

Bridges

*A Newsletter of New Baptist Church
September 2020*

Do you ever feel powerless in the world?

There was a time in young David's life when his whole world crashed down on him. He was a rising star, immensely successful and popular, so famous that the King himself (Saul) gave David his daughter to marry. I am sure that David felt that all was well and good in the world. But in a matter of days, everything changed for David. The King became jealous of David and plotted his death. In 1 Samuel 22, you can read the story of how David hears from his beloved friend, Jonathan, that the King is indeed seeking to kill David, and thus David needs to flee. David flees to the city of priests called Nob, receives limited assistance from the priest named Ahimelech, and then ventures on to seek refuge in the land of the Philistines. King Saul pursues David, murders Ahimelech at Nob, as well as the inhabitants of the entire city of priests, gives David's wife to another man, and gathers an army to hunt David down. Can you imagine how powerless David must have felt at the injustice being done to him by the anointed King Saul? David voices this sense of powerlessness in Psalm 11 verses 3, he says, **"If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?"**

Today, it is not hard to feel powerless in light of the challenges our nation is facing. Covid-19 has changed everything. People are living in isolation; thoughts, and attempts of suicide are high; businesses have shut down, and many churches are empty. At the time of writing this letter, hurricane Laura has made landfall in Louisiana devastating many homes and lives (Lord, I pray, be with the people suffering this day). Violent riots are still happening in major cities across America, and racial division and injustice seem to be growing. These crises only add to the other complex challenges of things like the economy, the environment, and health care. Wrapped into these critical issues is that there will be a presidential election in just two months where both parties are pushing the lie that if elected, all these problems will just go away. In light of these challenges, I think many people feel powerless right now and can add their voice to David's



question, **"If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?"**

In answer to this question, David makes it clear that the one thing that righteous cannot do is to do nothing. In verses 1 and 2 of Psalm 11, the temptation to run away from the problems and challenges is rejected. Pretending that nothing is wrong is not the way of the righteous, nor is isolating oneself from the world. So, what can the righteous do? The answer that Psalm 11 provides is that the righteous can do two things. First, the righteous can get their eyes off of the evil, disorder, and terrifying things of the moment, and lift them up to the Lord. Verse 4 reads, **"The LORD is in his holy temple; the LORD's throne is in heaven; his eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man."** In David's feeling of powerlessness, he remembers that God is sovereign. Not only is God sovereign, but that God sees and knows what David is going through and is at work in David through the things he is suffering. This focus on God causes David to take refuge in the Lord (see verse 1). What can you do today when you feel overwhelmed by the things in this world? You can remind yourself that the Lord reigns, He is sovereign, He is God, He sees you, He knows you, and He is at work in you. The second action that David takes is to direct his steps in accordance to who God is, what God desires, and trusting in what God promises. We see this in verse 7 of Psalm 11, **"For the LORD is righteous; he loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold his face."** Therefore, this means for you and me that no matter what the world looks like, it does not change who God is, he is righteous. And no matter what evil befalls this world, it does not change how we are to live in it, for God loves righteous deeds. And no matter how scary our world appears, His promise to you does not change, **"the upright shall behold his face."** In this time of uncertainty, take refuge in the Lord, and do not cease to do good.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Trent Eastman



Happy Anniversary



Duane & Myrna Eastman	Sept. 7
Richard & Debbie Weston	Sept. 10
Mark & Renee Kessinger	Sept. 22
Brian & Lacie Casto	Sept. 26
Jerry & Jill Briggs	Sept. 28 (35 th)

- 1 Bob Carman
- 3 Kim Finley
Linda Hovey
Stephanie Spencer
- 4 Kyle Grimes
- 5 Chelcie Adkins
Kelli Estep
Spencer Moore (90th)
Delaney Waugh
- 6 Betty Blankenship
Natalie Saunders
Roger Waugh
- 7 Ann Spurlock
- 8 Lynn Barcus
Jason Roland
Caitlin Wilson
- 10 Bethany Cox
Meredith Hufford
Sandy Pemberton
Jessica Pennington
Jake Saunders
- 11 Jonah Cruz (1st birthday)
- 12 Madison Vanover
- 13 Brian Casto
Susan Sullivan
Max Noble
- 15 Joyce Mannon
- 17 Brooks Boso
- 18 Carmen Boso
Jase Casto
- 19 Emma Mannon
- 20 Jill Briggs
Richard Crank
Christie Eastman
Jeff Wise
- 21 Joshua Eastman
- 22 Virgil Kelly
Kathy Meadows
- 23 Carla Booth
Andrew Dutton
Rick Elam
- 24 Toni Collins
- 25 Virginia Lawrence
- 26 Judy Hatfield
- 27 Lisa Daniels
Lois Merritt
- 28 Brenda Stevenson
- 29 David Cooper



Jeff Madden, who with his wife, Toni, owns and operates The Honey Baked Ham franchise in Barboursville, was recently appointed to The Honey Baked Ham Franchise Advisory Council. Jeff, who just finished his year as president of the Rotary Club of Barboursville, has also served on the Executive Board of the West Virginia Baptist Convention.



Eleanore Beckett received a quarter-page spread in the Herald-Dispatch when the newspaper pictured her and her garden in a recent edition. The Beverly Hills Garden Club awarded Eleanore its **Beautification Award for August** for her “glorious display of perennials and annuals with added ceramic and stone pieces along with birdhouses and feeders”.

Coby Roland and Grace Kinder, granddaughter of Joyce and the late Milton Kinder, were both named to the president's list (4.0 average) for the spring semester at West Virginia University.

Brooke Powers was recently awarded the \$1000 Roger A. Hesson scholarship by the Barboursville Lions Club.

**College Age
Sunday School Class**

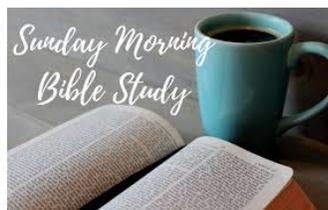
Beginning Sunday, August 30 at
10am on the WildSide.

A Bible study class just for the college age group led by Mark and Carla Booth.

Come join us and bring a friend.

Call Carla with any questions or ways we can help you.

304-617-7289



Wear masks coming in and going out of the building.

Optional masks during exercise and six feet apart

5:30 - 6:30 Thursday Evenings

Please come and bring a friend to enjoy the evening!

Enter on the WildSide near the food pantry entrance.

No child care available.

**Change your mind
Change your body
Change your life.**

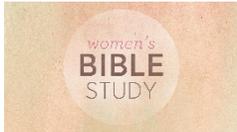




"SAVORING GRACE" is the theme for **Ladies' Night Out 2020** at New Baptist Church. Our verse for this year is from **2 Timothy 2:1** which says, *Be strengthened by the GRACE that is in Christ Jesus.*

The *Wonderful Grace of Jesus--His Amazing Grace--* we sing about it--and on September 10 we will spend the evening *savoring* it! Our meal on the WildSide will be boxed, so only you will touch your food. We will have ham and turkey sandwiches from Honey Baked Ham, with chips, cookie, and water or soft drink. After the meal, we will move to the sanctuary where we will savor His GRACE through word and song. The highlight of the evening will be our "**Panel of GRACE**"--**Christie Eastman, Carmen Boso, and Lois Merritt** will discuss how GRACE is such a unique aspect of our Christian faith.

There is a sign-up sheet in the church entryway--or you can call the church office (304.523.3355, ext. 2) or me (304.521.5129). Deadline is Sunday, September 6 and the cost is \$10. This is a hard year for many of you to commit to an evening in public, but please know we will do all we can to stay safe! We look forward to an amazing time!



BIBLE STUDIES will be offered in a couple of different ways this fall. One morning group will meet on **Mondays at 9:30am** and will do the revised *Breaking Free* by **Beth Moore**. All groups will meet on the WildSide where social distancing can be observed. *The Faithful* will be presented on **Wednesday at 6:30pm**. And for those who want to do their **Bible study virtually**, **Carla Booth** will be starting a new study sometime in September. The 6-week study *Life*

Changing Prayer by Jim Cymbala will be led by Henriella Perry and her team. Day and time to be determined. More details on these opportunities will be announced in services and on Facebook, along with an overview at Ladies' Night Out.

Looking so forward to both Ladies' Night Out and getting started back to Bible studies! Hope to see each of you--and please stay safe!

For Good...
Dolores Adkins

Deadline for info for October Bridges newsletter is Wednesday, September 23.



Notes from NBC Choir Director, Karen Dailey

From the book *Sing! How Worship Transforms Your Life, Family and Church* authors Keith and Kristyn Getty remind us that songs are food for the soul. What we listen to and sing changes our mood, our outlook, our emotions. Songs that present gospel truths will build us up, remind us of our hope in Him and help to sustain us in our time of work and time of play; time of trial and time of joy. Singing or listening to the gospel in song can strengthen and bolster us for each season we walk through. The songs we sing on Sunday in corporate worship can be the soundtrack for our week. The lyrics we repeat are stored away in our hearts and minds. Christ filled songs can motivate us when we are down. When we lack courage or have a lag in our faith, they will support and encourage us. They help us remember Scripture. They comfort us when we are hit with the unexpected trials and tragedies. They can fill us with awe and thanksgiving. Have you ever seen a beautiful example of God's handiwork and just wanted to burst into praise? *Holy, Holy, Holy, How Great Is Our God, Blessed Assurance, Because He Lives* - well, the list goes on and on with songs that can fill our hearts and minds. The Getty's reminded me that every day we wake to the sound of two voices...the one of Wisdom and the one of the fallen world.

On Sunday mornings as we sing along the songs of faith, the gospel becomes so real, the LORD so close, His Wisdom so evident. This, that is so clear and true on Sunday mornings, can so easily be chipped away, twisted a little or devalued throughout the week. Singing the songs of our Lord does, indeed, keep the right voice loudest in our minds. Throughout the Bible we are encouraged to sing and give God praise. It will impact how we process life. What a gift He has given to strengthen, train, encourage, and comfort us. May we always keep singing.



Thoughts from Pastor Lee



During this season of questions, I hope and wish anxiously to make decisions and plans on certain time tables, namely my own. As college students are back in town and schools are working diligently to make decisions about re-entry plans, we are praying and weighing how and when we will re-launch youth and children’s ministry.

It has been an odd summer. My weeks which are normally spent preparing and packing for camps, mission trips, and events, experiencing hands on ministry with and beside students, then recovering and preparing for the next, have instead been spent mostly at home, making calls, shooting videos, and writing blogs. The way we have experienced community and done ministry during this season has brought about grief, but also joy as we have tried new things.

This morning I read Lamentations 3. This short book is so rich in the walk through the emotions tied to grief and loss, yet wrapped in the hope of a rescuing God. Verses 22-26 say: “The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ‘The Lord is my portion,’ says my soul, ‘therefore I will hope in him.’ The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.”

There are still many questions, many fears, many hurts. But God is faithful in His steadfast love. God provides new mercies every day. This might not be a normal time, but God is absolutely present during non-normal times and is good to those who wait for him.

Waiting is tough for most of us. After sending out a Christmas list, we can’t seem to wait to unwrap the gifts on Christmas morning. We add countdowns or mark off our calendars anticipating birthdays or vacations. But God is worth the waiting. God is not just the destination far off in the future, but His goodness is present even now.

During this season, I want to encourage you to connect to our church’s communication channels. If you aren’t part of the directory, contact the office to be added so that you can be in communication with other church members and pastors. Check out our Facebook page and groups for the community, parents, youth, children, college, and young adults. If you would like more info on how to connect with one of these areas, let me know!

We are targeting September 13 to provide kids church during the 11am service. We hope to provide a nursery and toddler room and then a kids’ church lesson for preK-5th graders during the sermon. We will provide more information about our safety and check in procedures in upcoming weeks.

We continue to pray for all the transitions facing us and ask you to continue praying for us as we plan and prepare.



(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, Chelcie & Coralie Adkins, Gina Anderson, Jordan Anderson, Jenny Benson, Dorothy Castleberry, Mary Clifton, Jack Cook, Rose Davis, Sally Davis, Tessie Deuser, Tracy Foster, Patty Green, Toni Gygi, Doris Halcombe, Minnie Harris, Anna Holstein, John Hovey, Sandy James, Betty Kilgore, Bill Lapole, Virginia Lawrence, Joseph Leggott, Joyce Mannon, Roy Maynor, Jim McSweeney, Dick Meredith, Linda Miller, Michelle Morgan, Charlie Morris, Grace Napier, Carol Newlon, Bob & Paula Paden, Barbara Pauley, Ginger Poteete, Jerry Powers, Vicki Rickard, Carol Richardson, Jack Rickman, Jimmy Robinson, Ronnie & Denise Runnels, Walter & Marion Sansom, Major & Lynnette Simms, Jo Anna Smith, Jim & Ann Spurlock, Raymond & Carolyn Spurlock, Judy Swann, Grover Tadlock, Earl & Teresa Trawick, Pat Vickers, Don & Ellen Walker, Dave Watkins, Nolice White, Mary Lee Wilkes, Mark & Jo Ellen Willett, Sharon Wimmer

Pray also for our pastors and our church; the community around us; unsaved loved ones; our military personnel; our government leaders; our country; all affected by the Covid-19 crisis; wildfires in California; those affected by Hurricane Laura; Beirut explosion victims



New Baptist Church

610 28th Street
Huntington WV 25702

Office Hours:

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

Phone:

304-523-3355

Fax:

304-523-3399

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)

Service Hours:

Sunday

9am Worship Service

- Traditional Hymns
- Social Distancing Practiced
- Masks Required

*11am Worship Service

- Praise & Worship Hymns
- Social Distancing Practiced
- Masks Required

*The 11am service is also live
streamed on FaceBook
([@NewBaptistChurchWV](https://www.facebook.com/NewBaptistChurchWV))

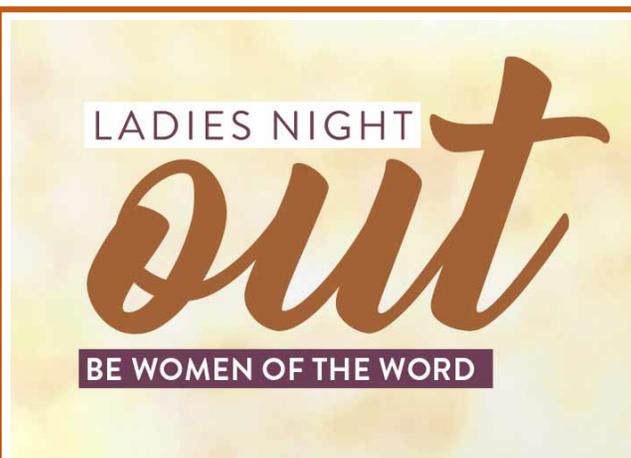
Wednesday

6pm

Pastor's Devotion on
Facebook Live

NBC Food Pantry
Tuesdays 10am-4pm
(closed Sept. 1 & 8)

NEW BAPTIST CHURCH
610 28TH STREET
HUNTINGTON WV 25702



Savoring Grace

New Baptist Church
610 28th Street

Thursday,
September 10

6:30pm

Speakers:
*Christie Eastman, Carmen
Boso, Lois Merritt*

Honey Baked Ham Box Dinners

Cost: \$10

Reservations needed by Sunday,
September 6