** Baptist Tabernacle **

**Baptist Tabernacle**

**63 Division Street**

**Wilkes-Barre, PA 18706**

**570 823-3083**

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**YouTube Channel:** Baptist Tabernacle Church – WB

Email: Pastor.WBTabernacle@Gmail.com

**Tabernacle Tidings**

 January/ February

 **2023**

 

**Message from Pastor Valerie**

**PERSEVERANCE**

In this life there will be times when you will feel like giving up because you are frustrated with your marriage, job, church, family members, friends, etc. But I want to encourage you today. Hold on! Don’t give up! Keep the Faith! Hang in there! Know that as you are going through this tough time, the Holy Spirit is right there with you, helping, leading, and guiding you through and making you stronger.

In Romans 5:3-5, the Apostle Paul says “Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance, character, and hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.” So, know that as you are going through this difficult time, God is doing a great work in you. And you will come out of this stronger and better.

Pastor Val

**Lessons to Remember…**

The new year started sadly with the passing of two of our senior church members, Arleen Ebert and Beatrice Murray. Pastor Val officiated the funeral services, celebrating the lives of these special women of the church. Her messages left us with memorable reminders. In eulogizing Arleen, we are advised to “remember what I taught you” and for Beatrice, we are reminded to “not take things for granted”.

We all would do well to remember the lessons we were taught throughout our lives that have helped us with our personal, social and work relationships. The lessons were based on the basic core Bible teachings.

# **25 Life Lessons from the Bible**

ConnectUS. Mar 30, 2020 by Editor in Chief

**#1 God Should Always Be First in Our Hearts**

Exodus 20:3 says, “You shall have no other gods before Me.”

**#2 Treat God as Your Most Treasured Relationships**

Matthew 6:21 says, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

**#3 God Cares for Us and Wants to Calm Our Fears**

1 Peter 5:7 says, “Casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you.”

**#4 Bless Others with Your Time, Talents, and Treasure**

Hebrews 13:16 says, “Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”

**#5 Live Your Life as an Active Witness for the Gospel**

Matthew 5:16 says, “In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father Who is in heaven.”

**#6 Remember That We Should Live for God, and Not for Human Approval**

Colossians 3:23 says, “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.”

**#7 Cling to God, and He Will Remember You**

Psalm 91:14 says, “Because he holds fast to Me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows My Name.”

**#8 Do Not Blame God for the Troubles in Your Life**

Job 1:22 says, “In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong.”

**#9 Caring for Others Is the Best Way to Live out Your Faith**

James 1:27 says, “Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.”

**#10 Do Not Seek Positions of Power, but Instead, Serve Others**

Matthew 23:11-12 says, “The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”

**#11 Acknowledge Your Shortcomings and See God as Sovereign**

Romans 12:3 says, “For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.”

**#12 Do Not Question Where God Directs You**

Exodus 4:13 says, “But he said, ‘Oh, my Lord, please send someone else.’”

**#13 Take Time for What Matters When It Matters**

Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.”

**#14 Keep God at the Center of Your Life**

Proverbs 3:5-6 says, “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.”

**#15 Desire the Holy Spirit, and Don’t Give in to Earthly Cravings**

Galatians 5:16 says, “But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.”

**#16 Protect Yourself by Clinging to God’s Word**

Ephesians 6:13 says, “Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.”

**#17 Avoid Selfishness by Placing Others Ahead of Yourself**

Philippians 2:3 says, “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.”

**#18 Seek God’s Will First, Rather than Worrying about the Little Things**

Matthew 6:33 says, “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

**#19 Rejoice, Pray, and Be Thankful**

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

**#20 Give God His Due Through Your Life**

Mark 12:17 says, “Jesus said to them, ‘Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ And they marveled at Him.”

**#21 Give Generously to God and to Others**

2 Corinthians 9:7 says, “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

**#22 Remember That God Will Deliver You from Your Fears**

Isaiah 41:10 says, “Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.”

**#23 Remember What God Desires Is Your Heart, Not Just Your Works**

Micah 6:8 says, “He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

**#24 Do Not Merely Hold onto Your Beliefs – Live Them Out**

1 John 3:18 says, “Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.”

**#25 When God Calls You, Be Faithful to Answer**

Isaiah 6:8 says, “And I heard the voice of the LORD saying, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?’ Then I said, ‘Here I am! Send me.’”

**Send messages of love and affection to those you care about.**

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**Constitution and ByLaws**

**The Constitution and By Laws have been revised by the By Laws Committee and recommended changes have been approved.**

A summary of the approved changes include:

1. Reorganization to identify separate sections for policies (Constitution) and rules and procedures (ByLaws).
2. Church Covenant incorporated into the Constitution.
3. Amendments to be adopted when two thirds of members present agree.
4. Clarification of membership process; member privileges and responsibilities; updates to define active vs inactive members; discipline and dismissal of members.
5. Updated procedures for Board meetings and elections as well as responsibilities for all officers.
6. Reduced Quorum to15% of number of active members on the roll for Congregational Business Meetings and provides guidance on how to conduct business if quorum cannot be reached, including use of new technology methods to allow members to join by virtual means.
7. Use of a proxy vote which will allow shut-ins or folks who cannot attend a Congregational Business Meeting to complete a written vote on the motion(s) to be presented. Note: if any Amendments are proposed to the motions during the meeting, then proxy votes are null and void since the motion will have changed. SEE FORM ENCLOSED!
* Copies of the 2022 Baptist Tabernacle Constitution and Bylaws are available either electronically (email IT.WBTabernacled@Gmail.com) or at the church office.

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Baptist Tabernacle Proxy Statement Form

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| (Proxy statement for Congregational Business Meeting) |
| I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ hereby authorize (print name) |
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| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to (print name)  |
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| vote on my behalf in the Congregational Business Meeting on (date) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. |
|   |
| Signature of Member \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Witness \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  (print name)  Witness Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
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Return this completed proxy form to the Church Clerk as early as possible and no later than 15 minutes before the meeting begins.

**In 2022, we were able to accomplish many great things for Baptist Tabernacle with only a few workers. But the church is only as good as its “People”. WE NEED YOUR HELP!!**

**Please volunteer to serve on a church board or committee.**

**All Boards are in need of members.**

**Deacons: Coordinates church worship services and pastoral related activities.**

**Trustees: Deals with church business and building maintenance issues.**

**Christian Education: Plans education program and events for children and Sunday School curriculum.**

**Updates from the Official Boards:**

**Reminder: All boards, organizations, standing committees and financial officers of the church will turn in written annual reports to the church office by the last Sunday in January.**

**Please note that each Board can have up to 7 members, so if anyone is willing to join us, your help would be greatly appreciated!**

**Elected and appointed officers for 2023 include:**

**Deacons:** Sharon Myers; Sandy Bonavina; and Bette Sims

**Board of Education:** Linda Shandorf and Charlotte Blaine

**Trustees:** Janet Murray; Bea Fell; Barbara Nanstiel and Ron Shandorf

**Official Board Officers:**

**Moderator:** Bea Fell **Asst. Treasurer:** Barbara Nanstiel

**Secretary:** Ron Shandorf **Financial Secretary:** Bea Fell

**Treasurer:** Janet Murray **Church Clerk:** Barbara Nanstiel

Audit Committee: Ron Shandorf; Charlotte Blaine; Bette Sims

Flower Committee: Sandy Bonavina and Tracey DeRocco

Pastoral Relations: Barbara Nanstiel; Sharon Myers; Charlotte Blaine

 **Meetings/ Events:**

**The Official Board will appoint a Moderator; Church Clerk; Treasurer; Financial Secretary and Secretary as well as other committee members as required at the January meeting.**

**January 19 Boards meet at 6 PM Official Board meets at 7 PM**

**January 29 Written Annual Reports due to church office**

**Jan 29 – Feb 19 4 week Bible Study on Romans (Sundays after church)**

**February 9 Boards meet at 6PM Official Board meets at 7PM**

**February 26 Congregational Meeting to approve Annual reports and Budget**

**Active Shooter Training class is being planned for March.**

**Missions:**

**We will be collecting offering for the Retired Ministers and Missionaries during the months of January and February.**

**Prayer List:**

**Seasoned Saints: Margaret Bullock, Peggy Breese, Bob & Elaine Singer, Erma Kohl, Mrs. Brezinski.**

**We pray for the families & friends of: Arleen Ebert, Beatrice Murray, Maria Armenti, Rose, Jane Tudgay, Merissa, Eric, Joann, Aunt Charlotte and Allen, Coach Crane.**

**Gail & Steven & family; Kristy; Toni; Charlotte Blaine; Sharon; Carol Powell; Gary & Sterling; David; Kenny; Jennifer; Judy Dawe; Kenny; Clara Haynes; Charlotte Ledbetter; Ruth Black; Gloria Watson; Robin; Leanne; Shanette Black; Barb’s family including Dottie; Bettie Sims; Matt & Amy; Andrea; Mary’s Mom Nancy; Wayne and Mary Hauer; Sandip; Matthew Kobusky; Sylvia Parker; Linda Evans; Eddie; Amber; Andrew; Debbie; Theresa; Bill Beebe.**

**People with special needs; Relief from nature’s fury; Mass Shooting victims; World trouble spots including Ukraine.**

**Birthdays and Anniversaries:**

**January:**

 4 Dorothy Melton

19 Hope Ostrander

24 Sandy Bonavina

28 Joseph Bonavina III

29 Ian Finnegan

**February:**

 4 Angelica Saltz 16 Bea Fell

 4 Megan Sims 20 Larry Miscavage

 4 Sonya Cannavale 26 Wayne Hauer

 9 Antonio Bonavina 28 Paula Delprete

 7 Anna Murray

13 Connor Leiby

15 Jerry Kreitzer

**Live Streaming:**

Live streaming can be done on any internet device including smart phones; iPads; tablets; or computers. If you have any questions about how to access live streaming, you can call Ron Shandorf at **610 462-8476.**

**To access the live streaming, you can choose one of two options:**

1. **Go to the church website:** **wbtabernacle.com** **and click on the link for live streaming. You can choose the service you would like to view.**
2. **Go to YouTube and search for “Baptist Tabernacle Church-WB”. You can select the service you would like to view.**

**Key Contact Info:**

Website: **wbtabernacle.com**

YouTube Channel: Search YouTube for “**Baptist Tabernacle Church-WB”**

Facebook: Search for “Group” = “Baptist Tabernacle” and Join the group

**Name Email Address Phone #**

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