



BRIDGES

A Newsletter of New Baptist Church - July 2023

Introductory Note - On the last Sunday in June, the sanctuary cross was installed at New Baptist Church. The sermon passage for that Sunday was 2 Samuel 8 and Psalm 40. **Audy Perry** has written a beautiful personal reflection on these passages. I hope you take the time to read his reflection reproduced below and find encouragement in it.



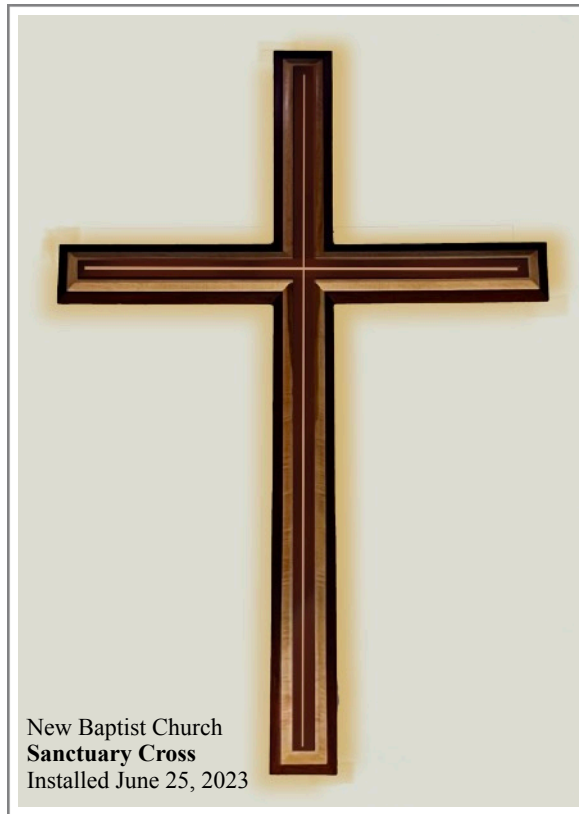
Life is hard work, messy and often painful - but amazing! 2 Samuel, chapter 8 recounts many victories that the Lord gave King David. It describes brutal and bloody battle but I am often tempted to just skim over those parts and focus on sentences within the brutality like “so the Lord made David victorious wherever he went (vs 6 and 14)” and assume David just glided through these battles with full confidence and ease because the Lord was on his side. However, Psalm 60 is given to us as a beautiful, raw insight into David’s heart and mind during these exact victories -

“You have rejected us, O God, and broken our defenses. You have been angry with us; now restore us to your favor. You have shaken our land and split it open. Seal the cracks, for the land trembles. You have been very hard on us, making us drink wine that sent us reeling.” Psalms 60:1-3 NLT

David thought the whole thing was falling apart in the midst of God’s victorious provision. In the midst of God’s victorious procession, David felt pain and loss; he felt everything was shaking, trembling and reeling out of control (ever felt that way?)

The key though is vs 4 and 5-

“But you have raised a banner for those who fear you— a rallying point in the face of attack. Now rescue your beloved people. Answer and save us by your power.”



David never gave up trusting that God could and would provide. He goes on to claim the things he knew God had promised (vs 6-8) and asks God for specific help in the battles to come (vs 9-11) acknowledging that without God all striving is “useless”. In Vs 12, through all the pain and uncertainty of his circumstances, David is still able to conclude triumphantly that “With God’s help we will do mighty things!”

How about us? We look at others who seem to be “victorious wherever they go” and assume that their life is easy. Or we look at our own battles and see them as

God’s rejection and anger. In the middle of God leading us to victory, we sometimes all feel instead that everything is about to come unglued, the wheels are coming off and that it is all going to fall apart. Don’t give up. Like David, We must steadfastly cling to God’s promises, continually ask for His guidance, trusting Him for the victory so that, like David, we may triumphantly proclaim that with God’s help (through the mess, pain and loss) we can do mighty things!



Make plans now to attend
Vacation Bible School.

Registration can be done on line or
you can contact

Katelyn Mann 304-638-7279

Lacie Casto 304-552-6676 or

Betsy Brown 740-709-1340

for more info.

Hope to see you there!!



- 02 *Bob & Betty Blankenship*
- 03 *Roger & Lynn Barcus*
- 06 *Allen & Becky Davis*
- 09 *R. L. & Joni Ely*
- 10 *Jason & Carey Roland (25th)*
- 12 *Grover & Sheri Tadlock*
- 14 *Todd & Cynthia Taylor*
- 16 *Reid & Leigh Frye*
- 17 *Randy & Amy Hogsett (40th)*
- 18 *Alan & Emma Mannon*
- 18 *Ray & Debbie Spencer*
- 21 *Karl & Lana Egnatoff*
- 22 *Brian & Amy Kelly*
- 22 *Jeff & Toni Madden*
- 26 *Virgil & Gail Kelly*
- 29 *Alan & Barbara Meek*
- 30 *Darrell & Sherry Walden*



- 1 – Lisa Preston
- 2 – Lena Powers
- 3 – Brad Smith
- 4 – Charlotte Boyce
Fred Cummings
Larry Hufford
- 5 – John Baisden
- 6 – Hannah M. Blake
Cheryl Cook
Trudy Elam
- 7 – Jay Sisson
- 10 - Phoebe Molyneux
- 11 – Quinn Hazelett
Jim McSweeney
Pat Meredith
- 12 – Lynnette Simms
Debbie Spencer
- 13 – Zach Booth
Linda Bowen
Doris Halcombe
Margaret McCunn
Marvin Moore
- 14 – Rachel Cooper
- 15 – Sandy James
Mike Via
- 16 – Vivian Atkinson
Kara Dutton
Megan Hazelett
- 17 – Robin Crouch
Glenna Hendrick
- 18 - Abram Smith
- 19 – Kim Cook
- 20 – David Hannan
Barbara Jarvis
- 23 – Dan Jordan
Mike Kelly
- 24 – Betsy Brown
Phil Holmes
- 25 – Barbara Meek
Paula Paden
- 27 – Case Mann
- 28 – Jim Blake
R. L. Ely
- 29 – Carlie Arkell
Jacob Campbell
Michael Stephenson
- 30 – Jo Ann Cook
- 31 – Rob Ely

Sunday, July 23,
for August issue of Bridges



Will not meet for the
month of July.
We will resume
meeting in August.

**Guyandotte Baptist
Association
Day Camp**

Camp Ona

July 10-14, 2023

9:30-2:30

1st – 5th grade

Cost \$20

Theme:
Cow A-Bunga Farm:
Growin with our
Faithful God



Songs, Bible Stories, Crafts &
Activities

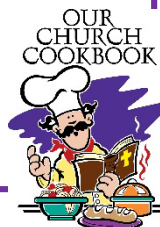
Lunch and Snacks are provided.

Registration forms available at the
Welcome Center.

New Baptist Church Cookbooks

\$20

To purchase – contact the
church office at
304-523-3355, ext. 2



Have we missed your birthday or
anniversary?
If your special date has been left
off, please check
with the church office to make
sure we have your information on
record.



Food Pantry: For the month of May the food pantry served:
422 families
5 homeless
109 hygiene kits
200 food backpacks at Highlawn Elementary

Haiti: We just hosted a mission luncheon. We collected over \$500 for Pastor Dasnis. So thanks for bringing food and fellowshiping with your church family.

New Missionary: Our newest missionary, Sarah McCloy has arrived in Japan. she is currently undergoing language classes. These classes last 4.5 hours and are completely in Japanese...no English allowed. She has already learned to write the entire Hiragana and Katakana alphabets (around 90 characters). She is currently studying Kanji (over 60,000 characters!!!). They hope to learn between 1,000-2,000 characters by the time class is over.

A New Beginning Crisis Pregnancy Center Baby Bottle Drive: we just completed the baby bottle drive for this ministry. If you still have a bottle please return it this Sunday. This ministry provides counseling, education, life skills training and supplies for families in our community. It is not just support for the baby/mother but for the whole family. So be on the lookout for our display in the back of the sanctuary and grab a bottle to fill.

Saints Ministry: The Saints Ministry is a ministry that reaches prisoners through the game of softball. Our church members involved are Josh Eastman, Rob Ely, and Mark Napier. Most recently they played at Pickaway Correctional Institute. They had 23 first time decisions made to follow Christ, 31 rededicated their lives to Christ and 2 are still considering. Their next game is coming up in Morgantown.

Bethany Cox, Mission Board Chair

AwAnA, AwAnA, AwAnA, put God first!

I am looking forward to AWANA's tentative start day for September 13! Pray about helping in the upcoming 2023-2024 year.

See you in the Fall! 😊



Children's Church Ministry

WE NEED YOU!

- Nursery needs adult loving hands and arms as Sunday School helpers and adult Church hour helpers

WE NEED YOU!

- Toddler Town needs adult helpers for Sunday School and Children Church

WE NEED YOU!

- Older children (Grades 4th and 5th) need adults to facilitate Sunday School

WE NEED YOU!

- Sensory Room helper Wednesday evenings

* Your commitment can be tailored to your schedule

* Curriculum is provided and is easy to use. It is all inclusive with paper and digital resources.

* You can help as a substitute being able to help on a moment's notice in any class.

Let's talk so we can continue to build Children's Ministry program at New Baptist!

We have been SO BLESSED, Praise You LORD ❤️

Debbie Harman, Children's Director



Thoughts from Pastor Robin

I will turn 75 on my birthday this month. For some of you that is nothing, but for others I am ancient. As I reflected on that, my thoughts turned to a class I had with Dr. J.I. Packard. The class was titled, "*Evangelistic Theology for a Pluralistic Age*". The class dealt with the need to develop a theology, built on the authority of scripture, that speaks clearly to our modern culture. Since that time, I have constantly tried to examine my own theology in light of how the current generation views the world. I am struck with the thought that I am from a different world, speaking a different language. In thinking about that, I also remembered a couple of other things that speak to this dilemma and to our opportunity to do ministry in the culture in which we live.

1. Len Sweet is a pastor and commentator on the church and modern cultural trends. He has said that if you are older than 38 you are an immigrant in the current culture. As I reflected on that I thought about immigrants. They come from the "old" country with "old" customs and thoughts. They have a work ethic and job skills vastly different from their children. It is true, I am an immigrant in the current American culture.

2. I also remembered the following piece I received in an email. It is though worth thinking about even if it makes you feel like an immigrant.

Don't you wish you could go back to the time when....
Decisions were made by going "eeny-meeny-miney-mo."
Mistakes were corrected by simply exclaiming, "do over!"
"Race issue" meant arguing about who ran the fastest.
Money issues were handled by whoever was the banker in "Monopoly."
Catching fireflies happily occupied an entire evening.
It wasn't odd to have two or three "best" friends.
Being old, referred to anyone over 20.
The net on a tennis court was the perfect height to play volleyball & rules didn't matter.
The worst thing you could catch from the opposite sex was cooties.
It was magic when dad would "remove" his thumb.
It was unbelievable that dodgeball wasn't an Olympic event.
Having a weapon in school, meant being caught with a slingshot.
Nobody was prettier than Mom.
Dad was the strongest man alive.
Scrapes and bruises were kissed and made better.
It was a big deal to finally be tall enough to ride the "big people" rides at the amusement park.
Getting a foot of snow was a dream come true.
Abilities were discovered because of a "double-dog-dare."
Saturday morning cartoons weren't 30-minute ads for action figures.
No shopping trip was complete, unless a new toy was brought home.
"Olly-Olly-oxen-free" made perfect sense.
Spinning around, getting dizzy and falling down was cause for giggles.
The worst embarrassment was being picked last for a team.
War was a card game.
Water balloons were the ultimate weapon.
Baseball cards in the spokes transformed any bike into a motorcycle.
Taking drugs meant orange-flavored chewable Flintstone vitamins.
Ice cream was considered a basic food group.
Older siblings were the worst tormentors, but also the fiercest protectors.

Feeling like an immigrant? Me, too. It just shows how important it is for us to move forward with the gospel because it does speak to this culture. We may need to do things differently but our theology is to remain rooted in Christ and the Bible. When you talk with people about the Lord and our church remember you may be an immigrant speaking a language they do not understand. We must therefore learn their language and translate the gospel into terms their generation understands. Just some thoughts for you to chew on as we seek to do ministry together.





Operation Christmas Child Update
from Becky Crouch

In Togo, a nation in West Africa, many were practicing spirit worship and were filled with fear. The need for the hope of the Gospel was great, and shoebox gifts provided the introduction. Many children surrendered their lives to Christ after receiving gift-filled shoeboxes, and 15 started attending The Greatest Journey the following Sunday. The visible transformation of those children inspired the community to come to church. What began as a small discipleship class has grown into a thriving church, full of joyful worship to the Lord.



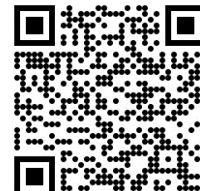
Our Mission Board has set a goal of 250 boxes to be packed by our church. Over the past 6 years we have averaged 146 so this goal is God size and will only be reached through prayer and contributions by each of our church families. Here is how you can help.

1. Pray and ask God how you can be involved.
2. Don't wait until November but collect items now. Look for sale items such as flip flops, sunglasses, t-shirts or balls. School supplies will soon be in the store so pick up a few each time you shop. These can be placed in the bin underneath the mission bulletin board at our church.
3. Order items online. Items purchased in bulk can be less expensive. A wish list has been created at Amazon and Walmart. You can elect to have the items sent to your house or to the church directly. Check the wish list frequently as more items may be added before November. Scan these QR codes to go to the wish lists.

Amazon



Walmart



4. Donate money to be used to purchase items or for shipping costs. Designate your gift by writing Shoebox in the memo line.
5. Gather items on your own and then bring them to the intergenerational packing party in November.

A shoebox is more than a shoebox. It is a box of hope, love and joy!

Join us for the July Senior Adult Fellowship Luncheon

July 13, 2023 Noon

Menu:
Pulled Pork
Honey Apple Chicken
Roasted Corn
Macaroni & Cheese
Slaw
Cherry Pie
Banana Split Cheesecake

**Program: Joey Stepp, Magician
& Balloon Artist**

Suggested donation of \$10
to cover cost of meal.



Please **sign up by Thursday, July 6**, so we can have a count for the caterer.

Signup sheets are in older adult Sunday School Classes and at the Welcome Center.



Notes from Choir Director Karen Dailey

The song "How Firm a Foundation" first appeared in print in 1820 under the title "Exceedingly Great and Precious Promises". It has stood the test of time being over 200 years old despite no one knowing for sure the author. According to Then Sings My Soul, 150 of the World's Greatest Hymn Stories by Robert J Morgan, the song originally had seven verses that were based on various biblical promises while today's hymnal version has only four. The first verse establishes the theme of the hymnist's message based on God's promise in 2 Corinthians 12:9 "My grace is sufficient for you...". God's Word is, indeed, a sufficient and firm foundation for our faith. The author then selected more of God's promises and converted these into the verses. Verse two is restating Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." Verse three is paraphrasing Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you." Verse four is emphasizing Hebrews 13:5 "For He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'" Such beautiful promises that are restated in a great hymn of our faith.

If you would like to join our choir family, please talk to Karen Dailey. We love to sing praises to our Lord and Savior each Wednesday at 7:30. Here are a few of the songs we will be working on and singing in the coming weeks:

- "Carried to the Table" featuring Melanie Hall
- "To All Nations (Jesus Saves)"
- "Wonderful, Merciful Savior"
- "We Remember Your Love"
- "This We Believe"
- "Your Grace Still Amazes Me" featuring Jo Ellen Willett



We are in the middle of summer and I have gotten just a bit to reflect on the youth mission trip to Philadelphia as I prepare for High School 1 at Camp Cowen. The theme for Cowen this summer is **Basecamp** with a focus on **Psalms 23**. One of the things I've been thinking about is how much of the action in this Psalm comes from God. God makes me lay down, leads me beside quiet waters, restores, guides, prepares, and anoints. All this happens as God is with us. God's presence allows me to find rest, to be fulfilled, and fearless in Him! How are you and your family finding God's presence this summer? Are you on the lookout for God in action in your life and in the world?



While we were in Philadelphia we were able to partner with the Common Place and Salt and Light Church. We were able to engage with 10 of their partner sites and organizations throughout the week. This trip was different for me and some of our participants because we did not start and finish a single project, but instead were able to be present to the work that God is doing through multiple organizations working together in ongoing efforts to push back against injustice of different kinds. This trip led us to be present more than project based. We met new people and experienced individuals, churches, non-profits, and governments working together to help the community. This translates to our church culture as "being a blessing." I am excited about the many ways God met with the community and our students on this trip and look forward to seeing how the question "how does this impact the way you live when we get home?" answered in years to come! I encourage you to ask the students who went what they learned or experienced!

This summer the youth continue to learn about the **armor of God** in **Ephesians 6** as we have "**Squad Wars**" every Wednesday night from 6-7:30pm. There are themed games, lessons, and discussions each week and if you have a student in 6th-12th grade they are invited to join us!

- Remember that **VBS is July 16-20**, bring your neighbors and friends!
- **Move up Sunday is August 13**. This is when kids will move to the class or group that represents their grade for the 23/24 school year. We will have a family event that afternoon at the church with fun, games, and resources for the new year. Make plans to join us!

Pastor Lee Boso



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, Marsha Ater, Lynn Barcus, Eleanore Beckett, Jim & Jenny Benson, Donna Best, Dean & Cookie Caldwell, Ron Caviani, Pam Cole, Joe & Toni Collins, Kyle & Jo Ann Cook, Randall Davidson, Rose Davis, Oleta Dolen, Pam Fannin, Sally Flanders, Tracy & Teresa Foster, Beverly Gartin, Kathy Gillette, Karen Gillispie, Doris Halcombe, Minnie Harris, Joni Hill, John & Linda Hovey, Becky Huff, Darlene Humphreys, Sandy James, Brenda Jameson, Ron Jarvis, Pete & Anita Jones, Virgil Kelly, Joyce Kinder, Judy Lantz, Bill & Debbie Lapole, Joseph Leggott, Roy Maynor, Pat Meredith, Lois Merritt, Marvin & Valerie Moore, Spencer Moore, Charlie Morris, Bob & Paula Paden, Sandy Pemberton, Carolyn Powers, Lena Powers, Nina Rakes, Carol Richardson, Marion Sansom, Peggy Saunders, Dale Shao, Major & Lynnette Simms, Bob & Jo Anna Smith, Barbara Lynn Spurlock, Jean Spurlock, Jim & Ann Spurlock, Raymond Spurlock, David Stevenson, Dick & Annie Stewart, Judy Swann, Grover & Sheri Tadlock, Earl & Teresa Trawick, Don & Ellen Walker, Dave Watkins, Ronnie Waugh, Sharon Wimmer

Additional Prayer Items:

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

New Members for the first half of 2023

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Dustin Dover | Justice Palmer |
| Heather Dover | Jonathan Humphreys |
| Ron Maynard | Sarah Miller |
| Jean Maynard | Peter Starnes |
| Mark Napier | Leslie Starnes |
| Kathleen Napier | |



Looking to invest in the spiritual lives of your family? Then you are encouraged to attend the **FAMILY CAMP** at Camp Cowen.

Dates: **Friday evening, July 28 through Monday noon July 31, 2023.**

Adult Bible study and worship;
Programming for children and youth



Laney Wilson

born 4/12/23

Proud Parents:
Trevor & Caitlin Wilson

Keep trying (from Church ProArt)

In *The God Who Stays*, contemporary Christian musician Matthew West writes about the pandemic’s fear-filled early days. After his concert tour was abruptly canceled in March 2020, he rode to an airport “feeling utterly hopeless about a world that was spinning out of control.”

Then Arthur, his ride-share driver, began singing along to the radio — and the song happened to be West’s “The God Who Stays.” West joined in, jokingly asking how he sounded. “Not so good,” Arthur replied, not knowing West’s identity. “You keep trying.”

The driver shared how those lyrics uplifted him during life’s difficulties, and West later recalled that conversation during lockdown, while wondering where God was. The musician realized he had “settled for a socially distant relationship with the One who is nearer than I dare to believe, closer than the air I breathe.” But West pictured “God running toward me with open arms like the prodigal’s father,” and he resolved to keep trying — and to grow closer to the God who always stays.



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)

Service Hours:

Sunday

- 9:30 Radio Bible Class
- 9:45 Sunday School for all ages
- *11:00 Morning Worship
Kid's Church/Nursery

*Service is also live streamed on
Facebook
([@NewBaptistChurchWV](https://www.facebook.com/NewBaptistChurchWV))

Wednesday

- 6:00 Youth
- 6:30 Prayer Meeting/Bible Study
Children's Programming

NBC Food Pantry

Hours
Tuesdays 10am – 2pm

NEW BAPTIST CHURCH
610 28TH STREET
HUNTINGTON WV 25702



Our theme this year is

STELLAR

and we are blasting off
"Out of this World".

At STELLAR VBS, Kids shine Jesus' light! STELLAR is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, and touch! Science-Fun Gizmos, team-building Games, unforgettable Bible songs, and yummy snacks are just a few of the activities that help faith flow into real life.

Come and enjoy the fun!!