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# The BRIDGE

Building Responsible Individuals Demonstrating Godliness to Everyone



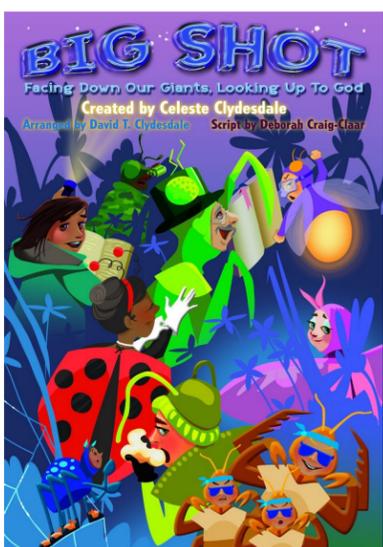
**BRADDOCK** Baptist Church  
Seeking God • Serving Others

## April 2016

### Every Week:

- Sundays
  - 9:30a.m. Fellowship
  - 9:45a.m. Sunday School
  - 10:45a.m. Prayer
  - 11:00a.m. Worship Service
  
- Mondays
  - 4 p.m. Exercise
  
- Tuesdays
  - 6 p.m. Seminary Classes
  
- Wednesdays
  - 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study
  - 4 p.m. Exercise
  - 6-7:30 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer Meeting
  - 6:30-7:30 p.m. Kidz Rock
  - 6:30-8 p.m. Choir & Praise Team Rehearsal
  
- Thursdays
  - 6 p.m. Seminary Classes
  
- Fridays (First of the Month)
  - 6 p.m. First Friday Fellowship
  
- Saturdays
  - 9 a.m. Exercise
  - 10 a.m. ESL Classes
  - 12p.m. GED Class
  
- Mother's Day Out  
Tuesday-Friday 9:30-1:30

April 24 "BIG SHOT" Musical  
Sunday Presentation



## Pastor's Corder Note

God is at work among us!!! We have just come through a wonderful Easter Season, with Holy Wednesday worship service, which included much prayer and praise to our magnificent Lord with the message of "Lead Me To The Cross". Each of us, if true followers of Christ, know that we too must lay it down daily for the Kingdom; "Not my will but thy will be done". This is the motto for believers throughout the ages. We continued into the Sunrise service, where we saw not only God's plan come to fruition, but brought about in his perfect timing so that **one** individual was given "Another Opportunity To Believe". This leaving us great hope too. And then for our regular 11AM worship service - high attendance for the year, we unfolded the truth of Jesus' resurrection; launching our new series Empty: with this first service speaking of the **Empty Cross**". This led us as believers someday leaving behind empty shoes, homes, cars, etc.... when we will also be resurrected or raptured to meet Jesus in the air? We go on from here to examine what we can do about: "Empty **M**arriages", Empty **P**arenting, Empty **T**eaching and Empty **"Y"**".

I hope you will plan to join us for all this series as I pray it will challenge us more to live out our lives in the "Spirits" guidance rather than mere happenstances. I do want to make you aware of a special treat as well, we will pause the series on the 10th of April for the International Worship service. We will have the joy of fulfilling a vow. One of our international students made the decision to be baptized as a believer! We will also have testimony and song in foreign languages, observing their spirit filled worship in a tongue most of us are not familiar with. And in addition we will have a very special guest speaker: a friend of mine and many of yours, Shebu. He has come down from PA on several occasions to assist Braddock in Kingdom work in our community. Please don't miss the power Word he will bring, and then plan to stay over and bring your favorite dish from around the world, as we will celebrate God's faithfulness to every people group on the earth.

Braddockians' I love you all so very much and will continue to seek the Lord for how we can help usher in His Kingdom Come!!

### Pastor Timothy



APRIL 10  
INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY  
& POTLUCK LUNCH

## Deacon Ministry

Dear Braddockians,

Oh the beauty of this area during spring. As things come alive again, we become more alive physically by getting outside, gardening, exercising.

As winter draws to a close, I hope you read the word, spiritual books and got encouraged to “get out” of yourself and bloom spiritually. Many times those beautiful plants are the product of hard work, like tilling the soil, fertilizing, pulling out the weeds and sometimes even starting over from scratch.

As Christians, we are encouraged to grow spiritually. It just doesn’t happen by itself. It takes studying, praying, and worshipping not just alone, but corporately with other believers. Iron sharpens iron.

The deacons in February went to the Shenandoah valley and retreated to pray, encourage one another, hear the word, fellowship and enjoy one another’s company. How wonderful that we were joined by the youth and the young adults to encourage one another in the faith!

Is it not amazing God’s recipe for growth is through fellowship? No Lone Rangers in the Kingdom of Heaven! Growth comes through experiencing Christ together in fellowship. One of the books I have read recently is Life Together by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. It is a great book that spells out the importance of living Christianity with other believers. If we are spending 90% of the time with the world, transformative changes in our life will be difficult.

May we view church in a new way.....not just going once a week or once a month and “attending”. But may we enter into His presence in a new and living way; relationally building His church, sharing our needs and our prayers and going to Him together. And when we ask, we don’t tell God what to do but we ask in faith knowing His will is best for us.

May your faith blossom this spring in your church community at BBC.

Your deacons are here for you to build you up in His most holy faith.

With appreciation for you my brethren,

**Mitch B.**

## Birthdays

- 09 Sajik Masih (Sunny)
- 11 Danny Rodriguez
- 12 Christina Collier
- 13 Edd Dunn  
Moises Lazo
- 16 Sandra Acosta
- 17 Stephanie Pulas Corder
- 26 Tsike Raharinaivo
- 27 Susan Elizabeth Palagyi
- 28 Ariana Robinson
- 29 David Salvatore

## Anniversaries

- 04 Kylie & David Waters Jr.
- 09 Mike & Kathy Marshall
- 17 John & Stephanie Short

## MIHI YOUTH MADE IN HIS IMAGE

Hello BBC!

Just some quick updates on how/what the youth are doing:

We have been studying a series entitled “The Gospel Changes Everything”. Has the gospel changed you? Or do you look the same as before you accepted Christ? This is the vital question, and I hope that you will see the change in your youth.

VOM Med Packs: This month miHi youth are partnering with the Voice of Martyrs and Lifeway Christian Stores and putting together med packs that will “help provide for the medical and hygienic needs of Christians driven from their homes by Islamic extremists...Family Med Packs provide these families with daily essentials like bandages and toiletries. The packs are customized in the field to fulfill specific needs in different nations, including Iraq, Syria, Sudan and Nigeria” ([persecution.com](http://persecution.com)). If you would like to join us and can donate money or supplies, please talk with Cristina. It will cost us \$7 per pack on top of the supplies.

April 17 we will begin The Alpha Series which questions the basics of life. This is a movie series, in which we then discuss these basic questions together or in small groups. This is a great opportunity to invite friends from school (or from anywhere)!

April 23 is a servanthood day and we will be assisting the Prayer and Evangelism Group (PEG) with their yard sale.

May 8 is the BBC Children & Youth Sunday: join us as your kids and youth will have prepared every part to serve you in the church Sunday morning worship service.

As always, we ask that you please continue praying for your youth. God is good!

Blessings, **Hector and Cristina Riojas**



## Stewardship

The Stewardship Committee completed it’s audit of the 2015 financial records for Braddock Baptist Church (BBC). The audit included, but was not limited to, verifying all offering receipts and tracing them through records and reports to bank statements, validating all disbursements \$500 and over, and a sampling of all other disbursements to determine if they were consistent with Church guidance and confirming year end balances directly with the bank. We are pleased to report that the Treasurer’s Report for the year ended December 31, 2015 presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial operations of BBC is consistent with Church guidance. We thank our Treasurer, Amy El-Naggar, for her efforts.

Also there are still a few 2016 envelopes that haven’t been picked up; these envelopes are located outside the Church Office. To ensure that you receive your correct contributions, please use the envelopes provided. These envelopes have your unique contribution number preprinted on them and will ensure your year-end statement is correct. If you would like envelopes (or cannot find your old ones and want a replacement) – please see **Gary Moore** or **Jody Dunning**.

## A New Song



Wherein lays your destiny besides the hands of the Almighty God? What is your role in the fulfillment of your destiny in God's broad spectrum of His kingdom work yet to be done? Are you currently experiencing a setback? Maybe you are on your way to restoration with great anticipation because of the love of God! What about your faith-trust level in God and His holy, written word? Are you like the waves of the sea? You know...the ebb and flow thing. "Yes, I believe you God" and the next; quaking in your boots or biting your finger nails. (James 1:6)

We all have had our difficult times. We may wonder how this could possibly be. Maybe you even asked God why He permitted this horrible "pain" into your life. The reality is we must stay in sync with God's plan for us. The stretching process is technically for our gain. We do not want the "pain." We may be overlooking the rich potential to mature in Christ Jesus.

Some of our Biblical counterparts had some grievous setbacks permitted by God. Do not overlook the fact God is truly sovereign over all mankind and the entire universe.

Consider Joseph's plight. His father, Jacob, favored him and gave him a beautiful, brightly-colored "coat of many colors." This coat signified Joseph was "above" the level of "work." Joseph was the favorite son of Jacob. His brothers were out tending the flocks in the fields. Joseph was nicely in the comforts of home! Hmmm...Yet, Joseph told his father and brothers about sheaves and later in another dream the sun, moon, and eleven stars bowing down to him. Sometimes God may provide us with some special insight, a source of encouragement, so forth. We become very excited and quickly share. This may prove to our chagrin later on as it did to Joseph. Sometimes these heavenly insights are best covered in prayer until the Holy Spirit unction us to release what God has deposited in our hearts. (Genesis 37:3-11)

Because of jealousy, Joseph's brothers plotted to kill him. Reuben intervened planning to come back later, expecting to find Joseph still in the pit. Reuben is the only one desirous to spare his kid brother's life. Instead, Judah had the brilliant idea to sell Joseph to the Midianites! The brothers' fabricated story of an animal killing Joseph. They showed Jacob the blood-stained "coat of many colors" leaving Jacob in an inconsolable state. Talk about Joseph being set up! You may even think... where is God when you truly need Him?

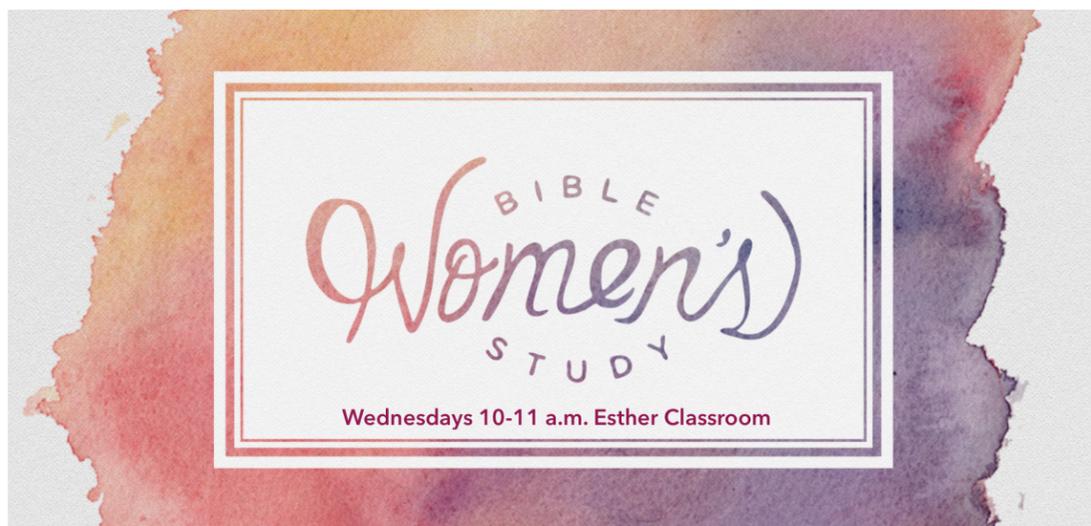
Well, God had Joseph's destiny all worked out!! This all happened while Joseph was only seventeen years of age. Joseph is definitely out of his comfort zone! The Midianites sold Joseph to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, and an Egyptian, himself. Then, Joseph is wrongly accused by Potiphar's wife and ends up in prison for a crime he never committed! Have you ever been falsely accused, feel like you were set up, and stuck in a horrible situation? (Genesis 39)

Well...let us go on and see the providential hand of God at work in Joseph's life! God will do the same for us! We need to trust Him explicitly...at least one faith step at a time. God is no respecter of persons.

Joseph stayed solid in his faith with the God of his father, Abraham-Yahweh. Joseph understood covenant. Now, Joseph is having some more dreams which covered a time span of thirteen years. Joseph's interpretations were accurate for the cupbearer and baker. The cupbearer forgot to put in a good word for Joseph with Pharaoh. This extended Joseph's time in prison. Next, we have him called to interpret Pharaoh's dream. Joseph's interpretation of the seven lean and seven abundant years proved to be true.

At age 30, Joseph stood before Pharaoh and was established second-in-command over Egypt. Joseph was prosperous while in Egypt. (Genesis 39:3,5) He had his own residence, chariot, servants, and married a priest's daughter. Joseph's wife was Egyptian Asenath, daughter of the priest of On or Heliopolis in the Egyptian temple. Asenath, was a present from Pharaoh to Joseph. Her name means "Belonging to Neith" (a goddess). While in Egypt, Yahweh blessed Joseph with two sons. They were named Manasseh (God has caused me to forget" {trouble}), and Ephraim ("two fruit land" or "two pasture lands.") (Genesis 41)

As is the case with all circumstances of "pain," we change. Hopefully, there is a greater presentation of maturity and wisdom. Very critical is the virtue of patience and forgiveness learned through the series of events included within the season of "pain." To go even deeper, within us we need to exhibit a more profound respect and ADORATION for God not abandoning and seeing us through some of the darkest of times! With Joseph, there was change in his appearance: his garb, hair style, adornment, language, etc. Joseph started with the "coat of many colors" and became second only to Pharaoh, a world leader for that epoch in history. It was evident Yahweh had worked in his heart too! He was able to forgive his brothers for selling him into slavery. Yahweh used Joseph for the preservation of the Israelites. God promised Abraham his seed would become numerous as the stars and sand upon the beaches.



So...here we are with our set up, our "pain." Maybe we see the light at the end of tunnel and are anticipating our restoration from God. What Satan meant for harm, God is going to turn it for our GOOD! Also, God receives the glory and honor so richly deserved! Testimonies are birthed during tests, times of adversity if we permit the process to continue according to divine plan and divine schedule. Testing may also be the place, the inception of God-ordained ministries.

May our heart be circumcised to receive the words of the gentle, small voice to lead us into our breakthrough for God's glory! God is capable of turning our circumstances around! To finish the race, one must not give up! Joseph's name means "adding." How much more may we humbly and graciously "add" to God's kingdom storehouse?

Fan the flames, **Elizabeth Philblad**

