

## **The First Baptist Church**

42 Hart Avenue, Buckhannon, West Virginia 26201

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**Pastor:** ... Rev. Jay Teodoro ... Office Phone 304-472-4789 ...

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Church Office 304-472-4789

**Those who help us worship:** Amanda Teodoro (Sound and Projection). Barbara Hamilton and Cynthia Parker (Piano). Cynthia Parker and Mary Ellen Davidson, (Music Committee)

Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship ....10:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study .....7:00 p.m.

*The Buckhannon Baptist* is sponsored by the Deacon Board, and is compiled, typed and

edited by John L. Puffenbarger. **The deadline for articles is the 20th of the month.**

## **The witness**

Years ago, after folk-music trio Peter, Paul and Mary performed in Texas, a teenager approached Noel Paul Stookey backstage.

"I want to talk to you about the Lord," the boy said. "We ought to have a word of prayer." After praying, the boy put the musician on the spot by telling God, "Noel wants to talk with you."

All Stookey could bring himself to pray was, "I'm sorry." Through those words, he admitted he'd failed to honor God with his life. He was repenting and soon became a Christian.

Stookey said that experience made him a new person. "You cannot change a man from the inside out and not have it affect everything in his life," he said.

All because of one teenager's witness.

## **Equal opportunity**

When young Kelli said her prayers each night, she would bless every family member, every friend and every pet (current or past). Toward the end of her prayers, she'd say, "And all girls."

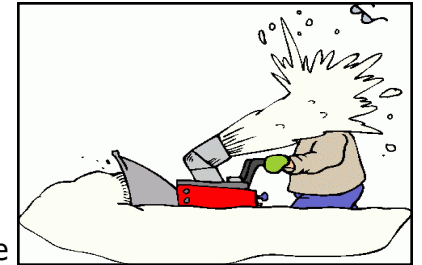
One night her father asked his daughter why she always ended that way. "Because," she replied, "everybody else always finishes their prayers by saying, 'All men.'"



## **The winter of our lives**

A friend of mine told me he didn't like winter because he preferred having green grass and leaves on the trees.

He also said he hated shoveling snow and trudging through it and the mess it creates when driving. He hates the bitter cold weather that blows through your bones in February. He said it's difficult to plan ahead because a person never knows what the weather will be like in winter.



I told him that when leaves are off the trees people can see what the shape of the trees really look like. We can see various shades of brown in the landscape. The outline of hills and valleys are more pronounced and we can see rocks and streams that were hidden during the summer.

Winter may seem unpleasant to many, but frost and snow in our state are an indispensable part of life. Without winter, spring and summer wouldn't be what they are.

Winter is a time of rest. When harvest is over, trees aren't ready to bear new fruit immediately. They need a rest, and winter gives them time to do that.

Like dealing with snow, it's sometimes difficult to plan activities in our lives. People need to rest at times. We often need to regroup. We need to prepare for a new season of growth. God often lets us prepare for future activities.

However, often there are unseen times of illness, financial burdens or problems at work in our lives. Sometimes we have difficult dealings with others that cause us to just want hibernate and not face the world at all.

When we find ourselves complaining about the seasons or daily weather, let it remind us to look for the blessings of it and be thankful. Let it remind us that God is at work in every season ... especially in the seasons of our lives!

As it says in Ecclesiastes 3:1: "*There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven:*" NIV

JLP

Excerpt from the Deaconess Board Annual Report

Flowers were sent to church members who were hospitalized or experienced extended illnesses. Flowers were also sent on behalf of the church to the funerals of members who went to be with the Lord.

Sympathy, Get Well, Encouragement, Praying for You and Thinking of You cards were sent to church members and friends as needed.

The Board provided emergency child care in the nursery. Each time communion was served, the Deaconess Board provided the elements, did the set up and provided greeters.

The Board sponsored a “feed the children” campaign. 295 food items were delivered to the Parish House in June. We assisted in the Adopt-A-Family program with fruit baskets and sending flowers.

We organized a Service of Remembrance to honor loved ones who have gone to be with Jesus Christ. Listed in Loving Memory were: Marilyn Bagley, Bonnie Hitt, Patty Jack, Mary Lou Kane, Debbie Leigh, Charles Marks, Jean Marks, Betty Norvell and Dorothy “Dot” Tenney.

Members of the Deaconess Board for 2017 were Hallie Hurst, Mary Ellen Davidson, Sally Anne Veith, Janet Newman, Jan Arredondo and Leandra Morlan.

Excerpt from the Board of Christian Education Annual Report

The Board sponsored a Sunday School survey and helped to add a new class to our Sunday School program.

The Board sponsored a Christmas play that involved the children of the church. Cynthia Parker and Nancy Hackett led the children in song and they narrated the Christmas message. The children did an excellent job and it was a highlight of our Christmas celebration.

The Board plans to sponsor a Progressive Dinner in 2018.

*The Buckhannon Baptist - February 2018*

Excerpt from the Deacon Board Annual Report

We began 2017 by sponsoring “The Souper Bowl of Caring”. 118 cans of soup were donated and were given to Crosslines.

The members of the Board of Deacons are charged with the spiritual well-being of First Baptist. We assisted Pastor Jay with his ideas, goals, and plans for the church. At our board meetings we discussed ways to improve our Sunday worship services for all our members, friends and guests.

The Deacons’ Fellowship Fund was used to make distributions to several families who were identified as being in particular need during the year. Donations are collected at the close of the Morning Worship Service on the Sundays that Communion Services are held. We are thankful for those donations to the fund.

The congregation gave food and finances to support the annual Deacon and Deaconess Adopt-A-Family project. The donations were used to purchase canned ham and perishables needed for the food boxes for the families. This year (2017) the outreach program helped 12 families in need at Christmas time.

We continue to sponsor *The Buckhannon Baptist*. Pastor Jay, Betty Norvell, and editor John Puffenbarger submitted monthly articles. We were saddened by the death of Betty Norvell in August. Her articles titled “Afterthoughts” discussed some of the Pastor’s sermons each month, and were appreciated by our readers.

We provided pulpit supply on Sunday mornings when the pastor was on vacation or unable to be present. The members of the Board of Deacons in 2017 were Eddie Veith, Willie Parker, Steve Lee, Servando Arredondo and John Puffenbarger.

Playing ball with God

A little boy told his father he was going outside to play a game of “catch the ball” with God. “How do you play catch with God?” the boy’s dad asked. “Easy,” answered the boy, “I just throw my ball up in the air and God throws it back!”

If we want to experience true wholeness of life, we need to acknowledge that everything that exists belongs to God. We need to trust in God’s tomorrow with the childlike attitude of the little boy who trusted God to throw his ball back.



Praying hands - JLP

I like to carve wood, and one of the patterns I use is that of the "Praying Hands." I recently found the story behind the painting. I don't know if you have ever heard the story, but it is interesting. I'm printing it below.

For years people have admired the art masterpiece known as "The Praying Hands". Behind this work of art is a fascinating story of love and sacrifice.

In the late fifteenth century two struggling young art students, Albrecht Durer and Franz Knigstein, worked as laborers to earn money for their art studies. But the work was long and hard and it left them little time to study art.



Finally they agreed to draw lots and let the loser support the both while the winner continued to study. Albrecht won, but he agreed to support Franz after achieving success so his friend could finish his studies.

After becoming successful, Albrecht sought out Franz to keep his bargain. But he soon discovered the enormous sacrifice his friend had made. As Franz had worked at hard labor as a miner, his fingers had become twisted and stiff. His long, slender fingers and sensitive hands had been ruined for life.

He could no longer manage the delicate brush strokes so necessary for executing fine paintings. But in spite of the price he had paid, Franz was not bitter. He was happy that his friend Albrecht had attained success.

One day Albrecht saw his loyal friend kneeling, his rough hands entwined in silent prayer. Albrecht quickly sketched the hands, later using the rough sketch to create his masterpiece known as "The Praying Hands".

From a church bulletin:

Hmmm! Which day is it?



Ash Wednesday is this Thursday,  
February 17.

First Baptist Church Officers for 2018

Moderator	Don Nestor
Church Clerk	Cynthia Parker
Financial Secretary	Sandy Peck
Assistant Financial Secretary	Joy Shingleton
Treasurer	Bonnie Cartier
Assistant Treasurer	Don Nestor
Board of Deacons	Servando Arredondo (2018), Don Shingleton (2018), Steve Lee (2019), Eddie Veith (2019). John Puffenbarger (2020), _____ (2020).
Board of Deaconesses	Janet Newman (2018), Leandra Morlan (2018), Hallie Hurst (2019), Sally Anne Veith (2019), Mary Ellen Davidson (2020), _____ (2020).
Board of Christian Education	Cynthia Parker (Leadership, 2018), _____ (Adult Work, 2018), Cathy Vance Missions (2018) _____ (Youth, 2019). Amanda Teodoro (Chairman, 2019), _____ Children (2020).
Board of Trustees	Tom Peck (2018), Willie Parker (2019), Steve Lee (2020).
Budget and Finance	Don Nestor (Chairman), Sandy Leggett, Willie Parker.
Auditing Committee	Judy Nestor, Joy Shingleton.
Music Committee	Barbara Hamilton, Cynthia Parker, Shirley Thorne.
Hospitality Committee	Hallie Hurst (2018), Jim & Cathy Vance (2019).
Sunday School Superintendent	Amanda Teodoro
Assistant Sunday School Superintendent	Judy Nestor
Sunday School Secretary	_____

*From Pastor Jay*

**Psalm 90** *10 The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. 11 Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you? 12 So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.*

I want to express my thanks to all of you who have been praying for me. The new year really began with a lot of pain! And so after E.R. visits, tests, urology appointments, lithotripsy (the fancy word for sound waves breaking up the stones), stent placement and removal, and even after all of this, the kidney stones are still there! But, they will soon pass. Your prayers comfort and encourage me. I can neither understand nor grasp how unbelievers live life solely upon their own strength. I am not strong enough to do this. I have to lean on Him, my family and my church family to make it through.

Maybe because its Super Bowl time, Amanda and I have taken an interest in these recent Facebook videos that feature NFL New England Patriots quarterback, Tom Brady. They are called 'Tom vs Time'. I'm guessing the majority of you are not, but for me, I'm astounded with what Brady has been able to accomplish at such a high level of performance. For the 8th time in his career, he has made it to the Super Bowl, but what's more astounding to me is that his play looks better than ever, and he's doing this at the age of 40. He even says he wants to be playing at 45!

Brady is defying the odds. He's proving the naysayers wrong in saying that his skills will certainly diminish. Even as sportscasters say that Father Time is undefeated, Brady's playing years beyond the average career (3.3 yrs. according to NFL Players Association of an NFL athlete. His rookie year was 2000. Father Time will win out, but Brady's dream still continues to be lived out on the field. And just so you know, I'm rooting for the Eagles.

It's not only Super Bowl time, it's my own look in the mirror about how I feel these days and how I'm feeling and getting older. I know I have broadcasted to you my complaints and my health. For me, these are eye opening and life evaluating. There are more perspectives to look at this and not just as a middle aged man! I haven't stopped being a sinner saved by grace, a child of God, a son, a brother, a husband, a father, a life-long student, a servant, and a pastor. I am all of these and there may be other roles in my future or ones I am missing. I have something to offer and to give. We all do.

Our church body and church history shows thousands of years of maturity and life experiences. We have been blessed with much and God has used us and continues to use us to bless others. I admire the way our church family loves God and others, and to serve Him from any age and any stage of life. There is such a great amount of collective wisdom and I wonder how we can glean this and impart it to the generations in front of us.

We have a lot to give and a lot to offer and I fear that people often feel like they don't have much to contribute. We really do. It was a joy listening to John share with our children the other day. So, what am I thinking? I'm figuring this out myself. We have a lot to give and impart. How we do this, I'm not clear, but I would love to hear your own thoughts about 'passing it on' as we invest in the future for our church.

**Psalm 71** *17 O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. 18 So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.*



We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Charlie Cox, who passed away on Saturday, January 27. He was 70. Please keep Becky, Bri, Brian and their families in your prayers.

First Baptist Webpage.  
Keep up to date with church news  
all year long.  
Be sure to type  
**firstbaptistbuckhannon.net**  
In your web browser often.

Excerpts from the Trustee Board Annual Report

The trustee board had several fix-up, paint-up projects around the church and parsonage this past year.

- The Nursery play area work was completed with new shelves installed and a new cabinet was constructed. Wayne Price was contracted to do the work.
- The Hart Avenue inside stair carpet was removed and replaced with rubber pads. A handrail was installed on the stairs to address safety issues. Wayne Price was contracted to do the work.
- The broken stained glass window was renovated and reinstalled by Willet-Hauser.
- ConforTech did spring and fall maintenance on the air conditioner and heat units.
- Wayne Price completed various projects around the church. He painted one Sunday School room, the Arnold Avenue ramp floor and the furnace room ceiling and walls. He also installed a new utility sink in the furnace room.
- A new clothes dryer was purchased for the parsonage.
- Future projects include carpet for the parsonage and the Hart Avenue ramp rebid.

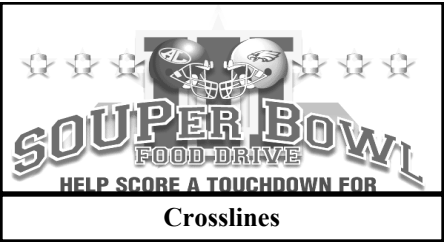
*Submitted by Tom Peck and Joy Shingleton*

Excerpt from the Sunday School Annual Report

∩ Sunday School survey that was sponsored by the Board of Christian determined that most people were happy with what is being offered here at First Baptist. There were a few suggestions and changes were made to accommodate.

For example, a new class was started for middle age to young adults. They are studying various books of the Bible and have discussion. It is a nice addition to the classes that are already in effect here with two other adult Sunday School classes and two children’s classes.

The children’s age groups are lumped together with an elementary class and a mid/high class. David E. Cook and Group’s Dig in curriculums are also being used.



The Souper Bowl of Caring is a national movement of schools, congregations and community organizations joining together to fight hunger and poverty in their local communities, transforming the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

Sunday, February 4, is the deadline to bring one can of soup (or more) to church. All the donated cans will be given to Crosslines the week after the Super Bowl.

Have a heart

Valentines of every size and description adorn store windows and other places of business this time of year. The holiday has become a time for love to be enthroned as a virtue, with the heart symbolizing the romance of our lives.



But the heart symbolizes not only love, but life itself! Without a heart, our bodies cannot survive.

Consider God’s words to Samuel: “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7, NRSV).

The heart — that inner countenance — shows what we really are. Samuel was to seek one of the sons of Jesse to be the new king. David, even though he was the weakest physical specimen, was the one selected. His heart was great.

Love looks deeper than outward appearances, and we can thank God for that. Don’t be swayed by mere valentines — have a heart!

An every day God

∩ missionary was telling a Native American about Christ, the Son of God, and how we gather every Sunday to worship our Creator. The man was curious why Christians worship together each week. “Does this God come only on Sundays?” he asked.

How would you have answered?



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 - Tommy Moffett
- 4 - Tom Leggett
- 5 - Becky Cox, Lori Vance
- 7 - Caila Linger
- 14 - Bonnie Cartier, Baylee Hurst
- 18 - J. D. Hinkle, IV
- 21 - Betty Puffenbarger
- 21 - Vicki Crowder
- 21 - Kenneth Kerekes

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

None to report



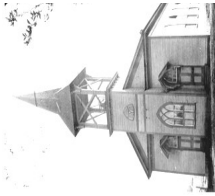
If you want your birthday or anniversary listed in the church newsletter, please give the dates to John Puffenbarger or Amanda Teodoro.

UPCOMING Events

- [ ] Thursday, February 1 - 6:30 p. m. - Choir practice at the church.
  - [ ] Sunday, February 4 - Souper Bowl Sunday - Deadline for donating cans of soup. The soup will be taken to Crosslines.
  - [ ] Tuesday, February 13 - 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. - The Community Outreach Dinner. The dinner is free and everyone is welcome. Desserts are always needed for the dinner.
  - [ ] Monday, February 19 - Deacon Board Meeting.
- Note:** The ABW Ministries will not meet in February due to wintry weather.
- Note:** The Widows for Christ will not meet in February or March due to wintry weather.
- Note:** The United Youth meets on Wednesdays at the Alliance Church.
- Special Note:** Janet Newman will no longer be collecting used batteries.



Dedicated in 1911



@ 1852  
(Organized in 1786)

The Buckhannon Baptist

The First Baptist Church - 232 Years of Worship

The First Baptist Church

Rev. Jay Teodoro

Buckhannon, WV

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
South Florida Street at Hart Avenue  
42 Hart Avenue  
Buckhannon, WV 26201  
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2018  
February Newsletter

TO: