

## The First Baptist Church

42 Hart Avenue, Buckhannon, West Virginia 26201

E-mail: [BuckhannonBaptist@outlook.com](mailto:BuckhannonBaptist@outlook.com)

Web-page: [firstbaptistbuckhannon.net](http://firstbaptistbuckhannon.net)

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

e-mail: [jayteodoro44@gmail.com](mailto:jayteodoro44@gmail.com) ... Cell Phone ... 304-993-0713

Home phone ... 304-460-2765

Church Office 304-472-4789

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



Join us for Sunday School  
and our Worship Service

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

Wednesday Morning Bible Study ..... 10:30 a.m.

Morning Worship ....10:45 a.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.**

## Lent

Though the date of Easter varies, the majority of the Lenten season occurs during March. In fact, the word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon words *lenctentid* (meaning "March") and *lencten* (meaning "spring").

The first reference to Lent dates back to 325 AD, in one of the 20 canons decreed at the council of Nicaea. By the eighth century, Christians started observing Lent, and a 10th-century monk named Aelfric connected the use of ashes and "the Lenten fast" to the pre-Easter period.

Lent lasts 40 days to represent Jesus' time in the wilderness, when he was tempted by the devil. The six Sundays that occur between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday aren't counted as part of Lent; instead, as the traditional day of worship, they're considered "mini-Easters." Lent this year begins on Sunday, March 1.

## Three in One

Everyday objects can serve as simple lessons about biblical truth. During winter, you can point to a kid-friendly snowman to describe how God is "Three in One."

The ball of snow on the base represents God, our strong foundation. The middle ball, with stick arms on the side, reminds us of Jesus, who died on the cross. And the snowman's head stands for the Holy Spirit, who helps us and speaks God's truth to us.



## Dealing with a crisis

A year ago, on March 13, I lost my wife, Betty due to pancreatic cancer. Since then I have been blessed with the support of family, friends and neighbors. God has guided me through a year of life's challenges.

As some of you know - who have experienced such a crisis - losing a spouse is a traumatic event. There is a deep loneliness that occurs from being separated from the person you vowed to love forever. But because Jesus is who we say we believe him to be, we can depend upon him to be by our side.

During any crisis there are times when we may feel that life has put us through the rinse cycle. We wonder where and how we will find some relief. Jesus said, *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give your rest."*

This past year, I found that no matter how serious a crisis is that we have, God will get us through. Psalm 27:1 says, *"The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid?"*

One of my favorite authors, Ralph Waldo Emerson, said *"A day is a miniature eternity!"* There is some truth in that statement, because in each 24 hours there are blessings to be received if we look for them. I have learned that I should treasure today's blessings because they are more valuable than money.

- - JLP

## God's middle C

A band director tapped a tuning fork on his music stand. *"That's middle C,"* he told his students, *"It was middle C yesterday. It will be middle C tomorrow - and in the future. One of our flutes plays flat, the French horn is out of tune, but that is middle C. The flute and French Horn needs to adjust and match the sound of middle C."*

If middle C's pitch value varied, and wasn't exactly 261.63 Hz, it would be impossible to tune instruments. That exactness is comforting for musicians, and their listeners.

Like middle C, God is steadfast and reliable. In this fast-paced world, praise God for the good news he declares to us: *"I the LORD do not change"* (Malachi 3:6).



## Church Signs



### *West Virginia Baptist Convention Annual Bible Conference*

March 7, 2020 Parchment Valley Conference Center,  
Administration Building - The Barn  
"The Divided Kingdom" The Book of Kings  
featuring: Dr. Trent Eastman  
Pastor, New Baptist Church, Huntington and Adjunct Professor,  
Palmer Theological Seminary

See Pastor Jay for more information and a registration form.

### **An informal jam session**

On Thursday evenings, about 6:00 p.m., musicians gather in the dining room at the church. Someone starts playing a song and the others join in.

If you are beginning to learn to play, you are welcome to join the group. There's usually an assortment of loaner instruments, just let someone know what you want to try.



No matter what your musical skills are, you are invited to join in on this informal jam session. Come and go as you wish. Singers, observers and musical instruments are always welcome. It's a good way to spend an evening.

*The Buckhannon Baptist - March 2020*

Dear Friends:

Jesus teaches us to "*love your neighbor as yourself*" (Matthew 22:39). Our church follows the teaching of Jesus by reaching out to the community and providing for our neighbors' needs, physical and spiritual alike.

Our church's efforts are supported by American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS), which provides resources for cultivating leaders, equipping disciples, and healing and transforming communities.

Through ABHMS, we serve neighbors in Puerto Rico and other places in the United States in long-term recovery after natural disasters. Indeed, ABHMS provides many ways to help our church love our many neighbors, near and far!

In 2019, our church's AFC gifts supported the following ministries:

- Helping to rebuild the Puerto Rico one church and one building at a time.
- Providing scholarships to students to help ease the debilitating effects of excessive student-loan debt.
- Partnering with organizations that have resettled more than 100,000 displaced persons from across the world.
- Partnering with agencies that provide support to children living in poverty.

America for Christ 2020 empowers our local and national efforts to "love our neighbor." I ask you to join me in giving generously to this year's AFC Offering and help us to reach our goal at First Baptist, as we strive to love our neighbors and share the gospel! Our goal is \$500.00.

*In Christ,  
Pastor Jay*



## *From Pastor Jay*

This was the third High School Convention I attended with Jacob and his two good friends. There were about 200 students attending from all over the state. Our host was Gassaway Baptist Church and we had a great time together. Mike Distefano was our speaker. He is the Regional Impact Director for the mission called Amirah. Amirah, meaning 'princess' in Arabic, is a mission, from the amirahinc.org website, "to provide refuge for those seeking to break free from exploitation and heal in community on their journey toward lasting hope."

Pastor Mike shared the heartbreaking reality that there are 500,000 girls in the U.S. who are involved in sex trafficking. Amirah is "a multi-faceted aftercare organization for survivors of sex trafficking, providing residential, outreach, and education services." He did a wonderful job communicating to the students, although I had hoped he would share more about the mission he serves.

Here are some quotes and notes from Mike Distefano's messages. While we were in a leaders meeting he shared, possibly my favorite one, "High School students listen more than you think, but they don't have the people skills to be polite with their face!" In his first message, he spoke from Acts 1. The disciples looked at the risen Lord ascending, and then the two dressed in white robes saying, "why do you stand looking into heaven?" Mike's point was, we were not meant to simply gaze into heaven, we were meant to be on the move with God.

In this movement, the disciples of Jesus are to continually walk with Him, to fight and contend for what matters most, and to join God in this mission of sabotage against the world. We are to be light and restoration in a world that is in darkness and is in need of God's comfort and healing. Mike shared about his time in Prague and his group of friends sharing about Jesus in regions subjected to Communism; they also would go to the Red Light district to evangelize.

He spoke of life being a constant reality of transitions. Where he thought he had arrived and 'made it' at his first ministry position in Houston, he explained the reality and difficulty of his job. He discovered that life after college and adulthood wasn't all that it was cracked up to be. All of life is one major transition, from college, to adulthood, to parenthood, and on. We need a north star to fix us and to ground us.

The north star of course is Jesus, to seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness. The north star of Jesus is unchanging and stabilizing. If there is a kingdom, there's a king. This king is life-changing, transforming life and history. He had the power to reverse darkness, loneliness, and sickness. This kingdom reversal also meant restoration and the re-creation of what life was meant to be and will be.

We are to be about the king's business. We lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. We imitate and emulate the love of God toward others. God is glorified within us as we share and demonstrate God's love with each other. As we have been loved we are to live out this love among others. As we move with God, and climb this mountain of mission, we discover that this is the most beautiful place we could possibly live.

Pastor Jay, continued .....

Pastor Mike showed his love for classic writers, J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis. Tolkien helped lead Lewis to saving faith in Jesus. Both men inspired each other in their writing. He proceeded to share about Tolkien's understanding and motivation of his classic books, the Lord of the Rings, trilogy. Mike shared of Tolkien, "the ring revealed the story to me." Mike would use the illustration of the ring to describe our own hearts and its condition.

The ring was a treasure that became the characters Gollum's and Frodo's obsession, that ultimately became their master. This was the warning for our high school friends. This is the warning for us as we seek things apart from God. Mike shared from Matthew 6:19-21, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven...for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Apart from Jesus, all that we value and even worship, will lead us to anxiety because they will fail and overwhelm us to the point of always wanting more, but never being enough. In his last message I heard Saturday night, Mike shared the importance of being on the move with God with brothers and sisters, to be a community on mission, to not fight alone, to link together in arms, and pursue the kingdom together. These are wonderful insights from a young and faithful man of God given not only to our young teenagers, but also to us.

Buckhannon First Baptist Church web-page:  
[firstbaptistbuckhannon.net](http://firstbaptistbuckhannon.net)

## What's the purpose of your story?

Disgusted by a tasteless dish, Winston Churchill once summoned a waiter, saying, *"Take this pudding away. It has no purpose!"*



Any good dish, book, movie or sermon needs a good theme. So does a good life! That's why a personal motto or mission statement is helpful. William Carey's theme was *"Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God."*

Joan of Arc's theme was *"God must be served first."* And St. Paul's was *"to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified"* (1 Corinthians 2:2, ESV).

Pastor Curtis Nigh says, *"If the heart does not have a noble or goodly theme, then it develops an anti-theme."* What noble theme can you live by as you live for Christ?

## Some events during 2020 - Cathy Vance

2019 was a busy year for our church family, and 2020 is promising to be filled with many Christian activities.

➤ The Community Outreach Dinners are still on schedule with some menu changes and great fellowship.

➤ Our American Baptist Women's Ministries will resume monthly meetings on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 and will meet the first Tuesday of each month thru November.

➤ On Friday, March 7, at 1:00 p.m., First Baptist will host Church Women United for the World Day of Prayer. Women from various churches in Upshur County are invited to attend.

➤ Looking ahead: Collection week for Operation Christmas Child will be the 3rd week in November. Many people start collecting items for the shoeboxes during the spring and summer.

Here are some suggested items for the shoeboxes. These include basic clothing items. They can be socks, undies, tops, hats and gloves. Hygiene items can include soap, wash clothes, and tooth brushes (do not include toothpaste). Toys can include ball, jump ropes, puzzles, dolls, stuffed animals.

School supplies are always needed. These can include paper, pencils, pencil sharpeners, scissors, crayons, and pencil cases. Other miscellaneous items can include sun glasses and flip flops.

Some people begin now to knit crochet items such as hats, sun dresses, short outfits and tote bags. You can take advantage of end of seasonal items, beginning of school deals, and closeouts. Those are good ways to find good quality items before Collection Week.

The most important item we all can contribute is **prayer** for the children who will be receiving your shoeboxes.

By the way, do not include liquids, glass or other breakables, toothpaste or war related items.

---

*The Buckhannon Baptist - March 2020*

## A coming event that you won't want to miss!

International Award Winning Christian recording artist **Jeff Hunt**, from Syracuse, New York will be in concert on Sunday, March 1 at First Baptist Church at 42 Hart Avenue in Buckhannon at 10:45 a.m.

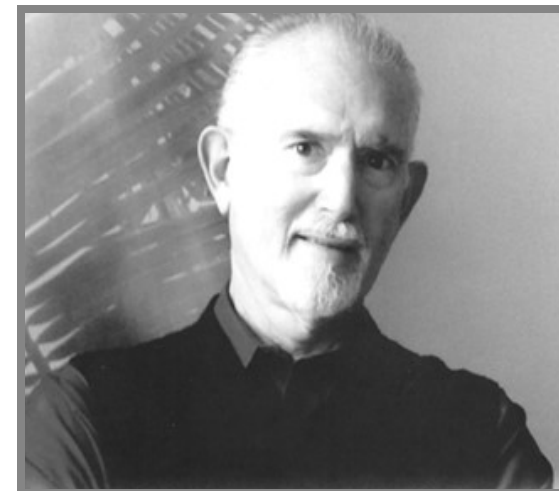
Make plans to attend this free event and bring friends and family. CD's and other materials will be available following the concert. A love offering will be taken.

Jeff is a singer, song-writer, humorist and author. You won't want to miss his music, vocal artistry or insights into the Christian walk.

Now spanning 50 years, Jeff Hunt's call to serve the Lord with his music is still going strong and is getting stronger. Retirement has opened up more time to travel and share the gospel.

So, with years behind him singing with his family, in college, with Heritage, Family Reunion, on 3ABN and 28 years as a soloist artist, it's back on the road lifting up the Lord in concert ministry.

Jeff would love the opportunity to share the gospel and his "parables" with you and those you might be able to bring to this event.



Jeff Hunt



The West Vir-

ginia Baptist Camp has

# 2020 Camp Schedule

WOMEN’S CAMP	Women ages 18 and up	March 27-29
MEN’S WORK PARTY		APRIL 24-25
Summer Kick Off Event	Grades 6-12	May 15-16
YOUNGER MIDLER	Grades 2-4	JUNE 5-7
JUNIOR 1	Grades 5-6	JUNE 7-13
JUNIOR HIGH 1	Grades 7-9	JUNE 14-20
JUNIOR 2	Grades 5-6	JUNE 21-27
HIGH SCHOOL 1	Grades 9-12	JUNE 28-JULY 4
JUNIOR HIGH 2	Grades 7-9	JULY 5-11
SENIOR DAY	High School Graduates	JULY 11
HIGH SCHOOL 2	Grades 9-12	JULY 12-18
FAMILY CAMP	Families of all ages	JULY 24-27
OLDER MIDLER	Grades 3-5	JULY 28-31
CAMP GLOBAL		July 31-August 2
AB MEN & BOYS’ CAMP	Men and Boys of all ages	AUGUST 7-9

been an integral part of the West Virginia Baptist Convention since 1943.

The mission statement reads *"Where people meet Jesus and grow as his disciples in a community of faith,"* and that is truly lived out each week. Almost every summer, 100 people accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

## Box tops needed

The Upshur County school system still collects and uses box tops. Please save them throughout the year.

Give the labels to Sally Anne Veith. The deadline is December, 2020.



## West Virginia Baptist Convention News - Sales Tax Update

On March 8, 2019, the West Virginia Legislature passed House Bill 2813 which requires all marketplace facilitators to start collecting up to a 7% sales tax on all products.

Earlier in the year, the West Virginia Baptist Convention had agreed to a contract with Eventbrite to manage all of their online event registrations.

After receiving notification of the new bill by Eventbrite, we were then informed that, as of September 3, 2019, they would start collecting sales tax on all of our events.

We then began reviewing whether or not we would also have to start charging sales tax on all of our mail-in registrations.

After extensive research and many lengthy discussions with CPAs, lawyers, and other tax professionals, we have been advised of the following:

- If you register via mail-in registration under the umbrella of your church, you DO NOT have to pay sales tax. However, your church must annually submit their tax-exempt form to the WVBC office in order to be exempt from this tax.
- If you register via mail-in registration as an individual, you DO have to pay sales tax, since individuals are not exempt.
- If you register online, you DO have to pay sales tax. Currently Eventbrite does not have any way of checking whether or not you have tax-exempt status and, therefore, are required to charge sales tax on all events.

On January 4th, the WVBC trustees voted to adopt the above understanding of the new tax law unless otherwise notified. In most cases, the tax amount is very minimal but is required to be collected.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

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

If you want to have your birthday or anniversary listed, please give your name and the dates to John Puffenbarger or Amanda Teodoro.

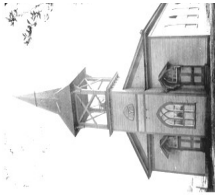
Don't Forget!

- [ ] **Sunday, March 1** - Singer, song-writer and humorist Jeff Hunt will join us during the Morning Worship Service. See the article inside for details.
- [ ] **Sunday, March 1** - We will have a Soup Luncheon after the Morning Worship Service. If you can't bring a soup dish, please stay anyway.
- [ ] **Tuesday, March 3** - The American Baptist Women's Ministries will meet at the church.
- [ ] **Friday, March 6 1:00 p.m.** - The Church Women United will celebrate the World Day of Prayer at the First Baptist Church.
- [ ] **Tuesday, March 10 - 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, March 16 - 7:00 p. m.** - Deacon Board Meeting.
- [ ] **Note: The Widow's for Christ** will not meet in March due to weather conditions.
- [ ] **Wednesday's at 10:30 a. m.** - Morning Bible Study. We are doing a 12 week study in the book of Acts.

**Notice:** - If you want a copy of the Church Annual Report, you may pick one up in the Assembly Room.



Dedicated in 1911



@ 1852  
(Organized in 1786)

The Buckhannon Baptist

The First Baptist Church - 234 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  
Address Service Requested



Non-profit  
Organization  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 51  
Buckhannon, WV  
26201

TO: