

BRIDGES

A Newsletter of New Baptist Church - June 2020

A Soul Strengthened in the Midst of Trouble

What do you do when you are anxious or discouraged about life in general? During this Covid-19 pandemic a lot of attention has been devoted to help people deal with

stress and anxiousness that the shutdown has caused. The things I have seen have included activities like increased binge watching tv, yoga meditation, and various distracting stay at home games. It seems that the way the world is leading people to deal with various kinds of anxiousness or stress is to offer activities that distract the mind. When reading Psalm 138 I was struck how radically different is the wisdom of scripture compared to that of the world's wisdom. Instead of leading people toward distraction or forgetfulness during times of trouble, the wisdom of scripture leads people to remember. Remember what?

First, Psalm 138 reminds the reader to remember the love

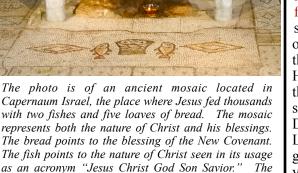
and faithfulness of God. The Psalm begins, "1 I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise; 2 I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word. 3 On the day I called, you answered me; my strength of soul you increased." language David is using to describe what he is doing in his day of trouble is to remember the covenant. That is what it means when he says he bows down towards the temple and give thanks to the Lord for his steadfast (covenantal) love and faithfulness. If David wrote this Psalm (as the title of Psalm 138 suggests), there was no temple at the time. Thus his language is looking back not only to God's faithfulness to the covenant given at Mt. Sinai, but also of God's faithfulness given to him personally in God's promises regarding the future. God told David that a descendant of his will not only sit on his throne but that his kingdom will also never end. Thus, David is remembering the covenant that God had made to him, guaranteed by God's own character, by the righteousness of the Lord. You and I can do the same. There is a covenant that the Lord has made with us that is guaranteed by his own righteousness and character. It is the New Covenant of Jesus Christ by which you are forgiven and have life. Thus you can pray in the same way and bear witness; "I called, you

the Lord.

answered, the strength of my soul you increased."

The next thing that David remembers is the nature of God's character. Not only does he remember and give thanks for what God has done, but he remembers and enjoys the nature and presence of God. He says "4 All the

kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth, 5 and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD. 6 For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he knows from afar." Notice what David says about God. Great is the glory of the Lord. Yes, David gives thanks and praises God for what He has done (the covenant), but I think even more importantly in the strengthening of the soul is David's praise and thanks to the Lord for his great glory. God's great glory is a description of the very nature and character of God. mosaic serves as a reminder to trust and give thanks to To me, this is key in coming out of a time of hopelessness or



discouragement. What causes me to hope in God? Is it his gifts or blessings or is it his character? My hope is in the Lord, not in his blessings to me. This is why I trust him, believe him, and follow him. He is righteous and holy and great is his glory. Finally (and I think this is where the strengthening of the soul happens during a time of trouble), after remembering God's good and faithful deeds, and remembering God's character, David trusts the Lord and gives him thanks. "7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand delivers me. 8 The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands." What an amazing verse! Though I walk in trouble I trust the Lord will:

- Preserve my life.
- Stretch out his hand against my enemies (both physical and spiritual) and deliver me.
- Fulfill His purposes for me (WOW!).
- Love me with a steadfast love that endures forever and
- Not forsake the work of his hands.

This is why we may trust the Lord in the midst of trouble. And this is why it is in the remembering and giving thanks that the soul is strengthened!

> Grace and Peace! Pastor Trent Eastman



- 1 Travis Noble
- 2 Olivia Emerson
- 3 Nancy Bane Grover Tadlock
- 4 John Ghiz Claire Manchester (1st) Colt Vanover (1st)
- 5 Ronica Hensley Becky Morris
- 9 Rose Davis Celi Stuart
- 10 Lucas Cox Isabelle Jones Melissa Marcum Tracie Ross
- 12 Casey Adkins Brooke Powers
- 15 Isabelle Bonecutter Karen Gillispie
- 16 George Ellis
- 17 Tucker Brown Sadie Brown Kathy Gillette
- 19 Oleta Dolen
- 20 Stan Meadows Kara Smith Josh Vanover
- 23 Andy Finley Katie Ghiz Jeff Madden Mark Willett
- 24 Abigail Lewis
- 25 Lacie Casto Grace Ghiz
- 27 Bill Dolen Bob Paden
- 28 Susan Pratt
- 29 Drew Osenbach
- 30 Grace Vanover





Brooke Powers, daughter of Jay and Rebecca Powers, has been awarded a \$1000 scholarship by the Lion's Club of Barboursville. Congratulations to an outstanding scholar!



Art McCallister was pictured in a recent Herald-Dispatch article, one of a series of outstanding Huntingtonians that Clyde Beal writes about in his regular feature. Art talked about some of his early memories including his life as a child during WWII and then joining the Navy after high school. After his first wife passed away, Art married Suzanne Brownfield Campbell.



4 - Dan & Holli Beirne (1st) 5 - Marvin & Valerie Moore 8 – Jacob & Hannah Eastman 8 – Jake & Ashley Sharp (1st) 10 - Phil & Gloria Holmes 11 - Clyde & Dee Mount 11 - Jeff & Lisa Riley 11 - Roger & Tracy Waugh 12 - Rick & Trudy Elam 15 – Bobby & Joyce Mannon 17 - Kevin & LaAnna Blake (20th) 17 - Kevin & Susan Skaggs 18 – Jeff & Kim Day 18 – John & Kim Stinespring 20 - Jeff & Trena Wise 23 - Shane & Meredith Hufford 23 - Seth & Ashley Summers 25 – Earl & Teresa Trawick

27 - Curt & Katelyn Mann

3 – Tyler & Rebecca Hampton

Judy's Shawls

will not meet in June or July.

Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 3.



Sunday, June 21 for July issue of *Bridges*

Senior Adult Fellowship Luncheon

Canceled for the month of June.

Hoping we can be back together soon but in the meantime stay safe.

REFIT® with Steph & Carla

Hope to see everyone soon! We will let you know when we have been given the go ahead to be able to resume classes.

In the meantime, keep moving.



From Our Family Life Pastor

Graduations



As many of our senior's graduation ceremonies have been moved to June, and most have now finished all of the requirements that make it official, I want to take this opportunity to say "congratulations!" Your accomplishment is worthy of celebration and we are proud of you. As this season ends in the most anticlimactic way, there are lots of things that have not been the way that you may have hoped and dreamed. It is ok to mourn the loss of these expectations. But I

want to encourage you, and your families as well, to consider your journey. From where have you come and what lies ahead? What stories show God at work in and around you? Sure, there is uncertainty, but what are things that you hope for? What or who do you hope in? What is defining your path forward? What does it mean in this season to say with the Psalmist "[f]or God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken." 62:5?

We want to celebrate with you and your family. If you are a graduate, or family of a graduate who attends New Baptist Church, please send to leeboso@gmail.com:

- Picture
- Full Name
- Graduated From
- Degree (if applicable)
- Future Plans

- Accomplishments/Organizations
- Favorite Bible Verse
- Favorite Course
- Fun Fact

We will be putting together slides to share on the New Baptist Church Community Facebook Group. We are considering other ways we can recognize our graduates and will communicate any future plans as they become available.

This is a time of transition. Our summer mission trip to Tennessee has been cancelled as well as June Camps at Cowen. We are evaluating when and how we will begin to phase in youth and children's ministry at New Baptist Church. But in this time of transition, what is God showing you? Most schools will have collected their final assignments by the time this prints and summer, but different is beginning. How is God at work in your family? What is God doing among your neighbors? Are there new habits that focus your minds on Jesus during this season and allow you to listen for direction from God? If you've ever sat for a long time, that transition from sitting to walking feels a little wobbly, and maybe this season feels the same way, but how can we allow God to use this as a way for us and our families to grow in Him?

Pastor Lee <><



From the NBC Finance Board:

God is good all of the time! During this Covid-19 pandemic, our finances have held up well. Offerings to the general fund on a year to date basis are about the same as last year. Also, our offerings for April and May 2020 were sufficient to cover our operating expenses.

Thank you for continuing to support the ministry of New Baptist Church.

Darrell Walden, Chair



Making A Difference

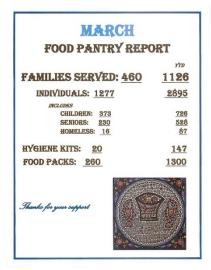
In times of crisis the church has a great opportunity to make a difference in the community. I want to commend our Food Pantry volunteers for stepping up in a great and selfless way. They have come each Tuesday for years to serve the hungry in our community. Most of our food pantry workers fall into the high-risk age range and yet they come each week to serve those in need. The school closings and work lay-offs have also allowed some younger people to invest their time by volunteering with the preparation and delivery work of the Food Pantry. Before they leave the Food Pantry on Tuesday afternoons, the volunteers prepare the non-perishables for the next week's distribution. This speeds up the time to serve each individual on Tuesdays. It also limits the time our volunteers and clients are exposed to each other. Protocols were put into place to comply with the physical distancing and surface contact guidelines. The pandemic has affected many families that now find themselves in need of food.



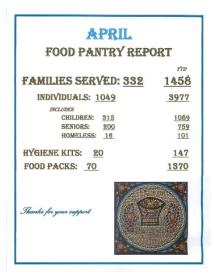
I want to thank Joyce Mannon and the Food Pantry Crew for their continued selfless service to the community over the years and especially now in the face of a pandemic. You are making a difference for the Lord in the lives of these families. The number of families we help seems to be growing each week and that puts additional pressure on the Food Pantry. As you look for ways to make a difference for the Lord

in our community consider this ministry because the hungry are being fed and the Lord is being honored by the New Baptist Church Food Pantry.

Church Food Pantry.







New Baptist Church Summer Ministry Intern:



Hi! I am **Taylor Curry**! I am a senior at Marshall, graduating in December with plans to apply to Palmer Theological Seminary to pursue a Master of Divinity. My walk with the Lord started at Highlawn Baptist Church in Saint Albans, WV where I was saved in early high school. By God's provision I ended up at Camp Cowen as a junior in High School 2, and after two years of being a camper I applied for staff. It was as a staffer that I got to know Rob Ely. Through mentoring me as a student at Marshall, and eventually as a part of BCM Leadership, Rob was instrumental in shaping my understanding of what a Christian life meant and what the Lord calls it to be. Through God's grace and with the help of Rob's discipleship I've developed a heart for ministry which led me to staff for three years at Camp Cowen, co-lead two small

groups through BCM Leadership, to Bolivia, and now to New Baptist Church as your summer intern. I hope through this internship I can grow relationships with the people at New Baptist I know and build relationships with those who I don't, to learn more about the church as a ministry and to prayerfully help those who help to make it the place we come to worship the Lord.



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, Chelcie & Coralie Adkins, Dan & Holli Beirne, Jenny Benson, Tom & Laura Blake, Ed Bowling, Julie Brammer, Dorothy Castleberry, Mary Clifton, Jack Cook, Chelsea Caldwell Courts, Linda Cummings, Rose Davis, Sally Davis, Tracy Foster, Patty Green, Doris Halcombe, Patsy Hall, Ripley Haney, Minnie Harris, Bill Herrold, David High, Anna Holstein, John Hovey, Linda Hutchinson, Scott Jackson, Bill Lapole, Virginia Lawrence, Joseph Leggott, Judson Maverick Maynard, Roy Maynor, Dick Meredith, Linda Miller, Michelle Morgan, Pam Mullins, Mary Coughenour Murphy, Grace Napier, Barbara Pauley, Carl Pemberton, Sr., Jerry Powers, Carol Richardson, Jack Rickman, Jimmy Robinson, Ronnie & Denise Runnels, Amy Sacre, Walt & Marion Sansom, Peggy Saunders, Kimberly Sifford, Major & Lynnette Simms, Keith & Bonnie Simpkins, Butch Smith, Barbara Lynn Spurlock, Jim & Ann Spurlock, Raymond & Carolyn Spurlock, Judy Swann, Grover Tadlock, Sandy Taylor, Earl & Teresa Trawick, Pat Vickers, Don & Ellen Walker, Dave Watkins, Nolice White, Mary Lee Wilkes, Mark 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



AWANA 2019-2020 will finish up the beginning of August. We will have a celebration and awards ceremony in the distant future!

I have spoken with our AWANA Regional Missionary, Mr. Jim Alexander and he reports that AWANA has given approval for parents to be listeners/handbook helpers for their children. I am available to listen. Parents, please reach out to your child's listener or if you are a listener, offer to help with the AWANA clubber's verse over the phone or FaceTime. What a great way to keep in touch!

See you soon! In His Service, Debbie Harman



New and exciting changes are coming soon!

Please be on the lookout for information about **summer events** for **distance meetings**, **Zoom meetings**, and changes
we are working on in the Children's Ministry Team including
new signage, a new way for ages to be grouped, room
assignments, and for CHECK-IN and CHECK-OUT to be
more specifically touch-less and faster.

God bless y'all and I sure miss seeing your sweet faces, but we'll be together soon .

In His Service, Debbie Harman

Getting a Glimpse (from The NewsletterNewsletter)

Marital love is a blessing but not necessarily "easy," even when both spouses are Christians. When issues inevitably arise, couples who cling to one another and to God can benefit from that "threefold cord" (Ecclesiastes 4:12). During joyful times, changes, challenges and other adventures, married followers of Jesus can support one another while knowing that Jesus supports them both.

In *The Meaning of Marriage*, Timothy Keller describes falling in love as looking at another person, glimpsing what God is creating in their life, and then proclaiming: "I see who God is making you, and it excites me! I want to be part of that. I want to partner with you and God in the journey you are taking to his throne. And when we get there, I will look at your magnificence and say, 'I always knew you could be like this. I got glimpses of it on earth, but now look at you!"

New Baptist Church

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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:

Currently we are doing two services on Sunday mornings:

9am Worship Service

- Traditional Hymns
- Social Distancing Practiced
- Masks Required

*11am Worship Service

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

*The 11am service is also live streamed on FaceBook (@NewBaptistChurchWV)



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