Day– church office closed  
Saturday, January 3rd– 7:30am– Men’s Prayer Breakfast at the Medallion  
Sunday, January 4th– 10:30am– Communion & Deacon Relief Offering  
Monday, January 5th– 6:30pm– Celebrate Recovery begins  
Tuesday, January 6th– 9:30am– American Baptist Women’s meeting  
Thursday, January 8th– 6:30pm– Christian Men’s group meets at the Market Place  
Sunday, January 11th– 6:00pm– All boards meet  
7:30pm– Church Council meeting  
Sunday, January 18th– 11:45am– Annual Business meeting  
4:00pm– Mansfield Place Chapel service led by Pastor Jon



## Men’s Prayer Breakfast

Sat., January 3rd @  
7:30am  
At the Medallion



The annual business will be January 18th following the worship service. All annual reports must be turned in to Lucretia by January 9th.



All board secretaries please check with Lucretia to make sure she has all your board’s minutes from the year.



Philippi Baptist Church  
69 Church Street  
Philippi, WV 26416

# Celebrate Recovery

## Barbour County

A Christ-Centered Recovery Program

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



Philippi Baptist Church