



# BRIDGES

*A Newsletter of New Baptist Church - May 2020*

## Praying and Giving Thanks In All Circumstances

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).” How

descriptive is this passage of your life? Lord, may it be so for me. In light of this command of scripture to be thankful in all circumstances I thought it right to write a prayer of thanks for the various circumstances created by the Coronavirus.

Gracious Father, I spend this day in gratitude to you. I give to you thanks and praise for your grace and peace even in times of trial and hardship. Our world has been gripped by a virus that has brought fear, sickness and even death to many. For those that are suffering from this virus I do ask that you bring healing and protection upon their lives. Heal them according to your name and glory. I also pray for those who are without a job, struggling to put food on the table, or pay the rent. Lord, please give us today the daily bread that is so needed. Yet Lord, for all of the suffering and pain that this virus has brought, I cannot but help give thanks to you for some of the circumstances created by its wake.

- I am grateful for this time that families have to spend together in a world that so often tears them apart. May this time create in us a new passion for our families.
- I am grateful for the doctors and nurses who work in the hospital. And I am also grateful for all the people who work at stores, or the counter at drive-throughs, or deliver the mail, and the many other jobs that are often taken for granted. May this time teach us how to rightly respect and appreciate each other.
- I am even grateful for having to wear a mask for it confronts our world's preoccupation with

attractiveness and looks. May this time teach us to see others without comparing or judging.

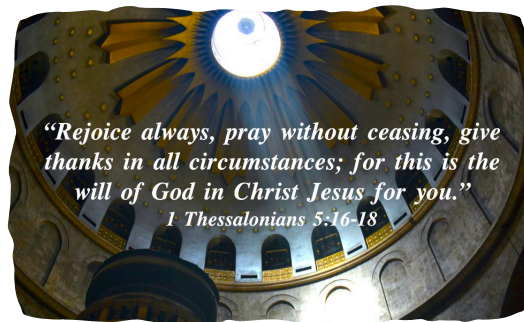
- Though I grieve for those sick in nursing homes and worry about our elderly, I am grateful that this virus has reminded us how vulnerable, important, and loved are our elderly. May this time teach us how to respect and love them better.
- Though I grieve for those who have lost their jobs and are in great need, I am grateful for how the shutting of shops and malls confronts our materialism. May this time cause us to look to you and not to things.
- Though I grieve for the

shutting of industry which creates so many needed jobs, I give thanks that the land and air can enjoy its sabbath rest. May this time teach us about the gift of sabbath for both people and your creation.

- Though I grieve that the church community cannot meet, I give thanks to you for this time of new learning and new growth of how to reach out to people who do not know the Gospel of Jesus our Lord through the tools of radio and internet. May this time fuel in us a zeal and passion for your Gospel.

Lord, I do look forward to the time when there is no longer any sickness in the land. I look forward to that time when people are blessed by jobs, schools are back in session, and we can hug and greet each other at church. I pray that that day may not be far off. But Lord, may we remember the things we are thankful for today in that day. It is to you that I pray, for you alone belongs all glory, honor and power and I have nowhere else to go. I pray these things so that the name of my Lord Jesus may be glorified in you and you in Him. Thank you for your grace and peace. Amen.

Grace and Peace!  
Pastor Trent Eastman

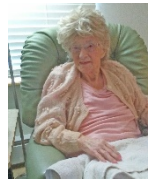


# Happy BIRTHDAY

- 3 Andrew Kinch
- Harper Kinch
- 4 Chris Deuser
- Bill Kendall
- 6 Sally Davis
- Ethel Dunfee
- Jimmy Robinson
- 7 Bethany Adkins
- 8 Pam Woodall
- 9 Jim Castleberry
- Jase Cox
- Carla Cruz
- 11 Jo Anna Smith
- 13 Gail Kelly
- 15 Harrison Brown
- Kathy Via
- 16 Karen Pruitt Adams
- Larry Baker
- Ileene Fetty
- Kimberly Pratt
- 17 Glen Dailey
- 19 Laynce Cruz
- Peggy Jeffrey
- 23 Zach Jeffrey
- Angie Wise
- 24 Sarah Miller
- 25 Ginny Blake
- Cason Kessinger
- Sasha Kessinger
- 26 Catherine Rushton
- 27 E. A. Dowling
- 28 Mark Booth
- Aliyah Deuser (1 yr. old)
- Laura Jordan
- Art Lydick
- 29 Sarah Smith
- Teresa Trawick
- 30 Mary McClure



Our oldest living member, Pearl Miller, was pictured in a recent article in the Herald-Dispatch as she celebrated her 106th birthday April 9. She and her husband Elmer were long-time members of the 20th St. part of New Baptist. He had a wonderful bass voice and sang in the choir for many years; she was the church historian. As recently as last summer, she was a frequent attender of the Senior Adult Fellowship luncheons.



At the same time, Arlene Melton, mother of Gwen (a.k.a. Cookie) Caldwell celebrated her 104<sup>th</sup> birthday at Madison Park where her family viewed her through glass. Mayor Steve Williams was there to present her with a proclamation that April 9 was Arlene Melton Day in Cabell and Wayne Counties. On the same day, Gwen and her husband Dean celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary! Congratulations to these fine people.

**Joyce Mannon**, New Baptist Church food pantry director, was recently interviewed by WSAZ reporter, Andrew Colegrove. His news story focused on the difficulties of food pantries keeping up with demand during the COVID-19 crisis. Joyce shared that in a typical month the food pantry gives out food to approximately 700 people but this last month it increased to 1200. She also stated that Feeding Hunger Food Bank has been a major source of food items that are being given out since our regular food sources are having a hard time getting in supplies. We are thankful for this ministry of New Baptist and all the wonderful volunteers who are pitching in to help.



*Judy's Shawls*  
will not meet in May.

The mere whisper of the Holy Spirit can drown out the thundering noise of an entire world.  
-David Jeremiah



- 6 – Michael & Patsy Stephenson
- 13 – Andrew & Kara Dutton
- 16 – Jim & Lisa Daniels
- 16- Don & Jessica Pennington
- 19- Carl & Sandy Pemberton
- 20 – Lee & Carmen Boso
- 22 – David & Patti Cooper
- 22 – Erick & Jessica Willis
- 23 – Chuck & Joyce Adams
- 25 – Bradley & Rebekah Franks (1<sup>st</sup>)
- 25 – Tim & Kristi Haney
- 26 – Evan & Becky Arkell
- 27- Charles and Susan Stephens
- 29 – Stan & Kathy Meadows
- 30 – Brent & Lindsey Manchester (5<sup>th</sup>)

**Senior Adult Fellowship Luncheon**

**Canceled for the month of May.**

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



Sunday, May 24  
for June issue of *Bridges*

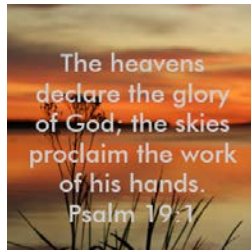
Are you receiving the monthly newsletter via email?

If not, and you would like to have it emailed to you, please contact the church office. If email is not your preferred method of delivery for the newsletter, it can be picked up at the Welcome Center each month or we can send you one through regular mail.

### From Our Family Life Pastor

Over the past month many things have changed, but I feel like we have seen the Church act in ways that are distinctly true to what we are called to. Our methods may be different than usual, but the message is still the same: Jesus, who is Lord of all, invites us into a relationship to love Him and others. Over the past month, I have had many more conversations on the phone and meetings through video chats. We have seen neighbors show up in bunny suits to share joy and parades of cars pass by houses to celebrate birthdays. Families are gathering on their porches, tables, and living rooms to celebrate the resurrection, study God's Word, and pray together. Many of these things were happening before COVID-19 or quarantine became household phrases, but during this unique time we have seen creativity and simplicity come to action.

I do miss meeting with others as I'm sure you do too! And we long to be back to meeting together, but during this time, how can we see God at work?



Psalm 19 is a great Psalm to think about and use with your family to ask some questions about God's activity around us. "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge."

- Look outside, what does the sky, stars, trees, wind, animals tell us about God? How do you see God provide? Does the sun come up and set every day? What does that tell us about God being faithful? What is creation proclaiming? I'm sure there are many more questions you can ask and entertain as you look around at creation.

Then in verses 7-13 the focus shifts from creation to scripture. God's Word is perfect, sure, right, pure, true, desirable, and correcting. Scripture revives, brings joy, brightens our eyes, endures, is sweet...

- What are ways you find joy in God's Word? How does God show us life through His Word? What is your favorite Bible story? Favorite Bible verse? Are there things in the Bible that you find hard to read, what are they, and why? How can you see God at work through His Word?

Maybe you can read Psalm 19 this week and think about it as a family, ask some of these questions (not all at once) and think about where we see God at work. We might see God working in different ways than we expect or are used to, but God is still God and still wants us to know Him through His Word and work in and around us. God invites us into His mission to love God and love others. How can you and your family participate in this during May?

During this time we are updating [www.newbaptistchurch.com/family-life](http://www.newbaptistchurch.com/family-life) and the NBC Parent page with helpful articles, tips, studies, and links for you to continue to grow as a family in your relationships with God. Let me know how I can pray for or better resource you! Praying God reveals His power and presence to you and your family during this time!

Pastor Lee <><

### From the WVBC

Thanks to the rope holders for the mission and ministry of the West Virginia Baptist Convention! Because of your financial support, we are able to reach people with the gospel around the state and around the world.

By financially supporting the Convention, here are some of the ways you are being used:

- You are helping nearly 2000 youth hear the Gospel every summer at **Camp Cowen**
- You are helping **Parchment Valley** host conferences, training events, and seminary classes
- You are helping **Baptist Campus Ministries** reach out to nearly 60,000 students
- You are helping the **School of Christian Studies** equip more than 700 people
- You are helping dozens of young adults discern God's calling through our **intern program**
- You are helping train and support both our **short-term and long-term missionaries**
- You are helping fund both our **church planting and church revitalization efforts**
- You are helping support the **discipleship of men and women all around the state**
- You are helping us do **disaster relief, rebuilding homes and communities in several counties**
- You are helping **future ministry leaders**, providing them **scholarships and opportunities**



The West Virginia Baptist Convention is a family of churches committed to doing Christ's work together.

**Thank you for holding the rope! And thank you for being part of the family.**

What have you learned and accomplished during this time of self-quarantine, social-distancing and stay-at-home orders? For many, projects around the house have been completed much sooner than expected. Our yards and landscaping may look better than they have in years. On and on I could go but you get the picture.

For those “non-essential” (a real insult moniker in my opinion) workers and those that are working at home have been given an opportunity to spend quality time with their families. Having time to play and explore and learn has been a blessing to many even if we do drive each other crazy at times.

For those on the frontlines combating this virus it is a stressful time and not just for them but for their families as well. Some have been forced to stay away from family because of possible exposure to the virus. The healthcare workers and their support staff (cleaning, food service, etc.), first responders, fire and law enforcement should be in our prayers daily.

There are others like our food pantry workers that come each week simply to be sure that the hungry can receive food. Many of these workers are in the “high-risk” category and yet they come each week. The school service personnel that are preparing and delivering food to children that might otherwise go hungry are another group of tireless workers.

Teachers having to learn and implement distance learning when they really desire to be with their students. I applaud them and their efforts. I hope that students are taking advantage of their opportunity to learn and grow even if it is virtually.

As people of faith I hope you have invested some of this time in deepening your relationship with the Lord. Spending time in the Word and prayer. Filling our minds with music and things that point us to the Lord. I want to thank Karen Dailey for asking our church musicians to post something daily for our enrichment. These posts have been uplifting to me and I hope to you also. They are posted to the New Baptist Church Community page on Facebook.

One thing I have enjoyed is the online services of our church. But not just our church. I have friends I have not heard preach or teach very often before and now I can watch and listen each week. What a blessing to watch and learn from so many. Here is the catch to that, though, as much as I have enjoyed the teaching you cannot duplicate online the fellowship and community of gathering as a church family. I miss gathering with my church family. Many of you have expressed the same thought. It will be a glorious time when we can finally meet together again.



Looking forward to seeing you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Robin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Please know that our desire as a staff is to get the church back together as soon as possible. As the Governor loosens the restrictions on group meet in size we will be planning on how we can gather in a safe and responsible way. We will be faithful to the Lord and respectful of the guidelines placed on us by the government and the counsel of our healthcare professionals.



**Adopted by God**

Anecdotes abound of couples who become pregnant soon after finalizing a long-awaited adoption. A *Reader's Digest* contributor recounts how one such mother later handled well-meaning inquiries about which child was “hers” (biologically). She replied: “I’ve forgotten.”

That mindset, perhaps, is why John Piper calls adoption “a picture of the Gospel.” God, through his Son Jesus, makes us his very own eternally beloved children.

Max Lucado writes: “If anybody understands God’s ardor for his children, it’s someone who has rescued an orphan from despair, for that is what God has done for us. God has adopted you. God sought you, found you, signed the papers and took you home.”

**NOTES FROM NBC Choir Director**

We don't have to be inside a church building to sing praises to our Lord and Savior.

These past few weeks has been proof that the church isn't a building, but it is the people of Christ living out our faith. If you are struggling with getting your praise on or struggling with depression or anxiety read what Christ was teaching the people regarding fear in Matthew 10:29 – 32 *Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven...*

This verse always reminds me of the song "His Eye Is On the Sparrow". This is an old hymn of faith written by Civilla Martin, the wife of a traveling evangelist in 1904. She was visiting with a bedridden sick friend who was facing uncertain times with her health and dire situation. That dear bedridden soul blessed Mrs. Martin with her declaration of faith when she quoted the passage from Matthew and how assured she was that most certainly God would therefore watch after her. Mrs. Martin was so encouraged and uplifted after that visit she wrote the poem that was later set to music by Charles Gabriel. This beautiful inspired song of encouragement has been sung in countless churches and crusades around the world for over 100 years. I dare say, it has been sung from my heart on multiple occasions as I faced trying times. It reminds me of the reason I should be singing, I am happy, and I am free! Let the words of this song provide you with comfort and peace for we have the King of Kings, LORD of lords and Creator of Heaven and Earth watching over us.

*Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,  
Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heaven and home,  
When Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is He:  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.*

*"Let not your heart be troubled," His tender word hear,  
And resting on His goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;  
Though by the path He leadeth, but one step I may see;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.*

*Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,  
When songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies,  
I draw the closer to Him, from care He sets me free;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.*

*I sing because I'm happy,  
I sing because I'm free,  
For His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know He watches me.*

**Attention High School and College Graduates**

We want to celebrate your accomplishments! We will make an announcement about how and when we will celebrate you in person in the future, but for now we would like for you to

- submit a picture
- where you graduated from
- what your degree is in (for college and graduate students) and
- what is next for you.



Congratulations on this great accomplishment! We are proud of you and are happy to celebrate you!



**WHO'S READY FOR SOME MAY FLOWERS?** Probably all of us! The colorful early blooms of the daffodils, hyacinths, forsythias, and tulips have faded. We're ready for the bright reds, yellows, purples, and blues of the roses, geraniums, marigolds, and petunias (feel free to insert your favorites!)

We're also ready to enjoy the beautiful fellowship of our families, friends, and church families! Be assured in this time that God is in control! He knows our hearts! And we need to keep time in His Word as a top priority!

Last month, I made a few suggestions for keeping in the Word. I received an email offer from Lifeway this week for free shipping with a \$25 women's Bible study purchase, but it's only good through May 1. Since this newsletter is always out a few days before the first of the month, I'm passing it along for those who catch it in time! "SHIP25" is the code to use if you would like to order a couple of study books from Lifeway.com to use at home. I also still have five copies of "Jonah" and six copies of "What Love Is" and will bring one of them to you if you did not get to participate in either of these studies. Just give me a call at 304-521-5129.

However, I'd also like to suggest finding ways to actually put hands and feet on what you have gleaned from God's Word. Do good for others during this quarantine time and into the summer months! Jesus said in Matthew 25:40, "Whatever you did for one of the least of these...YOU DID FOR ME." So take a meal, bake a treat, send a card, make a phone call, offer to buy groceries, run an errand, pull some weeds, plant some flowers (again feel free to insert your favorite gift or talent!). **Take God's Word to YOUR world by your good deeds and actions!** And while you're at it, be sure to share YOUR favorite scripture with those you reach out to. God's Word is the one TRUTH worth sharing in our world!

"Thanks be to God who gives us the VICTORY through our Lord Jesus Christ!"--1 Corinthians 15:57

**For Good...**  
**Dolores Adkins**



### 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, Jenny Benson, Tom & Laura Blake, Ed Bowling, Julie Brammer, Dorothy Castleberry, Mary Clifton, Jack Cook, Chelsea Caldwell Courts, 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, Judson Maverick Maynard, Roy Maynor, 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 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

### REFIT® with Steph & Carla

It's been quite a while since we've gotten together for class. ☹️

So...

we are thinking about doing a Zoom class or a social distancing live class at some point, but we are still working out details and logistics.

Want to stay up to date on anything REFIT related?

Be sure to follow us on Facebook at **REFIT® with Steph & Carla.**





Are you part of our church pictorial directory? Have you downloaded the Instant Church Directory app to your cell phone? iPad? Computer?

Instant church directory is a great way to put names with faces and get to know your church family. Our church family is constantly evolving – people move, get married, pass away. Instant Church Directory makes it possible to easily keep up with these changes and keep an updated directory.

The directory is so helpful when you have it on your iPhone or android. You can look up a family or individual member and then email, call or text them directly from your device.

Do you need to be a church member to be a part of the directory? Not at all. If you are attending New Baptist Church, we consider you a part of our church family and we want to add you and your family to the directory.

Please contact the church office to find out how to be added to the church directory or how to download the directory to your computer or cell phone. Once you have signed in to the directory, you can also submit updates for your address, email, phone number or photo.

In *happy* moments, *praise* God.  
 In *difficult* moments, *seek* God.  
 In *quiet* moments, *trust* God.  
 In *every* moment, *thank* God.



PSALM 47:2, NRSV

What does God mean when he commands us to honor our fathers and mothers (Exodus 20:12)?

Complete this word search to discover words that mean the same as *honor*.

admire • adore • appreciate • cherish • esteem  
 look up to • praise • respect • revere • value

E	S	E	M	U	H	A	L	G	Z
F	K	R	Q	X	H	P	C	G	I
N	O	D	U	S	H	P	R	C	E
I	P	J	E	R	S	T	M	N	R
D	X	A	J	E	J	X	Z	Y	O
R	V	O	E	S	C	E	F	K	A
Z	E	H	R	P	I	C	D	A	G
V	C	V	A	N	Y	A	P	M	Z
Q	D	I	E	C	M	T	Y	I	R
Z	S	X	P	R	E	N	O	R	E
E	O	X	U	Y	P	A	Y	O	H
B	R	E	U	T	U	K	O	O	Q



## New Baptist Church

610 28<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:newbaptist2008@gmail.com)

### On the Web:

[www.newbaptistchurch.com](http://www.newbaptistchurch.com)

### Pastors:

Rev. Trent Eastman  
([trente@me.com](mailto:trente@me.com))

Rev. Lee Boso  
([leeboso@gmail.com](mailto:leeboso@gmail.com))

Rev. Robin Crouch  
([rlcrouch1948@gmail.com](mailto:rlcrouch1948@gmail.com))

### Service Hours:

Because of current health concerns related to the COVID-19 virus, our services have been greatly modified.

Please check with the church office for updates as to when we will return to a normal schedule.

In the meantime, we encourage you to worship with us online. For our Sunday morning (11am) worship we live stream on the NBC Facebook page. For those who do not use FB, we can also be found on YouTube.

NEW BAPTIST CHURCH  
610 28<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
HUNTINGTON WV 25702



Sunday - May 10, 2020



Monday - May 25, 2020