



# 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.

May 2016

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    Madison Riffle, Youth Director

Michele Moore, Church Pianist  
Emily Casto— Celebrate Recovery Ministry  
Leader

Lucretia Moyer, Secretary

Marj Campbell, Organist  
Zvezdana Vlastic, Custodian



Hello Column Readers! We welcome back Ms. Madison Riffle as our guest columnist today! We are blessed to have Madison serving as our Youth Pastor at Philippi Baptist Church! She is also the Community Service VISTA Coordinator of Alderson-Broadus University. You can reach her at [madisonmh@ab.edu](mailto:madisonmh@ab.edu)

### Faith, Trust, and a Box of Fuses - By Madison Riffle

It was a balmy Tuesday evening when my car decided to revolt against me. I had just come back from Clarksburg with my roommate and the Check Engine light came on. So, like the responsible adult driver that I am, I pulled over into the Sheetz parking lot to check the fluids in my car. We checked the coolant and it was low (or near out, maybe a few drops remained), but to be on the safe side, I was determined to check all the other fluids in case I needed something else so I could buy it all in one shot.

**A friend was leaving Sheetz and saw me with the car up and asked if we needed help. It's a safe bet to say I always need help, especially with cars where I find myself fairly inept. He helped me to check my transmission fluid and my oil, both of which were good. My power steering fluid was okay, but could probably used topped off sometime soon. Brake fluid looked alright. So, I went in and bought the coolant and proceeded to put it in my car. That's a simple fix, right? Wrong.**

**We got in my car, turned it on and prepared to leave, but my car wouldn't shift. The steering wheel moved from side to side, but I couldn't get my car to leave park. Dread filled me. I was convinced I had somehow managed to pour the coolant in wrong or mess up something in my engine because I thought it was okay to touch anything under the hood. My next thought was to call my dad, praying he might know what was wrong with my car. After describing what had happened, he said it sounded like vapor-lock and I'd need a mechanic. I had no idea if that was something expensive to fix, but I hoped it wasn't. At that point, it was 8pm, and I had somewhere to be at 8:38! I had agreed to drive a van full of students to volunteer at New Vision. They were going to help Pastor Ruston prepare his new gym.**

**I texted Koreen to let her know that my car broke down and I wouldn't be able to go anywhere. She told me she would send Pastor Jon my way. When he arrived, we tried one last time to get the car moving, but to no avail. Koreen and the students were waiting on me, so he took me and my roommate to the van so I could go help Baptist Campus Ministries, Phi Kappa Delta, and Theta Tau Upsilon get to New Vision. It was nerve-wracking to leave my car there not knowing what was wrong with it or how expensive it would be to fix. I work two jobs and the combined salary isn't nearly enough to support car troubles on top of bills, eating, and gas for my car. I wanted to be able to trust God, who has proved over and over how faithful He is, but all I could do is worry. I definitely wasn't all there when we made it to New Vision. I was 50% there, but the rest of me was back at Sheetz with my car.**

**At the end of the night, we went back to Sheetz. Either my car would magically work again, or I needed to let someone inside know that my car would be sitting there overnight. My car didn't magically work, so inside I went. I was worried, dejected and at the end of my rope. The man behind the counter told me he'd let his manager know, but she didn't like cars to be there for more than 24 hours. I promised it wouldn't be there more than a day and prepared to leave, but a man in**



line asked what was wrong with my car. I explained, and he offered to help me get my car to the garage across the street. We went outside, I **turned on the car, and showed him that I couldn't get it out of park,** but that the wheel would move alright. So, he asked his son who was with him to get into the driver seat, went back to his truck to grab a jacket and some tools, and proceeded to look at my car from above and below. Once underneath the car, he was able to shift the car into reverse by hand, and eventually we got it over to the garage across the street. He told me the problem must be in my steering column.

I was so grateful to the good Samaritans for their help, but I was also freaking out about what it might cost to fix my car. I had about \$150 in my account, and my next payday was more than a week away. Plus, I had no idea how I would get to work without my car. It seemed like everything that could go wrong, was going wrong. However, I kept trying to remind myself of the small miracles. The first small miracle happened when I first broke down and someone who knew me was there to help me look around and try to assess the problem. The second small miracle was when this man and his son happened to be there when I needed the help. And later that night, **before I'd go to sleep, I'd find another small miracle headed my way – Pastor Jon's father was** willing to let me borrow his vehicle to get to work. Things would be okay, I hoped.

The next morning, I drove down to the shop and spoke with the mechanic, who had been called already by the guy who helped me the night before. He said he would take a look and call me when he found the problem. Before noon, I got the call that the problem was nothing more than a blown fuse. I was really confused, but I went with it. I called my mom to update her on what was **going on with my car, and she told me it was a good thing, because it's a cheap fix. I picked my car** up that afternoon, paying \$26.50 for the half hour of labor it had taken to find the problem, and went back to work.

Around 3:40, I went back out to my car to head to the Code Blue board meeting and the same exact ailment had befallen my vehicle. Close to tears, I went back inside and called my roommate to come get me so I could make it to my board meeting. I would have to come back for my car and figure it out later. After the board meeting, we returned to the car to try one last time, **with no success. I then went to Advance Auto to see what they thought I should do. I wasn't con-**vinced it was just a fuse problem. They talked through it with me, and although the man helping **me wasn't 100% convinced that it was just a fuse problem either, he told me to go ahead and get the** fuse I needed and try it again. It could have been a defective fuse that was just put in, or it could **have been a short somewhere that was burning out fuses. But I wouldn't know until I replaced the** fuse again.

**I'm a fan of the safe side, so I bought a set of fuses that had multiple Amp options, and** multiple of each option. My roommate graciously drove me back to my car to look for a broken fuse and replace it. I found two busted fuses and replaced them. Sending a prayer to Heaven, I started my car and was relieved to find that it would shift out of park. But the problem that had started all of this was still there: my Check Engine light was still on. I called my parents and they told me to drive it to Advance Auto and have them hook it up to the computer. On the one hand, **I was relieved to find out there was only one error code. On the other, it's for my catalytic converter** (which has absolutely nothing to do with the other problems I faced), and I'll most likely have a few hundred dollars in that fix. Also, my inspection comes up this month and I need two new front tires.



In two days, I had three fuses go out, refilled my coolant, discovered I need new tires for my car to pass inspection, and my catalytic converter is giving up on me. If I focus only on that, the two days were dismal at best. But, in two days, one friend and two strangers came to my aid, two people offered to let me borrow their car and three others offered rides, and one person, pending the size tire I needed, was going to help me out because she had a couple of tires I might be able to use. They were a size too small, but I'm grateful that she even thought to offer. I live an hour and a half from most of my blood relatives, and my sisters live in Moundsville, WV and Virginia Beach, VA. But, it's in days like these that I'm so grateful for the God I have, who provided me with a family in Philippi, WV. This family was there for me when I attended Alderson Broaddus, when I graduated and decided to stay, and in so many scary or confusing moments afterward. I learned this past week that sometimes, all you need is faith, trust, and a box of fuses.

## Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 1st– 10:30am– Communion & Deacon Relief Offering  
3:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice  
6:00pm– Diaconate meeting  
6:00pm– Union Association Cluster Service at Summit Park

Thursday, May 5th– 7:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice

Saturday, May 7th– 7:30am– Men's Prayer Breakfast at Medallion

Sunday, May 8th– 3:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice  
3:00pm– Celebrate Recovery Leadership meeting  
4:30pm– Board of Christian Education meeting  
5:00pm– Board of Trustees meeting  
7:30pm– Church

Thursday, May 12th– 7:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice

Sunday, May 15th– 3:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice  
6:00pm– Board of Worship meeting

Thursday, May 19th– 7:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice

Friday, May 20th– Saturday, May 21st– Youth Work Party at Camp Cowen

Saturday, May 21st– Church Reserved

Sunday, May 22nd– 3:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice

Thursday, May 26th– 7:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice

Sunday, May 29th– 3:00pm– Blue & Gray Choir practice



Suggested Heart & Hand donation for May  
**Canned Meat, Diapers (all sizes), Canned  
or Powdered Milk**



AB University, Faculty, staff, and students

Jeff Allen

John & Georgia Allen

Barbour County Homeless

Vernon Barley

Pastor Herb Bledsoe

Sara Cain

Emily Casto

Celebrate Recovery

Code Blue

Ruby Cozad

Teresa Crites

Hinkle Family

Amber Holstine

Ryan Johnson

Dana Jones

Bailey Larrison

Cody Linger

David Linger

Local ministries

Roger Lutz

Roger McDaniel family

Pearl Marks

Bill Morlan

Philip Barbour High School

Kathy Prussa

Elody Shrader

Smiley Family

Charlee Thomas' Dad

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.

Major Kris Wood



Roger Lutz

Gary & Brenda Price

Happy Birthday!

5- Kelly Bracey

5- Anne Jones

8- Vangie Shaffer

9- Andrew Sweet

13- Grant Dadisman

16- Jennifer Wheeler

20- Caton Hill Jr.

22- Pat Cain

24- Elizabeth Wentz

24- Malachi McCullough

24- Kendra Phillips

25- Jud Bracey

26- Wesley Gray

26- Hayden Cottrill

28- Olin Campbell

31- Jane Digman

31- Jacob Scheick



Remember Our Shut-Ins

Blair & Pearl Marks, Vangie Shaffer (Mansfield Place), Germaine & Austin Whitman



### **A Familiar Face**

Jennifer Weyandt has been active in Philippi Baptist Church for several years—long enough to be baptized and to become a member and to sing in the chancel choir and to help with Children’s Church and the Sunday School nursery class and to participate in Celebrate Recovery. That’s pretty active!

She was born and raised and attended public school in White, Pennsylvania, near Connellsville. Two older brothers, one of whom is also a teacher, and a younger sister constitute Jennifer’s siblings. She was active through her younger years in Girl Scouts and gymnastics and the high school choir. One of her brothers applied to attend Alderson Broaddus University as a music major. He ended up going elsewhere, but that connection brought an invitation to Jennifer to apply for a scholarship, which she did. Her major was not in music but in Elementary and Special Education.

Graduating from AB in 2015, Jennifer was immediately hired by the Barbour County Board of Education. She has been teaching K-4 Special Education in two elementary schools—Volga/Century and Mt. Vernon. She and Madison Riffle have been sharing space at Cornerstone Apartments but will soon be moving to accommodations over the Mountain Treasures store.

Jennifer sees the Celebrate Recovery program as a unique ministry being offered by Philippi Baptist Church. “I really believe in it,” she says, “because it appeals to people who are not used to formal church services but are in need of a religious relationship. It’s an opportunity for a great variety of people, people of different backgrounds and different ages and different needs to come together to share their problems and to strengthen their faith. I’d like to see that program grow,” she says, “as I’d like to see the whole church grow. I’d like for us to draw in more young adults and young families. The potential here is tremendous, and I’m very glad to be a part of it.” The congregation as a whole is glad to have Jennifer around!

# Weekly Events

Sundays	Sunday School AM Worship Small Group Studies	9:15am 10:30am 6:00pm
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 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	6pm 7:15pm
Fridays	Code Blue (ages 13-17)	6pm-9pm
Saturdays	Youth	6pm

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

	May 1st	May 8th	May 15th	May 22nd	May 29th
<b>Nursery</b>	Wanda Steele & Emily Meader	Rebekah Hicks & Margaret Salimi	Zvezdana Vlastic & Bonnie Daugherty	Cheryl Wolfe & Hannah Dixon	Wanda Steele & Crystal Gray
<b>Children's Church</b>	Kelly Bracey & Jennifer Weyandt	Koreen & Thomas Villers	Sarah, Pete & Sam Ferguson	Crystal & Wes Gray	Wanda Steele & Crystal Gray

# American Baptist Women's MINISTRIES

American Baptist Women's Ministries will meet at 6:00PM on Tuesday, May 3rd

Women's Banquet

**Bible Book of the Month - Nahum**

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



@womensciports.com

8-Austin & Germaine Whitman

9-George & Kathy Kratsas

11- John & Rebekah Hicks

27- Jon & Koreen Villers

27- Eddy & Sara Poling

You're invited to a graduation party for Bobby & Thomas Villers Sunday, June 5th at 3PM at their home at 210 Greystone Drive.



**Men's Prayer Breakfast**

Sat., May 7th @  
7:30am  
At the Medallion



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# 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)

Philippi Baptist Church



We have raised  
\$14,400 of our  
\$26,000 goal for the  
new church van.

