



# The Baptist Bridge

June 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, CR Leader

Hannah Dixon—Praise Team Leader  
Lucretia Moyer, Secretary

Michele Moore, Choir Accompanist

Marj Campbell, Organist  
Zvezdana Vlasic, Custodian



Hello column readers! God's provision brought me through a car wreck that involved rolling twice before we came to a stop! We praise the Lord no one was severely injured! When I ran across this article by Michael Cooper, it spoke to my heart! He wrote it with Pastor's in mind, but I think all can find nuggets of truth and encouragement within the words! Blessings to you all!

### You Are His: Experiencing Romans 8 in Times of Weariness

Life is tough. Attempting to live for Jesus in this world is tough. But seeking to serve Jesus and His church in this world is ridiculously tough! Sometimes the weight of pastoral work can overwhelm us. This is why we need to hear God's reaffirming Word. I'm not speaking specifically about a reaffirmation of our call as pastors. We need to hear Him say, "You are my child."

This is the point of Romans 8. Personally, Romans 8 is a balm to my weary soul. I need to see this beautiful Mount Everest of the Bible. I want to share with you five key truths that I pray will provide rest for your weary soul.

First: You've been liberated to live for Jesus. (Romans 8:1-13)

Here is the good news pastor: You are not condemned because you've been set free from the power of sin through the Spirit and because you've been set free from the penalty of sin through Jesus. This allows you to live the life God wants you to live. But you can't live the way God wants by the flesh but only through the Spirit.

The reason for this is that the flesh leads to death. Also the flesh is unable to submit to God and it cannot please God. To walk according to the flesh is to have one's life determined by the values of this world. But to walk according to the Spirit is to live under the control of the Spirit. The Spirit is the mark that you belong to Christ and have the power of the Risen Christ in you. So brother you don't have to live by the flesh but you can, by the Spirit, put to death the flesh.

Second: The Spirit dwells in you. (Romans 8:14-17)

God doesn't leave you on your own, rather He sent His Spirit to dwell in you. Remember that the Spirit leads you as God's son. Also you've received the Spirit of adoption. You don't have the spirit of slavery leading to fear of condemnation and judgment. Since you are adopted you have a New Father, you experience full family rights (co-heirs) and His legal protections (no separation). And primarily you get to have a relationship with your Father.

When you doubt, know that the Spirit testifies that you are God's child. The Spirit bears witness that you are part of God's New Family. This testimony is confirmed in the deepest depths of your soul—subjective experience that confirms an objective reality. This happens as the Word and Spirit work together in your life.

Third: The present is pointing to the future. (Romans 8:18-27)

As a pastor, you experience first hand the present sufferings of this age. You see the raw humanity of those you seek to serve. But the present sufferings don't compare to the future glory. Nor do the depression, anxiety, and fear pastors experience in this life compare to the future glory.

Paul reminds us that all of creation groans for the revelation of the Sons of God. Creation is waiting for that one moment at the end of history when we will be revealed. Creation is longing to be liberated from the curse of the Fall. Creation groans for the future unveiling.

But you also know that the present sufferings don't compare because right now you are groaning for the resurrection of the body. The hope of the New Testament is the final resurrection from the dead. This is the hope in which you were saved, pastor! This is a living hope. And though you don't see it now, one day the very thing God's word promises will be seen with your eyes.

Fourth: God is working all things out. (Romans 8:28-30)

But does this hope dismiss the trials of your life now? Pastoral ministry is difficult. You will still have to preach funerals and ministry to broken people. The ups and downs hurt. It seems at time that everything in ministry leads to chaos. But you can trust that God is working all things together for good. Rest in the fact that nothing is outside the control of God's providence. Nothing takes God by surprise; nothing is beyond his sovereign activity.

You can know that all things work together for good because God has loved you and has chosen you before time to look like Jesus. You can believe that God is in the process of working all things together because God has summoned you into a relationship with Him. Believe that God is sovereignly orchestrating your life because God has declared you in right standing through the death of Jesus. Finally rest knowing that God is working it all out because God has already chosen to glorify you in the future. From beginning to end, God is working in your life.



Fifth: No one can accuse or condemn you. (Romans 8:31-39) In the course of your ministry some will seek to accuse you of things you didn't do. Many will seek to condemn you because of something you said. But in the eyes of God no one is able to prevail against you because of God's love. Since God has worked on our behalf, no one can be against us. Because of God's love, in providing Christ for you and justifying you, no one can prevail against you either by word or deed. No one can accuse you and no one can condemn you.

Satan cannot condemn you. Your sin cannot condemn you. Your past cannot condemn you. You yourself cannot condemn you!

Lastly nothing is able to separate you from God's love. Specifically, no amount of external opposition can separate you. The people of God have always and will continue to experience opposition in this life. But you have a new identity in Christ. You are triumphant over these things and absolutely nothing can separate you from him—not even death or the problems of life. No spiritual power in hell can distance you from God's love. Despite the trials, circumstances, and sufferings in this life, nothing is able to separate you from God's love. His love is stronger than those things that attempt to separate us from him.

God's love for His Son is never-ending and, because you are in Christ, you can never experience a moment in which God will never stop loving you. His love for you is not predicated on your performance but on Christ's work on your behalf.

So remember: before you are a pastor, you are His child. Nothing can separate you from His love. The Spirit leads you. The present doesn't compare to the future. God is working all things out for God. And you are not condemned. Experience the beauty of a Romans 8 life. Find relief for your weary soul in the truth of God's Word. Remember, you are His.

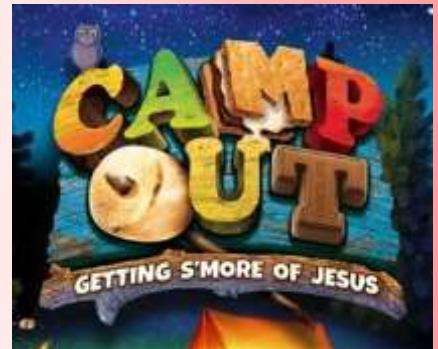
Mark your calendars:



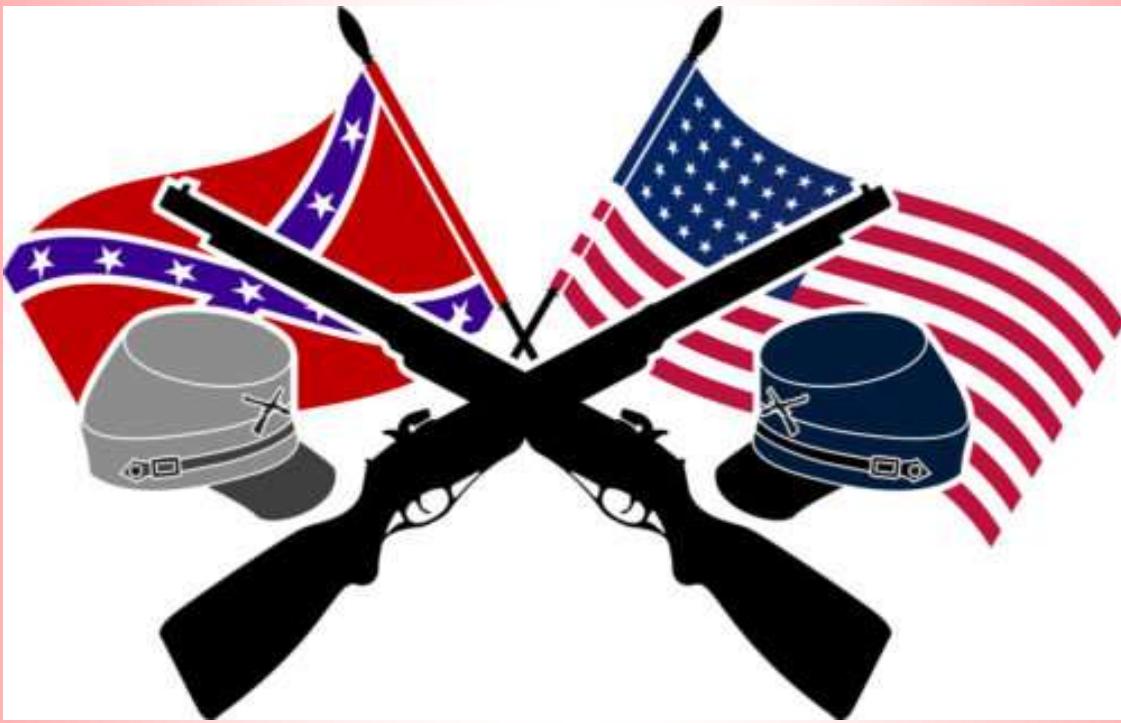
June 11<sup>th</sup> at 6PM- School of Missions with the Myers' (Keith, Debbie, Boyden & Baillie), American Baptist missionaries to Mexico. We will be serving salads and desserts.

July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6PM- School of Missions with Michael Perry, American Baptist short term missionary to Liberia. We will be having appetizers and desserts.

Vacation Bible School will be Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The theme is Campout: Getting S'more of Jesus. We are looking for volunteers to lead groups, help with stations, etc. If interested, please sign the sign-up sheet in the foyer.



Thank you to Madison Riffle for her years of service at both Philippi Baptist Church and Code Blue. Our prayers continue to be with her in her youth ministry calling.



## Blue & Gray at PBC

Few churches in the United States can claim a distinction of Philippi Baptist Church. Four of its ministers were involved in the Civil War, two on each side. They were Lloyd Holden, J.M. Burgess, L.B. Moore, and J.A.J. Lightburn. Holden served Harrison County as a representative in the Confederate state government in Richmond. Historian Floyd Holden, a distant relative, said, "Lloyd W. Holden could have had any office to which he might have aspired, but he chose like Moses." After the war Representative Holden became a preacher and served many churches. The date of his coming to Philippi is unknown, but he resigned from the church in 1879 to become state missions secretary for the Baptists.

The Rev. J.M. Burgess, who pastored Philippi Baptist Church from 1888 to 1897, was a Confederate soldier and was an orderly for General Robert E. Lee during the battle of Gettysburg. He was a grandson of the first pastor of the church, Solomon Jarvis.

The Rev. L.B. Moore, in contrast, was a Union soldier who was wounded during the Virginia campaign. His pastorate covered the years 1901 to 1904.

Most widely known of the four Civil War veteran-ministers was the Rev. J.A.J. Lightburn, a brigadier general in the Union army and veteran of many key battles. Born in Pennsylvania, he moved with his family to Lewis County, WV, and worked on the family farm. With the onset of the Mexican War, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was discharged in 1851. In 1859 he was licensed as a Baptist minister. Appointed as Colonel of the 4<sup>th</sup> (West) Virginia Infantry Regiment in 1861, he and his men served under General George B. McClellan. He has been described as "a most able officer to execute any plans or order placed in his hands."

In 1863, Lightburn was appointed Brigadier General and served in the Army of the Tennessee. Later, he fought under Major General William T. Sherman in the battle of Missionary Ridge. He was also involved in the Atlanta campaign and in the battles of Resaca, Dallas, Kennesaw Mountain, and Ezra Church. After being wounded, he resigned from the army in June of 1865.

Lightburn was a classmate and boyhood friend of Stonewall Jackson and reportedly wept when he heard of Jackson's death. Records indicate that his tenure in the Philippi church was brief, lasting only from 1883 to 1884, but that was followed by a long ministry at the Broad Run Baptist Church in Lewis County. His grave can be found in the churchyard there.



AB University, Faculty, staff, and students  
Barbour County Homeless  
Phil Bowers and other officials  
Mike Burr  
Lynsie & John Carter  
Celebrate Recovery  
Code Blue  
Sam Duffy  
Frank Field  
Noah Findley  
Anthony Hinkle  
Charles Hinkle  
Stephanie Hinkle  
Hinkle family  
Tommy Knotts  
Bailey Larrison  
Leadership  
Local ministries  
Teresa Marsh  
Mark Morgan  
Judy Mossburg  
Kenny Phillips Sr.  
Debbie Spinnenweber  
Darlene Waddell  
Bill Walker  
Jim Warfuel  
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 (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

**Happy Birthday!**

- 2– Blair Marks
- 3- Jennifer Weyandt
- 10– Judi Funk
- 15- Lewis Villers
- 16- Elaine Abrams
- 16– Wanda Steele
- 21– Scott Springer
- 21- Robert Ball
- 22- Graham Klaus
- 26– Gary Price
- 26– Joann Marsh
- 27- Maci Oiler
- 28– Marilyn Runion
- 28– Barbara Springer
- 28– Dan Unger
- 30– Chuck Scheick

# 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 June

	<b>June 4th</b>	<b>June 11th</b>	<b>June 18th</b>	<b>June 25th</b>
<b>Nursery</b>	Wanda Steele	Rebekah Hicks & Margaret Salimi	Zvezdana Vlasic & 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

# American Baptist Women's MINISTRIES

*Happy Anniversary*

American Baptist Women's Ministries will meet at 9:30AM on Tuesday, June 6th

...How God Sees You

Bible Book of the Month - I & II Thessalonians

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

- 2– Bob & Mary Boyer
  - 14– Blair & Pearl Marks
  - 15– Dennis & Nancy Stull
  - 26– David & Marilyn Runion
  - 27– J. D. & Linda Long



Adopt-A-Highway update: Four hearty souls braved the cold, rainy weather conditions on Saturday morning, May 6, to complete our AAH cleanup effort, following the Men's breakfast at the Medallion Restaurant: Gerald Fogg, Scott Springer, Clarence Wright and Craig Cobb. Together we removed 10 bags of litter from our 2.2 mile section of Rt. 119, between the Covered Bridge and the Rt. 57 intersection. Thanks guys!"

# Upcoming Events

Thursday, June 1st– Sunday, June 4th– Blue & Gray Weekend  
Thursday, June 1st- 5:45PM– Blue & Gray Choir Rehearsal  
Friday, June 2nd– 9:00AM– Blue & Gray Kids' Day  
Saturday, June 3rd– 3:00PM– Blue & Gray Choir Concert  
Sunday, June 4th– 10:30AM– PBC Choir Service/ Communion/ Deacon Relief Offering  
11:45AM– Fellowship Luncheon  
6:00PM– Diaconate Meeting  
6:00PM– Union Association Cluster Service at Middleville Baptist  
Tuesday, June 6th– 9:30AM– American Baptist Women's Ministry Meeting  
Sunday, June 11th– Friday, June 16th– Cornwell Mission team staying at PBC  
Sunday, June 11th– 12:00PM– Board of Christian Education Meeting  
4:00PM– Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting  
6:00PM– Board of Trustees Meeting  
6:00PM– School of Missions with the Myers Family  
Saturday, June 17th– 9:00AM– CRBC Service training  
Sunday, June 18th– Fathers' Day  
1:30PM– Memorial Service for Jean Roy  
Saturday, June 24th– 9:00AM- Worship Conference at Clarksburg Baptist  
Sunday, June 25th– Saturday, July 1st– Junior II Camp at Camp Cowen  
Sunday, June 25th– 4:30PM– Board of Mission & Outreach Meeting  
5:30PM– Board of Worship Meeting  
Friday, June 30th– Sunday, July 2nd– ABS/USA Mission Summit in Portland, Oregon

Because of Blue and Gray there will be no Men's Prayer Breakfast on June 3rd.

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



Anthony Hinkle is in need of a car to get to and from work. If you are able to help or know of a good car please contact him at 304-672-1916



During the months of June and July the Board of Missions and Outreach will be collecting canned meat and dried beans for Heart & Hand.

# One Great HOUR OF SHARING

“ I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink...” Matthew 25:35

“ I was hungry and you gave me something to eat...” Matthew 25:35

“ I was a stranger and you welcomed me...” Matthew 25:35

**Our Goal: \$1200**



**One Great Hour  
OF SHARING**

# Sharing Calendar 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
"... Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples and said, 'Take; eat; this is my body.' Matthew 26:26 Give 2 units in thanksgiving for Jesus' incarnation.	800 million, or approximately 1 in 9, people in the world do not regularly have enough to eat. Give 1 unit for every meal you eat today.	In 2016, droughts caused severe food shortages in Ethiopia, Central America, and elsewhere. Give 1 unit for every grocery store in your town or neighborhood.	Since 1990, the number of malnourished people in the developing world has fallen by almost half, thanks to food security projects, and development projects. Give 1 unit in celebration of this progress and 1 unit to continue the work.	Being able to start a vegetable garden, with seeds provided through OGHS partners, can provide food and economic security. Give 1 unit for each vegetable in your refrigerator.	The U.S. wastes 33 million tons of food — \$165 billion worth — each year. Give 1 unit in repentance for each food item that has gone bad in your refrigerator / pantry this week.	"I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat." Give 3 units to provide food for someone who is hungry.
"A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.'" John 4:7 We remember that Jesus shared in the human experience of thirst. Give 1 unit for every drink you have today.	663 million people worldwide do not have regular access to clean water. Give 1 unit for every water bottle in your home.	Rain collection, cisterns, and irrigation systems help communities mitigate drought conditions. Give 1 unit if you have ever collected rain water.	1.9 billion people have gained access to clean drinking water since 1990. Give 1 unit in celebration of this progress and 1 unit to continue the work.	Women and girls in Africa and Asia often spend more than 6 hours collecting water every day. Give 2 units if your commute was less than 6 hours today.	The water crisis in Flint, MI brought to public attention the severe effects of contaminants in water supplies and the importance of good infrastructure. Give 1 unit for every tap in your home.	"I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink." Give 3 units to increase access to clean water by helping communities build wells, small dams, cisterns, and filtration systems.
"You are no longer strangers ... but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God" Ephesians 2:19 Give 2 units in celebration of the full household of God.	More than 65 million people have been forcibly displaced from their homes worldwide. Give 1 unit if home is a place where you feel safe.	OGHS partners help settle more than 7000 refugees in the United States every year. Give 1 unit in celebration of these efforts, and 1 unit to continue the work.	"Jesus said, 'let the little children come to me.'" Mark 10:14 More than 2000 children are being held in family detention centers in the US awaiting asylum hearings. Give 1 unit for every child in your family.	Nearly 10 million displaced persons are categorized as stateless (not considered a national of any country). Give 1 unit if you enjoy the benefits of citizenship.	Poverty and hunger are key reasons for unauthorized immigration from Latin America to the U.S. Give two units to help address these root causes.	"I was a stranger, and you welcomed me." Give 3 units to support relief and resettlement efforts for refugees and humanitarian responses for immigrants.
"But a Samaritan while traveling came near him ... He went to him and bandaged his wounds ... brought him to a inn, and took care of him." Luke 10:33-34 Give 2 units in thankfulness for those who show mercy.	Waterborne illnesses kill more people than all forms of war and violence combined, but access to clean water and adequate sanitation can prevent the spread of these illnesses. Give 1 unit for every toilet in your home.	In 2015, more than 300,000 women died from maternal causes. Give 2 units if the women you know have access to reproductive care.	OGHS partners help provide basic medical supplies and psychological care to thousands of people living in refugee camps. Give 1 unit for every bottle of medicine in your home.	Environmental toxins such as fertilizers and industrial waste contribute to weakened immune responses, especially in children. Give 1 unit if anyone in your family has recovered from an illness this year.	"I was sick, and you took care of me." Give 3 units to help provide medical care and prevent illness around the world.	"I was a sick person." Give 3 units to help provide medical care and prevent illness around the world.

I was hungry...

I was thirsty...

I was a stranger...

I was sick...





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