



The Baptist Bridge

March 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



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

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Jon Villers, Pastor Jud Bracey, Choir Director

Eddy Poling, Youth Director
Michele Moore, Pianist

Caleb Villers, Praise & Worship Leader
Lucretia Moyer, Secretary

Marj Campbell, Organist
Zvezdana Vlastic, Custodian



How the Resurrection Changes Everything

As we approach Easter, now is the time to recenter ourselves on the center of our faith.

If you were pressed to find one image that encapsulates Christianity, most people would probably think of the cross. The cross is central to almost every church sanctuary in America, and we have adopted it as the center of our faith.

And yet, while the cross is certainly a central theme in the story of how God saves us, it is one aspect of a greater story.

Yes, Jesus died for our sins. But even more than that, He lived—that we might live with Him. And Christ’s resurrection is the inaugural event of the new creation. Paul even goes so far as to say in 1 Corinthians 15:17, “And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.”

So if the resurrection is the real crux of our faith, what does it mean to live in light of the resurrection?

In his book *Surprised by Hope*, N.T. Wright notes, “The point of the resurrection ... is that the present bodily life is not valueless just because it will die ... What you do with your body in the present matters because God has a great future in store for it. What you do in the present—by painting, preaching, singing, sewing, praying, teaching, building hospitals, digging wells, campaigning for justice, writing poems, caring for the needy, loving your neighbor as yourself—will last into God’s future.”

In other words, the resurrection changes everything. The Kingdom of God is here and yet it is coming. God has chosen His resurrection people to be change agents in their culture; to proclaim this coming Kingdom through how they live, relate and work.

Living as resurrection agents bringing in the new Kingdom may seem like a high task for most of us who are in the thick of jobs, family, bills and endless to-do lists. But there are a few ways we can make the intentional but simple choice to proclaim the coming Kingdom of God.

Repent during the Lenten Season

Repentance and grief is a strange first step for living in light of the resurrection, but an important one nonetheless. Because to truly rejoice in our new life, we must first understand our own mortality and need for grace.

The season of Lent can lead us in this process of reflection on our sins. Though it may be a painful step to living life in light of the resurrection, it is also an opportunity to draw on God’s power for transformation. This is a chance to, with the help of the Holy Spirit, examine our lives and how the decisions we make affect others. Humbly asking for forgiveness can be very powerful in opening relational doors that have been slammed in the past.

Work for Justice

As resurrection people, we cannot bask in the light of life to the full while others stand by in desperate need. People made in the image of God are suffering from injustice all over the world and in our own community. And when Jesus walked on earth, He made it His mission to love and serve them.

As resurrection people, we must stand and speak up on matters of justice to bring the resurrection life Christ offers to those who need it most. Whether you get involved locally or go overseas, the oppressed and their needs matter in the economy of heaven. Pursuing justice can be as simple as our choices as consumers or as involved as leading coalitions against the systemic injustices that plague our legal and educational systems here in the U.S. and abroad.

The point is, if we are living in light of a coming Kingdom, we should be working to bring some type of alignment between the world as it is and the world as it will be. N.T. Wright reminds us, “He [God] alone will make the “new heavens and new earth,” yet this is not an excuse for inaction on our part. We have a responsibility as resurrection people to work for the coming kingdom in the here and now.



Build Intentional Relationships

Life seems to come at such a rapid pace that we find ourselves trying to speed through these intersections with friends and acquaintances rather than intentionally stopping to take in the rich opportunities they provide. Living in light of the resurrection means we realize and make choices on the basis of the new creation rather than the lackluster hues of mundane existence.

Easter is about new life, and historically, it was a time when new believers became part of the body of Christ through baptism and their first communion. How many new relationships are we building right now? These are not relationships based on a manipulative effort to proselytize every person we meet with a few well-rehearsed Bible verses and platitudes, but an opportunity to acknowledge the God-given beauty and value of another human being.

Every day we meet people with whom we can share genuine hope and enter into their struggles. Jesus was always entering into new relationships as He traveled with the disciples. Christ added value to people who had nothing to offer Him in return and He still does today. And today, He invites us to join Him in His work of serving and blessing others.

We can add value to people by building relationships with those people we see every day on our way to work, in our office, in our apartment building, our dorm or wherever we meet them. You don't have to force a deep conversation, just treat them with respect and dignity, which can go a long way even in passing.

Resurrection is not an afterthought in the story of our salvation; it is the defining moment of our re-creation. Resurrection says, "The Kingdom is coming!" As we approach Easter, let's challenge ourselves to live in light of the promise of being brought back to life with Christ. Imagine what a difference these small seeds of can have in the coming Kingdom.

Used BY Permission from: CHRIS JOHNSON FEBRUARY 25, 2013

Chris Johnson is the pastor of Ewington Church in Vinton, Ohio, and a graduate student at Wesley Seminary at IWU. Chris serves his congregation with the help of his wife, Becky, and their four children.



We have reserved 3 blocks of tickets for the showing of a faith based movie coming to Elkins Cinema 8.

“Home Run”

April 19th at 9:20pm

April 20th at 3:45pm

April 21st at 3:45pm

[Www.homerunthemovie.com](http://www.homerunthemovie.com)



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

- Lee Beuckman
- Holly Camacho
- Audrey Cross
- Becky and Mike Elmore
- Delores "Sissy" Epperly
- Melissa Franke's Aunt Gail
- Rita Franke
- Jane Gibbons
- Joe & Beverly Gouer
- Kurt Hellman
- Noah Hinkle
- Christina Maddy
- Amanda Means
- Donna Moore
- Penny & Euida from Baughman Towers
- Butch Price
- Rev. Todd Rhoades
- Dorine Righman
- Julanne Roy
- Margaret Salimi
- Mary Selvaggi
- Kaley Sinsel
- Donna Thorne
- Gavin Tucker
- Christina Wentz

Some families in our church whose grown children are going through some rough times



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

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:

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

Praises

- Don Smith is home
- Margaret Salimi got to come for a visit
- Dr. Jennifer Parks



- 3- Shannon Dering
- 3- George Kratus
- 4- Katie Mullens
- 10- Craig Cobb
- 11- Lindsey Bracey
- 11- Sarah Ferguson
- 12- Jean Roy
- 13- Cheryl Blankenship
- 14- George Whitman
- 20- Lars Byrne
- 21- Barbara Smith
- 27- Abigail Blankenship
- 28- Jacob Steele



- 17- George & Carolyn Davis
- 24- Craig & Sarah Cobb
- 24- Jovan & Zvesdana Vlasic



To Our PBC FAMILY-

No words can express our gratitude to you and the Good Lord. These past weeks and months have been an adventure in faith, and we have been sustained by two factors– the unending grace of God and the love and concern of our family and friends. Your cards, phone calls, gifts (especially the “CARE BAGS” stemming from Ladies’ Night Out) and prayers have left us amazed, humbled, and forever thankful. Now we’re counting the days until we can be back with you. In the meantime, our thoughts and prayers are aimed in your direction. Peace and blessings to you all!

Don & Barbara Smith

Philippi Baptist Church Members, Rev. Jon Villers, Both Bible Study Groups, Sunday School Classes, Choir, EVERYBody,

I can never, ever thank you enough!! It was like Divine Intervention you all sending Rev. Villers for multiple visits at the hospital and then bringing the Goodie Bags from all of you for Don, Barbara & I and taking me to visit them at their hospital.

It brought me out of my depression where I was just worrying about me. Jon brought me you all’s love and prayers and support and back to focusing on Jesus and God and what was going on with everybody at church. You all really woke me up. Thank you.

I see my radiologist and we plan my treatment to begin in March and I’m trying to get to come to Philippi before then, so I can see and be with you all. I miss you so much. I’m hoping to return to Philippi and get back to my life in my apartment in the summer after the radiology treatments are finished.

Love you and thank you for all your prayers and Thank God for always being there for you & me.

Margaret Salimi

Dear Church Family,

What a wonderful surprise! Thank you all so much for the Valentine’s Day box goodies! I was excited to get the day planner! I was actually going to buy one the other day and didn’t. I really appreciate you for thinking of me! Getting this box put a smile on my face!



Thanks so much!

Love,

Chelsea Long

Hello!



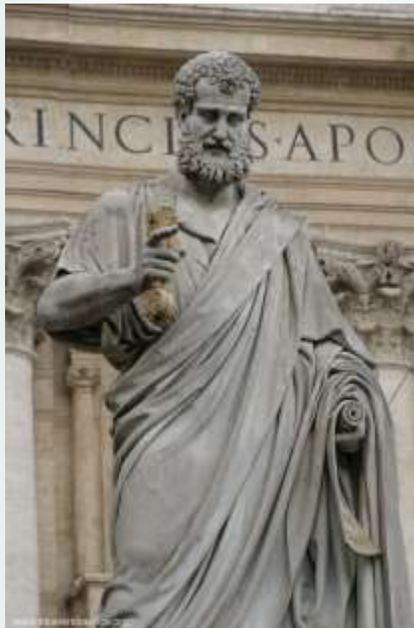
It is so wonderful to worship with you! You have graciously welcomed me into your church family while I am away from mine. I cannot express how much that means to me! Thank you for the awesome Valentine’s Day package!

In Christ’s Love,

Ashley Mace

March 26 Alderson-Broaddus College is hosting the Taylor College Concert Choir for a 7:30pm concert in the Chapel. Philippi Baptist has been asked to host the students for overnite. You are welcome to attend the concert and pick up your students afterwards (or arrive by 9pm to pick them up). Host the students in your home overnite and provide them breakfast and return them to the Chapel between 7am-9am. We have 26 girls, 22 boys, accompanist, and the director couple to house. We can help with transportation with the church van, if needed. If you are willing to host a pair or two pair of students or the staff, please let Koreen know by Sunday, March 17.





- Jesus' first words to Simon Peter were "Come, follow me" ([Mark 1:17](#)). His last words to him were "Follow me" ([John 21:22](#)). Every step of the way between those two challenges, Peter never failed to follow—even though he often stumbled.

When Jesus entered Peter's life, this plain fisherman became a new person with new goals and new priorities. He did not become a perfect person, however, and he never stopped being Simon Peter. We may wonder what Jesus saw in Simon that made him greet this potential disciple with a new name: Peter—the "rock." Impulsive Peter certainly didn't act like a rock much of the time. But when Jesus chose his followers, he wasn't looking for models; he was looking for real people. He chose people who could be changed by his love, and then he sent them out to communicate that his acceptance was available to anyone—even to those who often fail.

We may wonder what Jesus sees in us when he calls us to follow him. But we know Jesus accepted Peter, and, in spite of his failures, Peter went on to do great things for God. Are you willing to keep following Jesus, even when you fail?

Strengths and accomplishments

Became the recognized leader among Jesus' disciples—one of the inner group of three

- Was the first great voice of the gospel during and after Pentecost
- Probably knew Mark and gave him information for the Gospel of Mark
- Wrote 1 and 2 Peter

Weaknesses and mistakes

Often spoke without thinking; was brash and impulsive

- During Jesus' trial, denied three times that he even knew Jesus
- Later found it hard to treat Gentile Christians as equals

Lessons from his life

Enthusiasm has to be backed up by faith and understanding, or it fails

- God's faithfulness can compensate for our greatest unfaithfulness
- It is better to be a follower who sometimes fails than one who fails to follow

Vital statistics

Occupations: Fisherman, disciple

- Relatives: Father: John. Brother: Andrew.
- Contemporaries: Jesus, Pilate, Herod

Key verse

"Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means 'rock'), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it" ([Matthew 16:18](#)).

Peter's story is told in the Gospels and the book of Acts. He is mentioned in [Galatians 1:18](#) and [2:7-14](#); and he wrote the books of 1 and 2 Peter.

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) Baptist Campus Ministires (@ AB)	1pm 8:38pm
Wednesdays	Midweek Service Choir practice	6pm 7pm- 8:20pm
Thursdays	Chapel Service (@ Wilcox Chapel) while classes are in session	11pm
Fridays	Code Blue (ages 13-17)	6pm-9pm

Children's Volunteer Watch and Teach Calendar for February

	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31
Nursery	Wanda Steele James Steele	Christie Allen Need Volunteer	Rebekah Hicks Need Volunteer	Cheryl Wolfe Allison Villers	Looking for volunteers
Wee Church	Cheryl and Abby Blankenship	Koreen Villers Bobby Villers	Tom Dadisman Pete Ferguson	Heather Cottrill Hayden Cottrill	No Wee Church
Junior Church	Sarah Ferguson Pete Ferguson	Kelly Bracey Lindsay Bracey	Chuck Ervin Carol Ervin	Sara Poling Eddy Poling	No Junior Church

COME SEE WHAT ABW HAS TO OFFER

Who: Women of the Church

Where: Fellowship Hall

When: Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at 7am

Program: Forgiveness presented by Barbara Springer & Jody Sperry

Bible Book of the Month - I & II Peter, Jude



The American Baptist Women Union Association is having their Spiritual Growth retreat on Saturday, March 16th at the Beulah Baptist Church in Pruntytown. Registration begins a 9am with closing at 2:30pm. The topic is "Garden of the Heart" with Glenda Mills as speaker. If interested in attending, a sign-up sheet is on the Bulletin Board.

ABWM is collecting personal hygiene items for Women Seeking Shelter. Donations can be put in the orange tote in the Narthex.



Upcoming Events

Wednesdays, February 13th– March 20th– 12pm Lenten services at Philippi Baptist
Saturday, March 2nd– 7:30am– Men’s Prayer Breakfast
Sunday, March 3rd– 10:30am– Communion & Deacon Relief Fund
6pm– Board of Deacons meeting
7pm– Board of Worship meeting
Monday, March 4th– 6:30pm– Heart & Hand Volunteer Night
7:00pm– Code Blue Youth Alliance Board of Directors meeting
Sunday, March 10th– 4:30pm– Board of Christian Education meeting
6pm– Board of Trustees meeting
7:30pm– Church Council meeting
Saturday, March 16th– Children’s Spring Rally at Parchment Valley
9am-2:30pm– ABW Union Association Spiritual Growth Retreat at Beulah Baptist Church
Sunday, March 17th– 6pm– Board of Missions & Outreach meeting
Thursday, March 21st– Audio Adrenaline concert at Philippi City Building
Saturday, March 23rd– 1pm– Rock & Roll Easter
Sunday, March 31st– 6:30am -Sunrise Service
8:30am– Easter Breakfast



Barbour County Ministerial Association @ Philippi Baptist Church

Lenten Services will begin Ash Wednesday and go for seven weeks, with the last week being held on Good Friday. It was decided in the December Meeting that half the offerings taken each week would be donated to the mission of that weeks sponsoring church. Food for approximately 100 people needs to be fixed and served by the same church.

- March 6 – Mansfield Charge with The Salvation Army as the mission
- March 13 – Belington Circuit with Heart and Hand as the mission
- March 20 – Haven of Hope with Haiti as the mission
- March 29 – New Life Family Worship Center with mission TBA. This will be on Good Friday, not Wednesday.*

The Union Association

- March 3rd @ 4pm– Webster Baptist Church– Pastor Bruce Hoffman, Speaker
- March 10th @ 7pm– Hepzibah Baptist Church– Pastor Alan Rosenburger, Speaker
- March 17th @ 7pm– Union Baptist Church– Pastor Chris Mullett, Speaker
- March 24th @ 7pm– Middleville Baptist Church, Pastor Paul Boyles, Speaker

AUDIOADRENALINE

KINGS & QUEENS VIP EXPERIENCE

- VIP PRE-SHOW ENTRANCE
- VIP PRIORITY CHECK IN
- EXCLUSIVE AUTOGRAPH SESSION
- EXCLUSIVE Q & A WITH THE BAND
- COLLECTOR'S EDITION LAMINATE
- LIMITED EDITION AUDIO ADRENALINE PHOTO

March 21, 2013, 7Pm at Philippi City Gym
General Admission Tickets \$15 VIP Experience \$50

JUNIOR HIGH CONVENTION

MARCH 1-3, 2013

SAINT ALBANS
 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 6TH AVE. & 2ND ST.
 SAINT ALBANS, WY 25177

2012-2013 Youth Theme: "Distinguishable" Daniel 6:3

Speakers: Michael & Hayley DiMarco

Michael is Publisher & Creative Director at Hungry Planet and has authored or co-authored over a dozen bestselling books including the 2010 Christian Book of the Year for Youth- *B4/D8 (Before You Date)*. He is a skilled communicator and teacher, taking complex topics and breaking them down in an engaging and conversational style. Michael is also versatile in his speaking style, whether it's making a presentation to theological scholars or talking to a youth camp of middle schoolers about becoming the gritty God made them to be. His passion is to point people to the One that saved him. He is married to an even more bestselling author, Hayley DiMarco, and father to their daughter Addison. Hayley founded Hungry Planet and is the best selling author of over thirty books, i.e. *Datatable, Marriable, Mean Girls, Sexy Girls*. Hayley has been a featured guest speaker for such large events as Women of Faith, Precept National Women's Convention, and MOPS Int'l. Leadership Convention among others. She has also consulted on the creation and enhancement of some of the largest stadium events tuned to teens and young women in North America.

Band: 3 Shades of Blue
 is a Christian rock band from Philadelphia, PA. They are 3 brothers (Jeffery- 18, Jesse- 18, Austin- 18) plus a guy who has refrigerator rights at their house (Dane- 18 who also happens to play bass). They are known for their unique blend of rock and solid lyrics of hope. Their energy and hearts for ministry have gained the attention of leaders in the music industry and many fans along the East Coast.

Schedule

Friday:
 7:00-8:00 Registration
 8:00-9:30 Worship with 3 Shades of Blue and the DiMarcos
 9:30 Dinner to Housing

Saturday:
 9:00-10:20 Worship with 3 Shades of Blue & the DiMarcos
 10:20-11:00 Small Group
 11:00-11:35 Games
 11:35- 12:00: Rob Ely
 12:00-1:00 Lunch
 1:00-2:00 Relationship Workshop
 2:00-3:00 Games
 3:00-3:45 The Distinguishable Voice
 3:45-6:00 Free Time
 6:00-8:00 Worship with 3 Shades of Blue and the DiMarcos
 8:00-8:30 Distinguishable Youth Groups
 8:30-9:30 Fellowship & Snacks

Sunday:
 9:30-10:45 Worship with 3 Shades of Blue and the DiMarcos

COST: \$30.00... (including adults)
 if postmarked by February 22nd
 \$35 if AFTER Feb. 22, 2013 or at the door.
 (Money must accompany registration in order to get the early bird price.)
Housing Deadline: February 22nd

All housing requests must be postmarked by February 22nd, at chimes@firstbaptist.org, to housing will be accepted after this date. NO Exceptions!

Housing should NOT be requested by anyone who has made personal arrangements to stay with specific individuals.

JUNIOR HIGH CONVENTION is a three day event designed to equip, challenge and encourage the Christian Walk of Junior High students in grades 6-8. This event takes place in one of our local churches. The members of that church and surrounding WYBC churches provide housing for the youth.



Philippi Baptist Church
107 Church Street
Philippi, WV 26416



--Heart & Hand Thrift Store--
VOLUNTEER NIGHT--
Monday, March
4--6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
COME JOIN THE FUN!

Philip Barbour Band **24th** 11am-5pm at
Philip Barbour HigBoosters is having a
Spaghetti Dinner Sunday, March h
School.
\$6- Adults \$3-Kids



Rock n' Roll Easter Celebration
March 23 1:00pm-3:00pm in Fellowship
Hall All children birth to 5th Grade are
invited. Please invite another family to
join you. Multiple stations and an Easter
Egg Hunt to conclude.