

### **The First Baptist Church**

42 Hart Avenue, Buckhannon, West Virginia 26201

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

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.**

### **St. Patrick's Day trivia**

You may know that St. Patrick used shamrocks to teach about the Trinity, but did you know these other facts about him?

- St. Patrick wasn't Irish. (His parents were Roman citizens living in either Scotland or Wales.)
- He was kidnapped and sold as a slave at age 16. After escaping six years later, he joined a monastery in England.
- March 17 is the date of St. Patrick's death, not his birth. He died in 461 A.D.
- The color originally associated with St. Patrick is blue, not green.
- The harp, not the shamrock, is the national symbol of Ireland.

### **Church music**

Many books of the Bible include actual hymns or songs. Others refer to occasions which included music or the offering of praise to God. His people have always been a singing people, worshiping him in a spirit joyous praise.

When we gather for worship, we should heed the words of the psalmist: *"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and sing praises unto thy name, O Most High"* (Psalm 92:1).



### **Soar like an eagle**

Several years ago, Betty and I visited a museum four miles south of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. The museum was located where Wilbur and Orville Wright made history on December 17, 1903 when they flew the first motorized plane.

For several years, the brothers had wondered, *"Wouldn't it be great to soar like an eagle?"* They watched birds fly and decided that birds changed the angle of the ends of their wings to make their bodies roll right or left.

They decided this would also be a good way for a flying machine to turn—to "bank" or "lean" into the turn just like a bird—and just like a person riding a bicycle, an experience with which they were thoroughly familiar.

Other people were trying to build a flying machine, but the Wright brothers were the first to invent aircraft controls that made fixed-wing powered flight possible. The brothers' fundamental breakthrough was their invention of three-axis control, which enabled the pilot to steer the aircraft effectively and to maintain its equilibrium.

In order to fly like an eagle the brothers had to do things and act on their knowledge. They had to build the plane using the right materials. They had to design an engine that was both powerful enough and light enough. Then they had to equip their plane with all the necessary controls they had to learn to use.

In order for us Christians to soar like an eagle as we follow Christ requires the same kind of things. If a Christian is to be more active in church, there is information we need to know and things we need to do.

We can learn to fly spiritually by following the lessons Jesus taught in the Beatitudes. The first four beatitudes are things that growing Christians have to know. And the next four deal with things that Christians have to do.

God has created us to soar like eagles. Sometimes we may feel frustrated, stressed, tired overwhelmed and unfulfilled.

Isaiah 40:30 says, *"but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."*



JLP

A potluck of people

Many congregations enjoy gathering for potluck dinners — meals largely unplanned, when people bring food to share. Usually, the main dishes, salads and desserts balance out. The fun is the variety mixing together on a plate and the surprise factor of what’s contributed.

Churches and communities — even families — are potlucks of a sort, too. When groups assemble, each person contributes something unique and sometimes unexpected. When all is mixed together, the whole is truly greater than the sum of the parts.

At these potlucks, a beautiful balance often results: One person is a good singer, another writes well; some are strong leaders, others dependable team members; some are traditional, others innovative. Together, it’s delicious!

Potlucks are sometimes called covered-dish dinners. But don’t keep your gifts “covered”! Share them because you’re a valued part of the whole.

150 years old

The Weston First Baptist Church (Broad Run Association) began their yearlong 150th anniversary celebration this September 2017 with the theme, “Promoting the Words of God.” The church was organized September 14, 1867, when representatives of several local churches met at the Lewis County Courthouse to propose a Baptist church in Weston.

During September, the celebrations included worship services, guest speakers, musical groups, special presentations, dinners and an ice cream social with music on the courthouse lawn. Rev. Kenneth Miller is pastor.

West Virginia Baptist Convention

2018 Theme

“Bridge of Hope”

“I am the way, the truth and the life.

No one comes to the father except through me.” John 14:6

*The Buckhannon Baptist - March 2018*

200 years old

Parkersburg First Baptist Church (Parkersburg Association) reached a ministry milestone on October 11, 2017. The first meeting of the church in 1817 listed 24 members, most of whom had been members of the Mount Zion Baptist Church (Parkersburg). Rev. James McAboy, a newly ordained minister, was named as pastor.

The congregation met in homes, in the county courthouse and at a school until a structure could be erected. Numerous worship gatherings and Sunday Schools were sponsored by the church and these laid the foundation for some of the churches that currently make up the Parkersburg Association.

100 years of service

In honor of 100 years of service to the community, Weirton Christian Center celebrated the past, present and future plans for a new state-of-the-art facility with over 350 people on Saturday, September 16, 2017. Since it’s **Baptist** beginning in 1917, the Weirton Christian Center has been helping to make life a little better for the people of Weirton.

From citizenship and English classes for the immigrants coming to work at Weirton Steel, to being the community center for social and recreational activities prior to the Millsop Community Center, to the current free afterschool, preschool and summer programs for children ages three to 18, Weirton Christian Center has and continues to reach out to the entire community.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Eddie and Sally Anne Veith. Eddie’s sister, Shelba Holt, passed away on Sunday, January 28th.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Mark Fisher who died on Saturday, January 31. Mark was a former choir director of First Baptist.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Mildred Helton who died on Tuesday, February 13. She was 101.



Welcome

We welcome Denise Bean who joined our church on Sunday, February 18.

From a church bulletin:



Aren't *twins* usually the same age?

The Smith twins will be singing during next Sunday's Morning Worship Service. Susie is 7 and Alice is 9.

**Third Annual Women's Camp**  
**April 13-15, 2018**  
**Theme: "Better Together"**

The third annual Women's Camp will be held at the West Virginia Baptist Camp at Cowen. The weekend is focused on uniting generations of women with ages ranging from 18 or older.

This year there will be fun, fellowship and Bible study. There will also be a snack swap, special movie night, interest groups with offerings including crocheting, hand lettering , missions and more.

This year's focus will be "Better Together". Please think about how women can better work together to be the hands and feet of Jesus. We need to work together for the glory of the Father, because we are Better Together.

Please see Cathy Vance for details.

**"Bridges of Hope"**

The quaint footbridge leading to the church in this photo shows the pathway to God. God's church has always been a bridge of hope for millions of people. As we serve people we serve God.

The West Virginia Baptist Convention 2018 Theme is "Bridges of Hope". As American Baptist women, we are part of this hope.

May the programs we already have in place continue to thrive. May we pray that God will reveal new and different ways for us to provide a "bridge of hope to others.

— Sue Hamric

*ABWM Seasons Editor*



Dear Friends:

Most of us are able to keep clear in our minds the origin and goal of Christian ministry. Its origin is in Christ, who gives spiritual gifts and gifted people to the church.

Its goal is the building of the body of Christ in knowledge, faith and love. Less clear is the living, dynamic, God-appointed process that moves from origin to goal. Notice carefully what the following verses teach us. God gives to the church spiritual leaders whose role it is to equip saints for ministry.

The Apostle Paul echoes this truth in Ephesians 4:11-13: "*The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.*"

God's pattern for producing people with powerful faith and genuine love is not to have the pastor-teachers do all the work of the ministry. They are to equip the saints to do the ministry. They are you—all of you—who have set yourselves apart for God through faith in Christ. According to God's pattern, the building of the body in faith and love is the immediate result of the ministry of the laity.

The Lord Jesus Christ intends every member of the church to do the work of the ministry. The intention of ministry is to build up each other's faith and love. God's design is to use human support and encouragement to sustain the faith of his children and to lighten the burdens they bear in the service of love.

The America for Christ Offering (AFC) 2018 reminds us that it is in our service to the church and the community that many experience the Christ in us. We are encouraged by this year's theme to **Come Alongside People and Build Them Up.**

I am asking you to join me in giving generously to this year's AFC offering and help us to reach our goal as we partner in home mission. Our goal at First Baptist is \$ 1,000, which will be received during March.

*Pastor Jay*

*From Pastor Jay*

Hebrews 12 (ESV) *...let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.*

In the first Star Wars movie, chief bad guy Darth Vader shared, "I find your lack of faith disturbing." I was incredibly blessed to spend this past weekend with Jacob and two of his friends at the Sr. High Convention in Hurricane, WV. In our car time, the boys watched a few Star Wars movies! The verses you read above were read at every session (5 in all) and our focus was to grow and increase in faith. Not in the ways of 'The Force' but in a life-long journey and walk with Jesus Christ. We had a great weekend and I believe their lives, our church families, and our community will benefit.

The theme given to several hundred students from our state was to run our race with Jesus, to do this we are to Strengthen Our Endurance. Chris Campbell, a counselor and staff of Freedom in Christ ministry, explained that we can strengthen our endurance by the five helps you'll see below. I took a lot of notes during the weekend and here are the main thoughts. The following help us to increase our capacity to run the race.

**Lighten your load.** We are weighed down by sin. This is our nature, not only through the sins we have committed but the sin that were born into (Ephesians 2:1-3). We are dominated by sin through the world, the flesh, and the devil. But, God does not leave us there. "But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us...made us alive together with Christ (2:4-5)." We have a new nature and new identity in Christ who is not content to leave us in our sin. We lighten our load through giving them over to Jesus our sin bearer, who forgives us of our sin.

**Strengthen your faith.** Chris gave three helpful statements of faith. (1) Faith depends on the object of our faith. We place our faith in Jesus who loves us, saves us, and is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). (2) Faith depends on our knowledge of that object. We are to grow in faith by reading and hearing God's word, "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ (Romans 10:17)." (3) Faith is an action word. We've heard the phrase, "God won't give you anything you can't handle." But God will place us in areas and situations we can't handle, and we lean on him and take action by faith.

**Look to Jesus.** During his talk, the students were blindfolded as Chris read about Jesus healing blind Bartimaeus in Mark 10. Bart acted in faith. He knew whom he was crying out to as he screamed, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" In that statement Bart knew the object of his faith, and had knowledge of the same object, Jesus. He acted in calling out to Jesus and requesting, "Teacher, let me recover my sight." He knew and acted. We can look to Jesus in that same way.

**Release your resentment.** Chris walked all of us through a powerful exercise of Biblical forgiveness. He read from Matthew as his followers ask how many times we are to forgive, not 7 but 70 times 7. This was his way of saying we are to practice unlimited forgiveness to those who have wronged and hurt us. This is in no way simple or easy. We lean on Jesus and his grace given to us. The students were given time to acknowledge the hurt they have experienced through others and give this over to God.

**Run with joy.** Closing with Chris's statements can be a catalyst for joy in our lives. Through Ephesians 2, God declares us as 'loveable', 'fixable', 'timeless', 'priceless', and 'God's Masterpiece'! In Jesus Christ, God has given us a new nature. We are new creations. We are transformed! Chris shared, "We aren't seen as converted caterpillars, we're revealed as beautiful, monarch butterflies!" May these truths give us pause and great joy and help us run our race with Jesus.



The Buckhannon First Baptist Church is seeking applicants for a part-time Youth and Family Worker to minister within the Church and the Upshur County Community. A four year degree and experience in ministry is preferred. Please send your resume to Pastor Jay Teodoro, 42 Hart Avenue, Buckhannon, WV 26201.

## SOUP LUNCHEON

**Sunday, March 11th** following morning worship  
Bring a favorite soup to be sampled and enjoyed by our  
Church Family

Give up or add? - Amanda Teodoro

This past Sunday in Children's Church, the children and I began talking about Lent. It is hard to believe that we have already observed the first Sunday in Lent and by the time you read this the second! Spring is definitely around the corner!

We talked about how Lent is a somber time and a time to remember the sacrifice Jesus made for us. It's also a time for us to turn our hearts back to him. We talked about how easy it is to go about our daily lives and only think about ourselves.

And instead of coming up with something to "give up" for Lent as most are apt to do, we thought we might "add" something to our daily lives as an expression of our devotion and love to Jesus. We made bird feeders to love and serve the birds and we looked at a calendar of ideas for some random acts of kindness for the month of March.

I have been enjoying reading the "Journey to the Cross" devotional that Pastor Jay sent out around Ash Wednesday! I particularly enjoyed Day 3 and have been contemplating what I will "give up" and "add".

This is not in the vein of self-help or morality but to further turn my heart Godward, to know HIM more and the power of his resurrection! As the author states, to *"focus on getting away from the life of flesh and into the life of the Spirit, denying our ways and embracing God's"*

As you prayerfully consider this in your own life, I am going to suggest that serving the children of our church could be an excellent way for you to express your love and devotion to Christ and to experience his love and devotion for you more thoroughly as you give yourself away. There are many needs and they simply require a willing heart.

Here is a list of the current and ongoing needs for our Children's Ministry:

- \* *Sunday School and Children's Church Helpers* willing to give up one Sunday a month to teach a pre-planned lesson already written out for you!
- \* *Substitute Helpers* willing to fill in when there is a last minute illness etc.
- \* *Helpers for the Walk with Jesus Event*. Consists of working a station or table during the event (each station will have it's own craft or activity for you to lead as the children rotate stations - I believe we need 5 helpers).
- \* *Helpers for the Walk with Jesus Event* to provide snacks and refreshments.
- \* *Prayer Partners* willing to pray for a child during the school year. (this commitment begins in the fall and goes to the end of the school year)

Please let me know if your heart is moved to help out in any of these areas. May God draw us more and more to himself during this season of Lent!



## Thank you

Thanks to all who donated a total of 66 cans of soup for the Souper Bowl of Caring. Your gifts will help feed needy families in Upshur County. The soup was donated to Crosslines.

A special thank you to Willie and Cynthia Parker for donating the beautiful picture of the Last Supper that is hanging in the Dining Hall.

Thanks to all who attended the Baked Potato Luncheon on Sunday, February 12. \$140.00 was donated to be used to buy supplies and food for the monthly Community Outreach Dinners.

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## Special Family Event at First Baptist

On Sunday, March 18th, a "Walk with Jesus - An Easter Event for Families" will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the church. "Walk with Jesus" takes us through Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, the Last Supper, the sacrifice made on Good Friday and the joy of the empty tomb.

This event engages both young and old alike and is great for families to experience together. Each station includes powerful activities and take home keepsakes that serve as reminders of Jesus' tremendous sacrifice and love.

Come and experience this special journey of Jesus last days on earth!

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## The Easter robin story

On Good Friday, a plain brown robin flying over Jerusalem was curious about the "nest" atop Jesus' head. When the bird realized it was a crown of thorns, he tried to dislodge it.

As the robin pulled out a long thorn from Jesus' forehead, a drop of blood landed on the bird's breast, staining it red. Now the robin's red breast is a symbol of Jesus' loving sacrifice, and the robin's early-spring song is a reminder of Jesus' joyful resurrection.





MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3 - Don Shingleton, Cynthia Parker
- 8 - Sally Anne Veith
- 12 - Jacob Teodoro
- 14 - Eloise McGuire
- 18 - Larrel Harris
- 21 - Zach Leggett, Terry Leigh
- 22 - Eddie Veith
- 25 - John Puffenbarger
- 28 - Joyce Edgell
- 29 - Connie Painter



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 23 - Francis and Wanda Light
- 25 - Beulah and Clayton Phillips

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

UPCOMING Events

- [ ] **Tuesday, March 6 7:00 p. m.** - ABW Ministries will meet at the church.
- [ ] **Tuesday, March 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.
- [ ] **Sunday, March 18** - "Walk with Jesus - An Easter Event for Families" will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the church. See the article inside for details.
- [ ] **Monday, March 19** - Deacon Board Meeting.
- [ ] **Sunday, March 25** - Palm Sunday.

**Looking Ahead: Sunday, April 1** - Easter Sunrise Service - 7:00 a.m. Breakfast following the service. Sunday School - 9:30 a. m. Morning Worship Service - 10:45. Easter Egg Hunt following the service.

**Note:** The Widows for Christ will not meet in February or March due to wintery weather.

**Note:** The United Youth meets on Wednesdays at the Alliance Church.

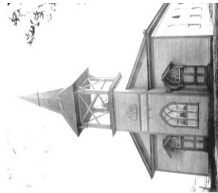
**Note:** Men’s breakfast meetings will be held on Thursday, March 8 and Thursday, March 22.



The Buckhannon Baptist

The First Baptist Church - 232 Years of Worship

@ 1852  
(Organized in 1786)



The First Baptist Church

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

Address Service Requested

Rev. Jay Teodoro

Buckhannon, WV



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