

BRIDGES

A Newsletter of New Baptist Church - March 2024

The Arrival of Spring

With the coming of March, winter is over. Have you ever considered the historic importance of March?

- · Where I grew up (Eastern Oregon), March was when the ground had thawed out from winter and was ready to be worked and planted.
- · March also lines up (mostly) with the Jewish month of Nisan, the religious new year as counted from when the nation was birthed out of the Exodus
- · March 4th was considered the birthday of the United States because it is the date the US Constitution became effective
- · March 20th is when the spring equinox occurs. The equinox is when the earth's equator is aligned with the sun according to its orbit. March 20th marks the moment in the year when the Northern Hemisphere begins to receive more sun than the Southern Hemisphere.

· And, as strange as it sounds, the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox is Resurrection Sunday (Easter). This year, the first full moon (called the Paschal or Passover moon) after the Spring Equinox will occur on March 25th (a Monday). Thus, Resurrection Sunday will be celebrated on the following Sunday, March 31st, the last day of March

I do not think it is a coincidence that Resurrection Sunday falls where it does. Historically speaking, this decision to set Resurrection Sunday on the Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox was brilliant. Though this sounds complicated to us, it was a workable formula in a day without calendars and poor long-distance communication. When do you celebrate the resurrection? When the days start getting longer, the resurrection is celebrated

> on the first Sunday after the full moon.

Theologically speaking, planted. This makes me think of Jesus's death and Him being planted (placed in the grave) at just the right time. Just as a seed must be planted in order for it to grow into a mighty tree where all the birds of the air can find shelter (Matthew 13:31-32), so too does the Son of Man need to die so that eternal life may be available to

though, Resurrection Sunday, which takes place in either late March or early April, reminds me of when I worked on farms in Eastern Oregon. In February, the ground is still frozen, and nothing can be planted, but come March, the rains have come, and the ground is soft, allowing the soil to be broken and the seed to be (*Matthew 13:31–32*)

"He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

> all. It is good and fitting to celebrate the Resurrection in the season when we see life budding forth from trees and fields, for creation itself points us to the new life each person can have in the Son who has defeated death.

> Therefore, as we near the celebration of the Resurrection (March 31), may your heart be like a farmer's field in spring. May it be broken and stirred so that the Word of God that is planted in you may grow.

> > Grace and Peace. Pastor Trent Eastman



- 1 Kevin Skaggs
- 3 Joe Collins Tommie Templeton
- 4 Bob Blankenship Lee Boso Sharon Flowers Bill Snoddy
- 5 Chuck Adams Matthew Chaney
- 6 Randall Hatfield
- 7 Jeff Day
- 8 Anderson Frye
- 9 Carey Roland
- 10 Will Morgan Sara Simpson
- 11 Zendaya Null Sheri Tadlock
- 13 Harry Estep Marilyn Thompson
- 16 John Bishop John Hovey Alan Meek
- 17 Jackson Sharp (1st)
- 18 Shane Hufford
- 20 Teresa Foster Linda Harris Brenda Jameson Carol Sumpter Nolice White
- 21 Sheila Chapman Richard Eskins
- 25 Parker Campbell Raymond Spurlock Tracy Waugh
- 27 Genevieve Bishop Chris Edmonds Rebekah Perry Franks Nancy Riley
- 28 Joel Sisson
- 29 Virginia Benson Laura Bishop Joel Booth (1st)
- 30 Joseph Leggott Trey Wilson
- 31 Sharon Hodges





We, as Christians, are in the season of Lent. I did not know the meaning or significance of Lent until I was in seminary or maybe some later. Growing up as a Baptist in West Virginia all I knew was that Lent was something Catholics did or was what I found in my belly button. My limited understanding came from observing some Catholics I knew talking about giving up something for

Lent. For me it was never paired with preparation for Easter. By no means am I making fun of my Catholic friends but rather it is of my own ignorance.

The Ash Wednesday service here at New Baptist is one of my favorite special services we celebrate. Understanding Lent as a season of, reflection, repentance, renewal and preparation for our great celebration of the resurrection of our Lord is worthy of our time and participation. In our Ash Wednesday service this year we were guided through and then encouraged to write a penitent psalm of our own. The service concluded with Pastor Trent and I applying ashes (if the person desired) and praying for each individual. That time of prayer is, for me, one of the most meaningful parts of any service we have during the year. If you missed it this year, put it on your calendar and do not miss it next year.

As we prepare for Resurrection Sunday let us do so in a spirit of reflection, repentance and renewal in our personal walks with the LORD.



1 – Larry & Carol Sumpter 17 – Randall & Judy Hatfield 26 – John & Linda Hovey (25th)



Join us on **Mondays**,

5:30pm – 6:30pm New Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

(enter by fellowship hall door on east side of the building)



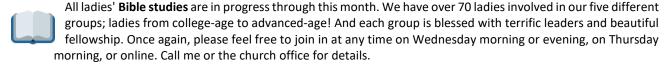
The Senior Adult Luncheons will begin again in APRIL on the third Thursday at noon. We are finally back on the original day after some time away from it. Mark your calendars for the THIRD THURSDAY each month beginning in APRIL. Rebel Barn is again catering the meals and the cost will be \$10.00. I look forward to sharing these times with you.

Pastor Robin



Women's Ministry News - Dolores Adkins

Is it MARCH already? And is SPRING just around the corner? And does EASTER come early this year? Yes, yes, and YES! May your March bring blossoms and blessings galore! Celebrate new life and new growth! And give glory to our Creator and Savior!



The ladies care group for shut-ins and elderly ministry met to get organized on Sunday, February 18th. Kathy Gillette will be asking adult Sunday school classes and deacons to share information on any shut-ins on their respective lists. This group welcomes anyone who would like to be involved to call Kathy or me, and to be ready to give a little time to show those who can't get out and about that we as a church care about them.



Our theme verse in Proverbs 31:25 says, "She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future." May this month and the rest of the year show you many times over how God can use your strength and dignity to bless others as you see the future with a smile on your face!

For Good...
Dolores Adkins

Dear Church Family and Friends,

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

On the last Sunday in February, Pastor Trent recognized the tremendous work and dedication of our more than 50 food pantry volunteers, both members of our church family and volunteers from other churches. We are so thankful and blessed by the time and effort of each volunteer, supporting those in need in our community.

In addition to the hundreds of volunteer hours, it takes thousands of dollars to purchase the food for the multitude of people being reached each week. This is where the Food Pantry needs your help.

In 2023, we averaged \$2,800 less in support per month than our expenses for food and other necessary costs. This is slowly eroding the surplus of funds we accumulated during the pandemic, when most of the other pantries stopped operating, and the Food Bank supplied a huge quantity of free food to us over a long period of time to help our food panty fill the void left by these closings.

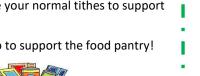
You can help decrease this deficit by supporting our food pantry with additional giving over and above your normal tithes to support the operations of the church.

We appreciate all that you already do to support the food pantry!

Blessings!

Joyce Mannon

Food Pantry Director





Sunday, March 24, 2024

Looking to add solar to your home or business and benefit the church at the same time?



Any individual or business that goes solar with **Solar Holler** and uses New Baptist as the referrer will generate income for the church.

For each solar referral that moves forward, the church will receive a referral commission.



We have been very busy with learning new music and pray the songs will be a blessing to the congregation while singing praises to our LORD! We will be singing our Easter Cantata on March 24th. It is called "The Power in His Grace and Love". This is a selection of songs proclaiming lives that have been changed and can still be changed through Jesus. The choir has certainly been blessed by learning these songs and our prayer is that the music and words from this collection of songs will minister to each of your hearts. No matter where we are in life, no matter what we are going through, His love and grace are just a prayer away. He knows our hearts and our minds...He is God, who knows our names.

In preparation for the Easter cantata, there are some extra rehearsals scheduled on Tuesday, March 19^{th} from 7-8:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24^{th} from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

The choir has been blessed the last few months with some new members and are pleased to have **Sharon Smith** and **Kenneth and Sara Tschop** joining us! If you are considering joining the choir, please see Karen Dailey or any choir member for more information. We practice on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 – 8:30 with a few extra rehearsals from time to time when we are working on our special programs. You think you are too young? Not so!! We have young hearts and would love for you to join us! You think you are too old? Not so!! We love and welcome ALL that love to serve by singing praises to our King! Can you match a pitch? Then you are wanted, and we will welcome you into our choir family!!

Do you know of a vocalist, pianist, or instrumentalist, young or old, that would like to sing or play; Or perhaps someone you would like to hear during a prelude, Wednesday night service or Sunday morning service? Please see me with their name(s) so I can get them scheduled!

Schedule of Music for March (subject to change):

DATE	PRELUDE	SPECIAL MUSIC	CHOIR SPECIAL
March 3rd	Kevin Skaggs	Marilyn Thompson	Handbell Choir
March 10th	Mark Booth	Brandon Morgan	"Behold the Lamb"
March 17th	Becky Crouch	Sheri Tadlock	"Ten Thousand Angels"
March 24 th	Larry Sumpter	A duet, quartet and	"The Power in His Grace and Love"
		various solos	
March 31st	Lisa Daniels	Songs from Cantata	Songs from Cantata



It is so exciting to be able to continue to add new names and faces to our church directory.

No, you do not have to be a church member. If you are worshipping with us, we would love to have you in our church directory so we can put a name with a face.

Installing the Instant Church Directory app on your phone is a great resource to help you connect with others in our congregation.

For more info on how to be a part of the directory or how to put it on your computer or phone, please contact the church office (304.523.3355)



The Huntington City Mission rented the fellowship hall again this year for a fundraising dinner/auction event on Thursday, February 8. It was very well attended and netted over \$60,000. Such a fun evening and it's great to know that this money will help the mission continue to serve those in need.



Report from Bethany Cox, Chair

Reports:

Haiti: Gail and Virgil are heading up another group to serve in Haiti about a month from now. 12 people are going and will be doing a variety of jobs including: medical clinic, child sponsorship, electrical work and whatever else comes up throughout the trip. Continue to pray for the ministry Pastor Dasnis is doing and for those going to serve.

Gail was able to get in touch with Samaritans Purse who gave her urine strips, Hgb testing strips and insulin syringes for FREE for the clinic in Ft Liberte'. They were also able to fix 2 chemistry lab readers that Gail has had for years that weren't working.

Thank you for all who supported the lunch this past Sunday. You donated right at \$1600 toward project money for the upcoming trip.

Operation Christmas Child: We have set a goal to double the amount of shoeboxes this year. We plan to pack 1,000!!! To lighten the load of that each quarter we will provide you all with suggestions of items to purchase. This quarter we have asked for washcloths, toothbrushes and combs. I am happy to report that we have 1026 washcloths, 1074 combs/hairbrushes and 782 toothbrushes. So if you find toothbrushes on sale go ahead and grab some. Thank you for continuing to be so generous in your giving. Something as simple as a toothbrush can make an eternal difference!

Fun full circle moment for us. Star Canterbury is a missionary we support through Bridges International at Marshall University. She actually received as shoebox when she was a little girl in the Dominican Republic. She will be sharing with us in April about how that shoebox impacted her life. So stay tuned for more info as that time gets closer.

Upcoming Events:

Mission Luncheon: Our next mission lunch will be **March 10** following the morning service. We are planning this to be an **international potluck meal**. So start thinking of your favorite dishes to share.

Lunch for a Buck: Tuesday, March 12th we will be providing/serving lunch at the **Campus Christian Center** for Lunch for a Buck. This allows students and faculty to come eat lunch for \$1. It is a great time to serve those that come but also interact with them.

Easter Baskets: Join is on **Saturday, March 30th** at 10 am to pack and distribute Easter Baskets at the **Veterans Home in Barboursville**. We will provide all the goodies to pack. Come serve with each other and then spend time talking with those who have given so much to our country. They all have stories to tell!

Youth Mission: The youth have decided to do a **summer mission trip to Letcher County, KY**. They will be working with an organization called Save His Sheep. They will be building tiny homes for those who lost their homes in the floods.

Campus Updates:

Cru: Things are going well for Cru at Marshall and Shawnee State. They are gearing up for their Spring Break mission trip to Cuba to work with Filter of Hope! 29 students and 3 adults will be traveling. Be in prayer for their travel, encounters/interactions while there, and hearts to be open and changed.

You are invited to attend the **Cru Vision Dinner** at Marshall on **April 13th**. It is a free dinner where you get to hear about all the exciting things that are going on with Cru at Marshall, Shawnee State and the region. It truly is a blessed evening. Then there is also a time where they offer you the opportunity to give to the ministry. If you are interested let me know and I can get you in contact with the leaders.

BCM: Rob says the semester is going well. I-teams and Wednesday evenings are focused on the OT and finding Jesus in the OT. They have 20 students gearing up for their spring break trip to Puerto Rico where they will be doing Hurricane restoration, homeless and elderly population work. Be in prayer for them also.



2024 Schedule

MARCH 1 Staff Applications Due
MARCH 15-16 Staff Interviews
APRIL 5-7 Women's Camp
APRIL 19-20 Senior Day (2024 graduates)
APRIL 26-27 AB Men's Work Party
JUNE 3-6 Young Leader Training
JUNE 7-9 Younger Midler (grades 2-4)
JUNE 19-15 Junior High 1 (grades 7-9)
JUNE 10-22 Junior 1 (grades 5-6)
JUNE 23-29 High School 1 (grades 9-24 grad

JUNE 30-JULY 6 Junior 2 (grades 5-6)
JULY 7-13 Junior High 2 (grades 7-9)
JULY 14-20 High School 2 (grades 9-24 grads)

JULY 14-20 High School 2 (grades 9 JULY 21-25 Raleigh/Rockcastle

JULY 30-AUG. 2 Older Midler (grades 3-5)
AUG. 2-4 AB Men & Boys Camp

AUG. 9-10 Camp Global

JULY 26-29 Family Camp

REGISTER NOW

Online or mail-in available at campcowen.org/register











CAMP SHIRT DAY

 Wear your favorite Cowen shirt to school, work, and around town.
 Snap a picture
 Tag us on Facebook or

APRIL 19th

Instagram!

COWEN

Share your Cowen story. Promote to your church. See the impact.

More info at campcowen.org/cowen-sunday

APRIL 21st



YOUTH CAMP PRICING

CAMP	COST	EARLYBIRD'	
Younger Midler	\$100.00	\$90.00	
Older Midler	\$145.00	\$130.00	
Junior 1 & 2	\$260.00	\$245.00	
Junior High 1 & 2	\$260.00	\$245.00	
High School 1 & 2	\$260.00	\$245,00	

Camp Cowen registration is open!!!!

We want to encourage and support you in sending your kids to camp this summer! As part of this New Baptist will pay the \$25 registration fee if you bring a paper registration to the church office at least one week before the camp's early bird deadline. You can register online but we encourage you to save \$ on fees for both you and the camp by registering via mail! (Also, if you need your form notarized, Pat can do that for you in the office!)



Tickets are available in the church office.





contact kayla@wvbc.org for more information

Women's County hea

Women's Camp 2024

April 5-7

Camp Cowen

This weekend is focused on uniting generations of women (18 and over) hearing God's word together, worshiping together, praying together and sharing each other's burdens. Psalm 23 will be our focus.

Speaker for the weekend is **Karla Carr** from Fairmont WV. Karla is currently attending seminary at Palmer Theological Seminary in Ripley. She and her husband are Associates in Ministry at Fairmont State University's BCM. **Lydia Nutter** will be bringing a mix of traditional and contemporary music as she leads worship for her 5th year in a row.

Cost is \$50 for the weekend which includes all meals, housing and a t-shirt (guaranteed if registration is received by March 14).



Did you read through the Bible in 2023?

If so, we want to know.

Please contact the church office so we can add you to the list of all who read the Bible last year.



Blood Pressure Clinic 4th Sunday of each month

before church (10:30-10:45) at the tables on the WildSide

after church til 12:15 in the Bykota Classroom

*If you are medically trained and would like to help in the screenings, please contact **Melanie Hall** (304.360.7517).

<u>ABMen</u>

Opportunities to serve

Help prepare Parchment Valley for a full summer of events with projects including constructing playground fence, pool painting, installing a French drain around the dorms, painting doors, and staining lodge balconies.

Meals & lodging provided.

Bring paint brushes, paint pans, leaf blowers, rakes, and gloves

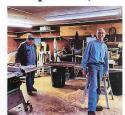
Questions? Contact John Vannoy 304-489-2369

To RSVP, contact PV at 304-372-3675

Parchment Valley Work Party April 12-13



Camp Cowen Work Party April 26-27



Help get Camp Cowen ready for the 2024 camping season with maintenance projects around camp, and enjoy fellowship of hellievers

Meals & lodging provided.

Bring weed eaters, shovels, work gloves, and basic carpentry tools

To RSVP, contact camp at 304-226-3522

Or email Jill Narraway at jill@wvbc.org



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD UPDATE - Becky Crouch, Coordinator



You are amazing and I thank God for your generosity! During the months of January and February we have been collecting washcloths, toothbrushes and hairbrushes or combs, with the goal of giving 1000 children a shoebox gift this year. Today, as I am writing this, you have given more than 1,000 washcloths, hairbrushes/combs and toothbrushes. Thank you for sharing in the ministry of Operation Christmas Child that impacts many children, families, villages and communities!

The following is written by one who has experienced the difference made through shoebox gifts.

What a great reminder of why we are gathering these items! It makes an eternal difference!

Mangily is a village in the southwest of Madagascar, where an Anglican Church is located. Catchist Rolin is in charge of this Church. Whenever Catechist Rolin goes to Mangily, he passes by Amparehitra, a small village where Sakalava tribe live. Sakalava people practice ancestors worship and idolatry. There is no church in Amparehitra, and the 50 households and approximately 100 children had lived in total darkness. In his heart, Catechist Rolin longed to see a church opened in Amparehitra, and he always prays whenever he passes by this village.

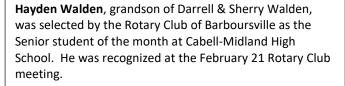


Rolin heard about Operation Christmas Child. He was convinced that it was a way to preach the Gospel to the Sakalava children in Amparehitra. He applied for his church in Mangily and for 50 children in Amparehitra. In May 2023, they held their first Outreach event in Amparehitra where 50 children were gathered in the court of a school village and heard about Jesus for the first time. God is so great! They were so happy while receiving the giftboxes, such gifts they have never received in their life. They were so excited to do The Greatest Journey, and 42 children were enrolled. The children talked with their parents, and together they expressed their desire to the Catechist to see a church planted in this village. Now around 54 people gather weekly for prayer at the school village where 80% are children. The Sakalava in Amparehitra will no longer live in darkness. The Light has come, Immanuel, God dwelling among us!



President and CEO of Hospice of Huntington, **Melanie Hall**, was among 10 individuals who were recently inducted into the WV Executive Magazine Health Care Hall of Fame.

She joined Hospice of Huntington in 2014, after working with Valley Health for 25 years. Congratulations to Melanie. This is an honor which is well deserved.



Why We Need Easter (from Church ArtPro)

No one is exempt from tragedy or disappointment — even God was not exempt. Jesus offered no immunity, no way *out* of the unfairness, but rather a way *through* it to the other side. Just as Good Friday demolished the instinctive belief that this life is supposed to be fair, Easter Sunday followed with its startling clue to the riddle of the universe. Out of the darkness, a bright light shone. ...

The cross of Christ may have overcome evil, but it did not overcome unfairness. For that, Easter is required, a bright clue that someday God will restore all physical reality to its proper place.

-Philip Yancey, Disappointment With God

"The resurrection ... was only the beginning of a great, grand and vast outreach that has never ended and will not end until our Lord Jesus Christ comes back again."

-A.W. Tozer

Prayer Concerns

(Please let the church office know if there are any names that need to be added or removed from the prayer concern list.)



Church Family and Friends: Karen Pruitt Adams, Paula Adkins, Jim & Jenny Benson, Cookie Caldwell, Pam Cole, Joe & Toni Collins, Kyle & Jo Ann Cook, Steve Cook, Randall Davidson, Oleta Dolen, Joe & Pam Fannin, Sally Flanders, Tracy & Teresa Foster, Beverly Gartin, Karen Gillispie, Doris Halcombe, Joni Hill, John & Linda Hovey, Becky Huff, Darlene Humphreys, Sandy James, Ron & Barbara Jarvis, Peggy Jeffrey, Pete & Anita Jones, Virgil Kelly, Joyce Kinder, Judy Lantz, Bill & Debbie Lapole, Joseph Leggott, Bobby & Joyce Mannon, Vicky Marcum, Roy Maynor, Jim McSweeney, Kathy Meadows, Alan Meek, Pat Meredith, Lois Merritt, Marvin & Valerie Moore, Spencer Moore, Charlie Morris, Gary Norris, Bob & Paula Paden, Carolyn Powers, Carol Richardson, Marion Sansom, Peggy Saunders, Dale Shao, Major & Lynnette Simms, Barbara Lynn Spurlock, Jean Spurlock, Jim & Ann Spurlock, Raymond Spurlock, Dick & Annie Stewart, Judy Swann, Marilyn Thompson, Earl & Teresa Trawick, Sherry Walden, Don & Ellen Walker, Dave Watkins, Ronnie Waugh, Sharon Wimmer, the Haiti mission group

Additional Prayer Items:

our pastors our community our military personnel unsaved loved ones our government leaders our country



Because Jesus Said so (from Church ArtPro)



One intriguing person in the Passion account is the thief on the cross whom Jesus promised a same-day entrance to paradise (see Luke 23:43). Pastor and radio host Alistair Begg says he can't wait to meet that man and ask how everything unfolded. "You were cussing [Jesus] out with your friend," Begg says. "You've

never been in a Bible study. You've never been baptized. You didn't know a thing about church membership, and yet you made it!"

In a sermon, Begg pictures an imaginary angel at the pearly gates, growing frustrated during the sinful thief's entrance interview. After receiving no clear answers from the thief about doctrines such as justification, the angel finally asks, "On what basis are you here?" The thief simply replies, "The man on the middle cross said I can come."







"I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection."

New Baptist Church

610 28th Street Huntington WV 25702

Office Hours:

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM Tuesday thru Friday

Phone:

304-523-3355

E-mail:

newbaptist2008@gmail.com

On the Web:

www.newbaptistchurch.com

Pastors:

Rev. Trent Eastman (trente@me.com)

Rev. Lee Boso (leeboso@gmail.com)

Rev. Robin Crouch (rlcrouch1948@gmail.com)



NEW BAPTIST CHURCH 610 28TH STREET HUNTINGTON WV 25702

Service Hours:

Sunday

9:30 Radio Bible Class 9:45 Sunday School for all ages *11:00 Morning Worship

*Service is also live streamed on Facebook (@NewBaptistChurchWV)

Kid's Church/Nursery

Wednesday

6:00 Awana (Sept. – May) Youth 6:30 Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

> NBC Food Pantry Hours Tuesdays 10am – 2pm

Join us this Easter season as we worship our risen Saviour.



Sunday, March 24, 11am – Palm Sunday Easter Cantata

> Friday, March 29, 6pm – Good Friday Service & Communion

Sunday, March 31, 7am –
Easter Sunrise Service
11am –
Resurrection
Sunday Celebration