



The Baptist Bridge

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.

November 2017

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



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You can give online at pbcwv.net



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

Hannah Dixon, Praise Team Leader
Brenna Dugan, Assistant Praise Team Leader

Michele Moore, Pianist
Lucretia Moyer, Secretary

Marj Campbell, Organist
Zvezdana Vlastic, Custodian



On a Friday, 50 years ago, I came into this world at St. Joes Hospital in Huntington WV! Oct. 27th fell on a Friday again this year as well!! I went through some historical searches and the top headlines when I was born all seemed to be centered on the Vietnam War. A huge protest had just taken place in Washington and marched to the pentagon. And some community leaders had poured blood on selective service papers as a symbol of protest.

The headlines back then offered little hope.

Derwin Gray wrote an article for Christianity today a few years ago entitled: How Can We Have Hope When Everything Looks Hopeless?

“In Romans 5:3-5, Paul says that we can rejoice in our sufferings because we are a people of hope: “Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us” (Rom. 5:3-5, ESV).

So, how can we have hope when everything looks hopeless? In the midst of suffering, we can rejoice because these challenges cause us to:

1. Rely on God's presence

Rejoicing in suffering does not mean celebrating when bad news comes. But, it does mean that we can believe that God is doing a redemptive work. This word “redemptive” means that God does not waste a hurt or disappointment. He is using them to shape and build us into the image of Jesus, which is his highest passion. When we go through suffering, we often pray and seek God more intensely than at other times. My greatest times of growth have been when I've reached the end of my resources and all I have left is Jesus. God uses suffering to make us rely on his presence.

In Psalm 23:4, David writes that he does not fear because God is with him. He relies on God's presence, and it brings him strength and comfort. Remember that for there to be a shadow, there has to be a light. I don't know what your “valley of the shadow of death” is, but I do know who the Light is that is walking with you in that valley.

In another Psalm, David reveals that one of the reasons for his joy is that he is forgiven: “Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven whose sins are covered (Ps. 31:1, NIV). We can't determine God's love for us based on good or bad circumstances. We determine his love based on the cross and what he did for us on it.

2. Rely on God's provision

In 2 Corinthians 12:7, Paul reveals that he has suffered from a “thorn in the flesh.” God was so concerned about Paul not becoming proud he allowed this to happen to him to prevent him from becoming conceited. In our current situations, God is saying to us that his grace is sufficient, and even when we feel weak, he is making us stronger than we have ever been. His grace is not an abstract idea. It is the person of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. The hell you are going through may be the very circumstance God uses to take you to a whole new level.

3. Rely on God's power

“Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses so that the power of Christ may rest upon me” (2 Cor. 12:9b, ESV).

What is your weakness? Maybe it is a son or a daughter that hasn't quite turned out the way you thought he or she would. A job situation that has gone awry. A medical diagnosis that has scared you. Maybe, like Paul, it is also insults, hardships, or persecutions. Whatever it is, Paul says he will boast in those things because when we are weak, the power of Christ rests on us.

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Maybe you hear voices telling you to just quit, give up, and let it go. Don't stop. When you are weak, then he is strong. Remember the greater the attack against you, the greater Christ is in you, but you have to rely on his presence, his provision and his power.

This week take a moment to write down what you are suffering from or struggling with and place it in an envelope. On the outside, write, “God's got this, and he is transforming me.” Now when that challenge comes to mind remember to rely on him.”

May we all continue to find hope for the next 50 years and beyond!!



AB University, Faculty, staff, and students
 Barbour County Homeless
 Phil Bowers and other officials
 Mike Burr
 Gwen Carpenter
 Celebrate Recovery
 Code Blue
 Delsey Corley
 Jamie Deem
 Noah Findley
 Hurricanes and earthquakes
 Tommy Knotts
 Leadership
 Sue Lobello
 Local ministries
 David Mellquist family
 Judy Mossburg
 Debbie Mulneix
 Braden, max & Henry Scheick
 Stevie Seago
 Cindy Strakal
 Jim Warfuel
 Ashlee Weyandt
 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.



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



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



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



Praises

Constance Brown
 Chuck Scheick
 Marija Sommer
 Maddison Riffle & Alex Stout

Upcoming Events

Saturday, November 4th– 7:30AM– Men’s Prayer Breakfast at the Medallion
Sunday, November 5th– 10:30AM– Worship, Communion & Deacon Relief Offering
11:45AM- ABU Mission Team Spaghetti Fundraiser
3:00PM– Community Choir Practice
4:30PM– Diaconate meeting
6:00PM– Union Association Cluster Service at Mount Carmel Baptist
Sunday, November 12th– 3:00PM– Community Choir practice
3:00PM– American Baptist Women’s Meeting
6:00PM– Board of Trustees Meeting
Sunday, November 12th– Wednesday, November 15th– Jesus Week at AB
Saturday, November 18th– 9:00AM– CR Leadership Training
Sunday, November 19th– 11:45AM– Quarterly Business Meeting
4:30PM- Board of Missions & Outreach Meeting
Tuesday, November 21st– 11:30AM– Pastoral Relations Committee meeting at Gypsy’s on Main
Thursday, November 23rd– **Happy Thanksgiving!**- Church Office will be closed
Saturday, November 25th– 10:00AM– Hanging of the Greens
Sunday, November 26th– 3:00PM– Community Choir Practice
5:00PM– Board of Worship Meeting



ABW will meet Sunday afternoon, November 12th at 3PM.
All women are invited to attend.



The Board of Missions and Outreach will be collecting cake mixes and tubs of icing during October and November.



Pictured above are five of the six hearty souls who helped with Philippi Baptist’s Adopt-A-Highway fall cleanup on Saturday morning, September 30, 2017. Left to right are Josh Gilpin, Scott Springer, Megan Ray, Clarence Wright and Gerald Fogg. Not shown is Craig Cobb who took the photo. Together we collected 12 bags of trash and debris from our assigned, 2.2 mile section of Rt. 119, between the Covered Bridge and the Rt. 57 intersection. Thanks everyone, and God Bless!

international ministries



Dear Friends of International Ministries,

Hello and greetings in the name of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus!

The gospel of Jesus Christ is changing lives around the world, and we, like you, are privileged to be a part of fulfilling God's global mission *on earth as it is in heaven*.

Jesus invited his disciples, "come, follow me." (Mark 1:17) For those men, it meant leaving fishing nets behind to become "fishers of men." Today, that invitation is still ours to take in and live out.

IM global servants work in cross-cultural settings to extend Jesus' invitation through American Baptist churches and beyond in many creative ways. This year, we've put a brand new effort into filming how this work is taking place through three major initiatives: Peace and Justice in Egypt, Abolishing Global Slavery in Thailand and Economic and Community Development in Chile. The videos will help those of us on the home front to see the sights and hear the sounds of the ministries and global servants that we support as they fulfill God's mission on earth in Jesus' name. The scope of God's work in the world is truly breathtaking.

I can say from personal experience that nothing compares with visiting global servants where they are stationed when it comes to getting a tangible sense of their good work. These videos are the next best thing. In them, you will see what your sacrificial giving is making possible around the world— how so many people have come to know and follow Christ as the Good News carried by your global servants changes lives and communities.

The World Mission Offering makes it possible for us to train new global servants, care for the ones on the field and provide the services and resources that they need. I urge you and your church to set aside time on four Sundays in September or October to show these videos during your service. I recommend showing the three longer videos first, followed by the final compilation on the last Sunday. As a former pastor, I fully understand that time during Sunday services is always precious and in high demand. But I invite you to prayerfully consider showing these videos as an opportunity to remember our global servants and the great work being done by our great God in communities around the world.

Please join me in praying for our global servants together and in giving cheerfully and generously to the World Mission Offering as the Lord Jesus leads us to give.

Gratefully,

Sharon Koh
Executive Director / CEO

P.S. You may have noticed that we've changed the IM brand mark. The new logo is meant to convey that God's work in and through IM encompasses the entire world and makes an impact beyond what the eye can see, just as the letters "IM" stretch across the entire circle and continue invisibly beyond. The new color represents our vibrant and passionate endeavor to respond to God's call to global mission. We're working hard to bring a new and refreshed look to our 203-year-old mission society. We are very proud of our centuries of global ministry and continue to strive to communicate our stories better. We also encourage you to experience our redesigned, mobile-friendly website at www.internationalministries.org.

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	6pm 7:15pm

Children's Volunteer Watch and Teach Calendar for November

	November 5th	November 12th	November 19th	November 26th
Nursery	Wanda & Jim Steele	Rebekah Hicks & Margaret Salimi	Zvezdana Vlastic & Bonnie Daugherty	Cheryl Wolfe & Hannah Dixon
Children's Church	Kelly Bracey & Jennifer Weyandt	Koreen & Thomas Villers	Sarah, Pete & Sam Ferguson	Crystal & Wes Gray



Men's Prayer
Breakfast on Nov.
4th at 7:30AM at
the Medallion

Happy Anniversary

1- David & Roconda Daugherty
21- Chris & Jean Irvine
22- Tom & Hayley Dadisman

Happy Birthday!

3- Dorothy Hayhurst
7- Bob Boyer
11- Samuel Ferguson
11- Andrew Funk
11- Jack Funk (twin)
12- Phyllis Martin
17- Kendra Waddell Unger
18- David Runion
19- Rebekah Hicks
19- Stephen Redd
19- Don Smith
20- Ross Campbell
20- Jon Wright
21- Kathy Lind
21- Donovan Price
21- Priscilla Wonkka
22- Kathy McBee
23- Linda Howell
25- Sarah Ayers
26- Steve Markwood
26- Michael Wolfe
29- Gerald Fogg

BARBOUR COUNTY COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

COMMUNITY CHOIR INFORMATION

A community choir is being formed to perform additional selections on the concert. We are seeking choristers for this choir.

- Jud Bracey will direct the choir, which will be accompanied by Michele Moore. Jud and Michele are the musical leaders of the Blue and Gray Community Choir, some members of which have already agreed to participate in this concert.
- All music will be provided; no individual or church will need to purchase music.
- Singers do **not** have to have had any formal training, but should have good musical "ears" and **be able to carry a part**.
- In order to reduce the amount of advance rehearsal, the choir will prepare only a few selections. The rehearsal schedule is as follows:
 - ◆ Rehearsals are on **Sunday afternoons from 3:00-4:30 at Philippi Baptist Church.**
 - ◆ Rehearsal dates: November 5, 12, 26, and December 3. (Notice that Sunday 11/19 is being skipped).
 - ◆ Participants agree to be present for all rehearsal. Exceptions can be negotiated with Jud.
- There are no specific dress requirements. Whatever persons wear for their own church performances is completely acceptable. Holiday/seasonal attire will be welcome. (Let's not have extra-silly stuff like illuminated reindeer antler headgear, though!)

Persons interested in participating may contact Jud (information on reverse side).

Philippi Baptist church is looking to fill their youth leader position. Applicants must submit to the church office a resume and cover letter explaining why they are interested.





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

