



# The Baptist Bridge

August 2013

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



## Inside this Issue

*Pastor's Message... 2*  
*Birthdays & Anniversaries... 4*  
*Prayer requests... 4*  
*Getting to Know... 5*  
*Puzzle... 6*  
*Schedules... 7*  
*Announcements & Events... 3, 7-8*

Catch us on the radio live every Sunday Morning at 10:30a.m. WQAB 91.3 FM

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Patience was the topic for our message at Philippi Baptist on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013. We are making our sermons available online at [pbcwv.net](http://pbcwv.net). You can access the sermon section by going to the tab at the top called more and clicking on the option “Sermons.” We are also making the minutes from all Boards and Committees of PBC. Please contact the church office for the password to access all the minutes.

I’ve always been cautioned about praying for patience! The experiences given to you to receive it may be more than you bargained! Special thanks to Jill Briscoe for a great devotion on this topic as well! I pray this article finds you experiencing the Peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

by Jill Briscoe ([justbetweenus.org](http://justbetweenus.org))

Paul writes, “Love is patient and kind” (1 Cor. 13:4). Most of us find that we can love those who are easy to love, but what about those who are hard to love or those who drive us up the wall?

We have been told to love, for love is not an option. We have been given by the Spirit the ability to love with agape love. Patience is another name for love, for Paul explained that “love is patient.” Therefore, as we work through our difficult relationships, we will need to be patient.

The meaning of the word patience (in Greek, *macrothumea*) is “longsuffering” or “slow to anger.” Love suffers because it is the nature of love to suffer. Remember what C.S. Lewis said: “Love anything, and your heart will certainly be wrung and possibly broken!” But there is no alternative. We are not only called to love, we are also commanded to love.

Such love means loving not only when your heart is whole, but loving when your heart is broken. It means loving when the person you are trying to love is continuously hurting you afresh. Long-suffering means that love suffers well. Being inordinately fond of myself, I don’t “do” pain very well. In fact, I don’t do pain at all if I can help it! Do you? Who’s for pain? The whole ethos of our society, as C.S. Lewis said, is to “embrace pleasure and eschew pain.” It takes a radical act of God in our lives to so change our hearts that we are willing to embrace pain and eschew pleasure – to suffer for the sake of love! Yet, if that’s what it takes to love someone, it must be done.

God is very good at loving people who hurt Him and are very hard to love. When Jesus was frustrated with the disciples one time, He said to them, “How long must I suffer you?” (Matt. 17:17). He then went on “suffering” them for a considerable time because He knew that this was God’s will for Him and He willed to do God’s will. Long-suffering means being patient with an insufferable situation or person – even when you are hurting badly yourself – because it is the will of God. It hurts terribly to love at times like that, but that is what agape love does.

How long does your patience last? Does it last 120 years, 120 minutes, or 120 seconds? To have the patience God wants us to have, we need Jesus. Patience loves on to give time for God’s redemptive power to do its work. Love gives us the power to suffer long when we desperately want things to change.

Kindness Is Patience In Action

Paul says that not only is love patient, it is also kind. Kindness is the active part of patience. Patience is being good, while kindness is doing good. Kindness is goodness showing. Love is kind to those who would do it harm. Jesus said that we are to love even our enemies. To do that, we definitely need Him!

Being Kind To Those Who Hurt Us

I think of an incredible example of such kindness in the life experience of Tania Rich, a young mother serving the Lord with her husband in the jungle. Read her story:

January 31, 1993, was “just a regular day in the village.”...Suddenly, Tania heard loud noises, gunshots, and shouting. Guerillas had surrounded the village and had entered each of the three missionaries’ homes. A gunman came into the bedroom where Tania was with her sleeping children. She came out with him, and saw that Mark (her husband) was with two other guerillas who had him face down, his hands tied behind his back. Mark shouted in Spanish for the gunman to leave Tania alone and not harm her. The gunman approached Tania and demanded money, and she complied. Then he asked for coffee and sugar. In recalling the incident, Tania laughed, “When the gunman fumbled with the money and the packages of food, I found myself asking, ‘Would you like a bag for that?’ He just stared at me incredulously!”

Now there you have it! A practical act of love! Love does good to those who would do it harm. Tania found that what was inside of her – the love of Jesus – came out in a terrible time of crisis. She offered something to her husband’s persecutors. (There were three missionary families living in the village, and the guerillas took the three men. Sadly, the men were never found but were declared dead in 2001.) Tania loved the people she and Mark had gone to help find the Lord. When the big test came, she reacted out of that love in an astonishing act of kindness. Love does good to those who do it harm.

Think of Jesus. He healed His enemies (the servant of the high priest whose ear Peter severed in the Garden of Gethsemane) and prayed for the soldiers who were crucifying Him: “Father, forgive these people, because they don’t know what they are doing” (Lk. 23:34).



### Being Kind To Those Who Don't Deserve It

Let's bring this closer to home. Not too many of us are asked for such displays of endurance and courage. But many of us have teenagers. Those of us who have teenagers or have raised them know what a difficult stage this is.

Our daughter and I got into difficulties when she would not pick up her room. Try as I might to bully, threaten, or cajole, she would not clean it. The issue became a flash point. One day I was asking advice from a wise woman at church. "Just try being kind to her," she suggested.

"She doesn't deserve it!" I replied.

She smiled understandingly. "That's what kindness is for. Anyway, you have tried everything else, why not pick up her room for her and see if that will work?"

I had nothing to lose, so I did. Four days later there was no response, and I was just about to give up. Then my daughter burst into tears and said she was sorry. "What made you say you're sorry?" I asked. "You've been so kind to me, Mom," she replied.

It might not work for you, but in the face of such resistance to persuasion, being patiently kind when someone doesn't deserve it may actually get you somewhere. After all, "God's kindness led you toward repentance" (Rom. 2:4). So the kindness of God through you may lead others to repentance, too!

### The Gift Of Frustration

It is important to recognize that any frustrating situation that requires patience is God's gift to you. A gift that, if received with the right attitude, will present the opportunity to spend some time in God's waiting room practicing patience. Frustration is often God's way of driving us to Him.

You win half the battle already when you recognize the problem is a gift. It is a gift because these types of situations enable you to experience the love of God in a special way. People are receptive when they are struggling with frustration. If they are expecting others to act with frustration, they cave in if you exhibit kindness. If you can go beyond sounding kind to being kind and doing an outrageous act of kindness, this speaks louder than a thousand words. It can open people up to hear about the Lord. Think of Mother Teresa and how her practical acts of love on the streets of Calcutta spoke about the love of Christ to the dying and destitute. Kindness is the active part of patience. Patience is being good and kindness is doing good. The helpful thing about doing good is that you don't have to wait till you feel like doing good to do it. Try doing it when you don't feel like it.

Is your love patient and kind? Remember, the Holy Spirit dwells in your hearts to be all the things you are not. Draw on this resource. Love that works, works at love. There is no other way.

Shalom,  
Pastor Jon

The Board of Trustees would like to encourage all visitors to check in with Lucretia during normal business hours, Monday through Friday 9am-1pm.



The church office will be closed Monday, September 2nd in observance of Labor Day.



Congratulations to Elizabeth Sweet and Matthew Barnes who wed on Saturday, June 8th.



--Heart & Hand Thrift Store--  
**VOLUNTEER NIGHT--**  
Monday, August 5th  
-6:30 to 8:00 p.m.  
**COME JOIN THE FUN!**



A-B College, President Creehan faculty, staff and students

- Bryson Akingbemi
- Vernon Barley
- Lee Beuckman
- Rev. Paul Byrd
- Holly Camacho
- Camp Cowen staff
- Audrey Cross
- Clinton Dean
- Todd Dumire
- Melissa Franke's Aunt Gail
- Rita Franke
- Joe & Beverly Gouer
- Vivian Hathaway
- Christina Maddy
- Amanda Means
- Donna Moore
- Debbie Mulneix
- Frankie Poling
- Butch Price
- Steve Richter
- Dorine Righman
- Mary Selvaggi
- Kaley Sinsel
- Jim Stright
- Rusty Thompson
- Gavin Tucker

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.



- Otilia Franke (Mansfield Place), Blair & Pearl Marks,
- Dr. Shearer, Mary Tamulitis
- Vangie Shaffer: (Mansfield Place), Germaine (Good Samaritan)
- Austin Whitman,

# Praises

- Margaret Salimi
- Germaine Whitman
- Christina Wood



- 4- Debbie Mulneix
- 4- Michele Moore
- 8- Jennifer Kines
- 9- Filip Vlastic
- 11- James Steele
- 12- Caitlin Davis
- 12- Carol Yount
- 14- John Cain
- 17- Shirley Jacobs
- 19- Clarence Wright
- 22- Dawn Scheick
- 22- Germaine Whitman
- 24- Dean Mulneix



- 5- Jeff & Christie Allen
- 7- Chuck & Dawn Scheick
- 11- Gerald Fogg & Beth Longo
- 26- Everett & Jody Sperry
- 28- Skip & Carol Ervin



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

- Tim Jenkins,
- Chris Mossburg,
- Major Kris Wood
- Captain Aaron Cross
- Corporal Charles Jackson James (injured)



### Profiling a True Philippi Baptist Church Mission

Mountain Hospice, which now serves seven counties in this north central region of West Virginia, had an inauspicious beginning. Initial meetings were held in 1990 in the auditorium of Broaddus Hospital and a hat was passed for donations to get the organization started.

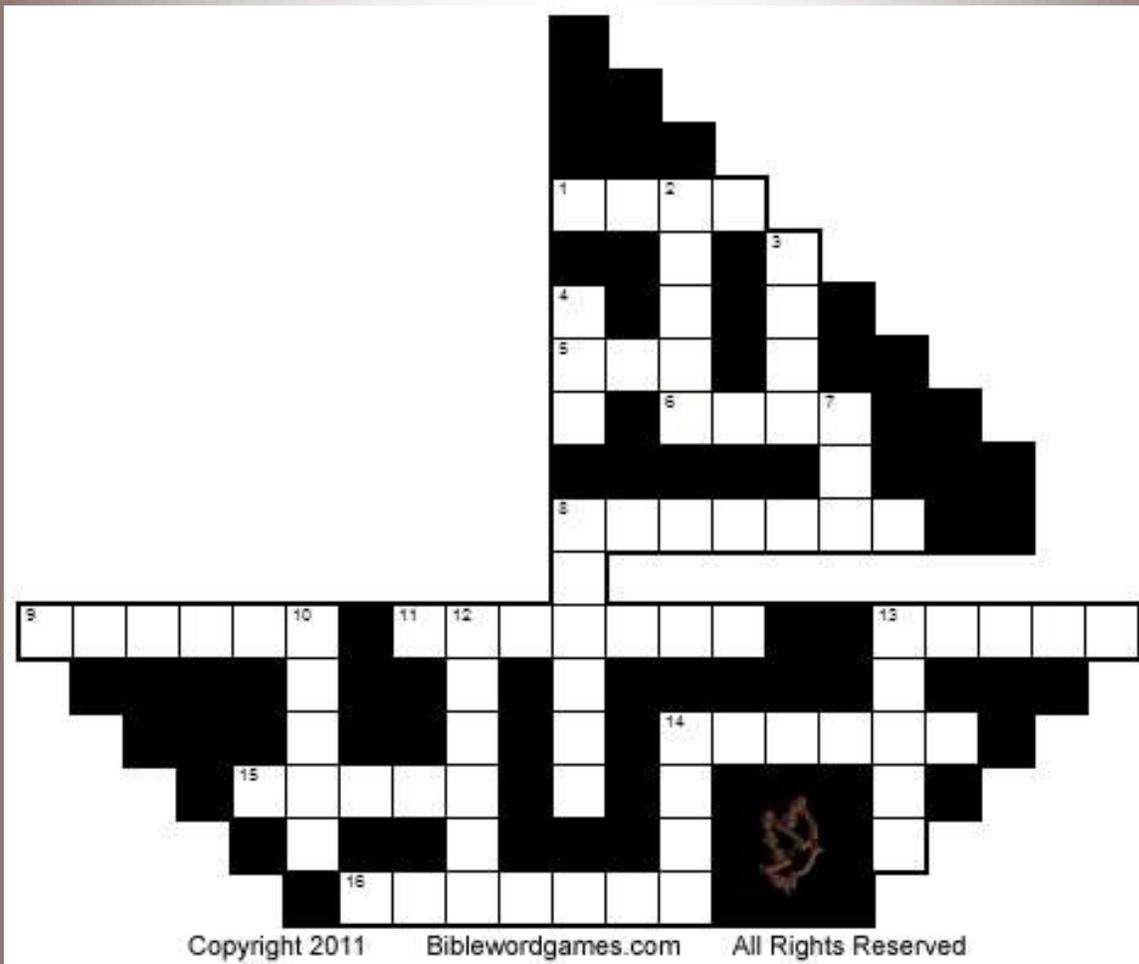
Mountain Hospice was inspired by several members of Philippi Baptist Church, including the pastor, Dick Hepler, Leonard LoBello, Norma Workman, Barbara Smith, and Dorothy Hayhurst. They realized the need for hospice services in the county, and all of the preliminary work was done on a volunteer basis. Hospice of Barbour County became a reality in 1991. Office space was provided rent-free by Broaddus Hospital, and the staff consisted of one part-time nurse, Vicki Powell, another member of Philippi Baptist Church, who began with two patients. Although the developers were warned that licensure would probably take five years, paperwork was done by a dedicated volunteer, and the organization was officially recognized after slightly more than two years. Although much of the funding for hospice services comes through Medicare and private insurance, donations are also critical. Mountain Hospice has been included in the annual budget of Philippi Baptist Church ever since its beginning.

The number of hospice patients and staff members increased quickly in early years to include a director, several full-time nurses and aides, and a business manager, and the office moved to a house across the street from and owned by Barbour County Bank. The name of the organization changed to Mountain Hospice to reflect its expanding services, and a board of directors was formed. The patient census continued to increase, and the office space became too small. An architect drew up plans, and a contractor was hired. When the new Mountain Hospice building opened in Belington it was debt-free, paid for in full.

By this time, services were being offered in four counties—Barbour, Randolph, Tucker, and Grant. Over the next several years, the business grew to include Pocahontas, Pendleton, and Mineral Counties, and there are currently 72 employees.

Hospice is a health care program designed to assist patients and their families experiencing life-limiting illness. Hospice allows patients to maintain control of their lives while enhancing the quality of the remaining time. Focus is on relief of physical, psychological, social, and spiritual discomfort associated with advanced illness. Regardless of the patient's ability to pay, hospice provides support to meet the needs of patients and families and close friends.

For further information, contact Barbara Smith (457-3038) or the Mountain Hospice office (823-3922).



**Across**

- 1 We have here only five loaves of bread and two \_\_\_ (Matt 14:17)
- 5 And all that handle the \_\_\_, the mariners (Ezek 27:29)
- 6 fishermen's gear (Mark 1:18)
- 8 the ship struck a \_\_\_ and ran aground (Acts 27:41)
- 9 One of his disciples, \_\_\_, Simon Peters brother (John 6:8)
- 11 Jesus left there and went along the Sea of \_\_\_ (Matt 15:29)
- 13 "I'm going out to fish," \_\_\_ Peter told them (John 21:3)
- 14 A safe place to anchor ships (Acts 27:12)
- 15 they saw a bay with a sandy \_\_\_ Acts 27:39
- 16 they decided to run the ship \_\_\_ if they could (Acts 27:39)

**Down**

- 2 rear part of a ship (Acts 27:29-30)
- 3 where he found a ship bound for that \_\_\_ (Jonah 1:3)
- 4 the men did their best to \_\_\_ back to land (Jonah 1:13)
- 7 the God of heaven, who made the \_\_\_ and the land (Jonah 1:9)
- 8 weighed anchor and \_\_\_ along the shore of Crete (Acts 27:13)
- 10 roaring of the seas, the roaring of their \_\_\_ (Ps 65:7)
- 12 they lowered the sea \_\_\_ and let the ship be driven along (Acts 27:17)
- 13 Jesus crossed to the far \_\_\_ of the Sea of Galilee (John 6:1)
- 14 Your hand will lay \_\_\_ on all your enemies (Ps 21:8)

Answer on Page 7

# Weekly Events

Sundays	Sunday School AM Worship Sunday Nite Lite (6th- 12th grades)	9:15 10:30 6pm
Tuesdays	Women's Bible Study (@ Sarah Cobb's house)	1pm
Wednesdays	Midweek Service	6pm
Fridays	Code Blue (ages 13-17)	6pm-9pm

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

	August 4	August 11	August 18	August 25
<b>Nursery</b>	Rebekah Hicks Need Volunteer	Christie Allen Need Volunteer	Wanda Steele James Steele	Cheryl Wolfe Allison Villers
<b>Wee Church</b>	Cheryl Blankenship Abby Blankenship	Koreen Villers Thomas Villers	Rebekah Hicks Need Voluntee	Heather Cottrill Hayden Cottrill
<b>Junior Church</b>	Sarah Ferguson Pete Ferguson	Pete Ferguson Sarah Ferguson	Kelly Bracey Lindsay Bracey	Sara Poling Eddy Poling

# Upcoming Events

Sunday, July 28th- Saturday, August 3rd- Family Camp at Camp Cowen  
 Saturday, August 3rd- Tuesday, August 6th- Older Midler Camp  
 Sunday, August 4th- 10:30 am- Communion and Deacon Relief Fund  
 6:00pm- Board of Christian Education meeting  
 6:00pm- Diaconate meeting  
 7:00pm- Union Association Cluster service at Belington Baptist Church  
 Monday, August 5th- 6:30pm- Heart & Hand Volunteer Night  
 Friday, August 9th- Sunday, August 11th- American Baptist Men's Camp at Camp Cowen  
 Sunday, August 11th- 6:00pm Board of Trustees meeting  
 5:00pm- Board of Worship meeting  
 7:30pm- Church Council meeting  
 Sunday, August 18th- 6:00pm- Board of Missions & Outreach meeting  
 Sunday, August 25th- 10:30am- Promotion Sunday  
 Saturday, August 31st- Battler Fair  
 Saturday, August 31st- Sunday, September 1st- Camp Global at Camp Cowen





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## Union Association Cluster Services



<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
August 4th	7:00pm	Belington Baptist Church	Herb Bledsoe
September 8th	7:00pm	First Baptist Church of Grafton	Orville Wright
October 6th	7:00pm	Webster Baptist Church	Bruce Hoffman
November 3rd	6:00pm	Middleville Baptist Church	Paul Boyles
December 1st	6:00pm	Philippi Baptist Church	Jon Villers

### **Family Camp-All ages**

July 28-August 3

### **Older Midler-Grades 3rd-4th**

August 3-6

### **ABMen's Camp Men & Boys**

August 9-11