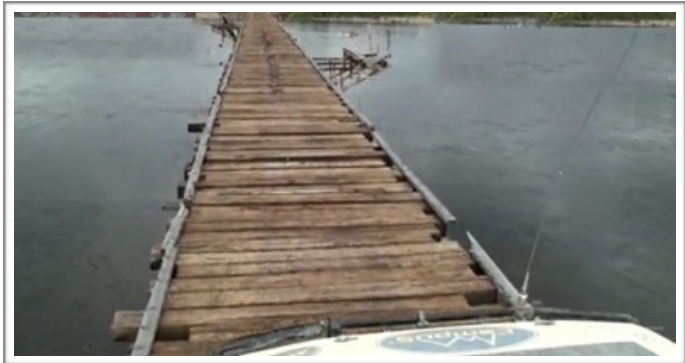


# The BRIDGE

Building Responsible Individuals Demonstrating Godliness to Everyone



**BRADDOCK** Baptist Church  
Alexandria, VA

## September 2015

### 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

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

### Pastor's Corder Note

August is gone but when most of you receive this, Labor Day will yet to have come. This means you still have one last chance to take a deep breath and choose wisely as to which relaxing event you might wish to take in. For Becky and I: we remember a couple of years ago stumbling across the Clifton Antique Car Show. Like this year, we were coming out of a very event packed summer and many personal and ministry demands, so we decided to put every chore aside and spend Labor Day walking among and enjoying these vintage cars. We also enjoyed the owner's stories on how they found them and rescued them from the enviable junk heap. Becky and I plan to do this again this year, Lord willing!

So now it's time to draw a link to how the Lord found us in an inoperable condition and has been restoring us to a pristine state of being. First off, I will say that any comparison would fall short in highlighting God's grace. But let's go for it. These old cars: many were wrecked, some more than once. Their fenders were crushed, headlights dimmed or missing. These cars, if they were ever worth coming out to view, would have to have a new shiny paint job, at the very least. But the real sight to behold are the ones that you find have been restored to original condition from the frame up! Some owners show you picture albums of the restoration progress. For many of these I often find myself thinking at various points in the process: "I might have counted the cost and determined it not worth going on". Yet these owners find the resolve and resources to continue the process to completion, giving us a car show that not only reflects the manufactures original design, but also the restorers' sacrifice to illuminate the designer's original glory in that creation.

Before I lose some of you and you get to thinking this is too deep, there is one other owner's story I wish to share: the original owner! Some of these cars have been owned by one owner their entire existence. To see a car that has always belonged to a single owner, who never grew tired of its beautiful line, its mechanical wonders, continues to captivate even in the light of all the modern day new technology. These cars also may have undergone major restoration, but there's something about the story of that owner never giving up on keeping it in great shape, even though many repairs today are more costly than the auto's original sale price.

As for Humanity:

*Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me,  
I once was lost but now am found, Was blind, but now, I see.  
T'was Grace that taught... my heart to fear. And Grace, my fears relieved.  
How precious did that Grace appear... the hour I first believed.  
Through many dangers, toils and snares... I have already come.  
Tis Grace has brought me safe thus far... and Grace will lead us home.  
The Lord has promised good to me... His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be... as long as life endures.  
When we've been here ten thousand years... bright shining as the sun.*

*We've no less days to sing God's praise...  
then when we've first begun.  
Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, That  
saved a wretch like me...  
I once was lost but now am found, Was  
blind, but now, I see.*

"Amazing Grace" is a Christian hymn published in 1779, with words written by the English poet and clergyman John Newton.

Our God is the best restorer and his handy work is a wonder to behold!!! Take time to enjoy the show, observe the details God has gone to, and praise him for His perseverance with me and you.

**Pastor Timothy**





Dear Braddockians,

Summer is wrapping up, kids are getting ready to go back to school, and we are 2/3 of the way through 2015. Wow, how time flies! But the Lord’s work marches on.

Paul says, “Let us not grow weary in well doing”....which begs the question: Are we getting fatigued in doing God’s work? Well what is the work of God?...that you might believe in the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross and in the power of His resurrected life. When that spiritual life is being cultivated, we are interested in the things of God. What are important things to God? Faith hope and love.... but the greatest of these three is love. When we love, we are involved in brethren’s lives... not for our benefit but for the benefit of the kingdom of God.

At BBC, we see the love of God pouring through the lives of His People. The deacons are here to support and to serve the body of Christ for the purpose of building faith, hope and love and to support the ministry of his word. We are here to support the prayer life, hearing the voice of God, fellowship and the Lord’s Supper. Acts 2:42

God not only gives us a new born again life, but the strength and the resources to continue in God’s work. I was in the hospital recently with a Braddockian who has had some health issues. When I was visiting this person, they were not concerned about their health but were speaking to the staff at the hospital about how good God is and how faithful God is to meet their need. This person’s health was not the best but their faith was strong in the Lord. Our time here is limited even if our health is good. Let us press on together (not alone) in helping our brethren learn of Christ. To the unsaved, let us be bold and faithful to share the good news of Christ to a hurting and fearful world.

What a calling we have in the work of the Lord!

Lord bless you

**Mitch B and the deacon team**

BBC Men

It is absolutely amazing that another year has already past. We will not have a meeting in September but at the October meeting we will elect officers for 2015 -2016. So please plan to attend the important October Men’s meeting. Activities that the Braddock Baptist Church (BBC) Men and Women did in the month of August were the continued maintenance of the BBC grounds, the BBC parking lot maintenance, and the BBC Workday.

Maintain BBC Grounds

Harry Finley, Barry Dunn, Sunny Masih, and sometimes me continue to maintain the grounds which include mowing, edging, and weeding the flower beds at the church and the parsonages.

BBC Parking Lot Maintenance

As many of you probably have noticed the parking lot has be patched, sealed, and re-striped. The task was managed by Pastor Timothy and Barry Dunn/ Harry Finley of the Property and GroundsCommittee. The parking lot looks great and hopefully will be in much better shape this winter. Praise be to God for BBC’s ability to maintain the property and ground in an outstanding manner!

BBC Workday Scheduled

A church-wide Workday is scheduled for Saturday August 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. All Braddockians (Men, Women, and Youth) are encouraged to come out and support the workday. Tasks the Property and Grounds committee hope to accomplish are: spread 100 bags of mulch on the playground; power wash screens and wash the windows in the educational wing; trim bushes; weed flower beds; work in the kitchen; change light bulbs on the steeple; and many other tasks depending on how many Braddockians turn out. Check this article next month to see how many tasks were accomplished. We are praying for a HUGE turnout.

September:

Sun 13 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday School Promotion
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup>	Picnic/Moon Bounce 1:00pm at the Crosspoint House on Roberts Road <a href="#">Meat and Drinks will be provided</a> <a href="#">Please bring a covered dish to feed your family plus two more.</a>
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup>	Leadership Committee meeting @ 7:00pm
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup>	Business meeting @ 7:00pm
Fri 18th	Prayer and Evangelism Group (PEG) @ 7:00pm

God Loves You and So Do I!  
Keep the Faith!  
**Dave Waters**, President BBC Men



**miHi Youth** meet during Sunday School every Sunday at 9:45 a.m. We are super excited to be starting a new series on the book of Daniel in which guys and girls are splitting up to study separately, encouraging more dialogue. Youth consists of those 7th grade through 12th grade. Stay up to date with youth events (including the upcoming Back to School Breakfast)!! on our youth calendar online at [BraddockBaptistChurch.org](#).

Christian Education

John, A Prolific Witness of Jesus Christ

John, the apostle, introduced Jesus Christ to us through the gospel. He had spent quite a bit of time with Jesus, and so became an authoritative source of the ministry and death of Jesus. He introduced us to events and feelings. He further gave us a glimpse of what was to come. After John’s departure from Jerusalem in 70 AD, he traveled extensively throughout Greece, arriving in Ephesus. While preaching and teaching in this place, the Greek authorities were very displeased with John. The King thought long and hard about John’s future. Should he kill him, like he had done many Christians before John? As in every human action, God was in control. It was of no use to kill him, because that hadn’t stopped other Christians, people of The Way, and seekers of the living waters, from preaching and teaching about Jesus.

The decision was made to send John to a “terrible” exile to the Island of Parthos, a piece of rock that emerged about 100 feet from the Mediterranean Sea. This was to become a great blessing. In the early days of his exile, John wrote three letters for his brethren in the Christian churches of the time. He didn’t write to anyone in particular, but yet to all of us. His message is clear: (1) it is important that we remain in a community of believers, in fellowship with Christ, who is the word; (2) John describes that community as the sphere of life and light, of holiness and righteousness, of love to God and to the brethren; and (3) that we (you and me) should of necessity be holy and righteous and filled with love, and should avoid the world and its lusts. Thus the Epistle describes for our Church the nature and criteria of heavenly fellowship, and warns us, as believers, to keep ourselves unspotted from the world.

The second epistle refers to the “mother”, the church, you and me. It gives us a warning to not pay attention to false prophets, or people who want to elevate themselves above Jesus. We are encouraged to remain pure in the word and reminded to love one another.

The third letter is written to his friend Gaius. He commends him for his friendship, and perseverance in Christ. John is critical of another person’s. He concludes this very brief letter expressing the hope that they will meet again. We are not really sure where the meeting will take place since John was in his late nineties when he wrote the epistle. It may be that John planned to meet his friend in heaven.

The final piece of the great works is the Book of Revelation. He shares with the reader a dream that prepares the seven churches around Athens of the bad and the good to come. For you and for me there are no tears, no mourning, and no pain. We are assured that He (Jesus) will be a solid rock at our side when we finally get to witnesses to the New Jerusalem.

Joseph O. Prewitt Diaz, PhD

A New Song



Do you enjoy action packed movies where the ‘Boss”, the leader of the pack aces it every time? Let us go on a journey in Joshua10:1-43. We shall discover his leadership skills contributing to his success. We need to lay down the ground work first. In Joshua 10:1-14, the Gibeonites desperately need the help of Joshua and the Israelites because of a pre-established treaty. Next, in Joshua 10:15-27, we see Joshua and his troops destroying the five Amorite Kings. Continuing on in Joshua 10:28-43, Joshua and his men of valor defeated the Southern Kings from Kadesh-barnea to Gaza. Quite a clean sweep I would say! The purpose of all this warfare was to redeem the Promised Land to its rightful owners, the children of Israel. This conquest epoch covered 1405-1382 B.C. Joshua’s leadership skills necessitated invasion, conquering, and dividing the spoils amongst the twelve tribes of Israel.

The true leader in the midst of all this was YHWH-Yahweh-our eternal God. God supports His leaders whose hearts are completely sold out to Him and no one else. It is called loyalty.

Joshua was leading the second generation of Israelites since crossing the Red Sea. It was Joshua and Caleb with the faith to take the land for Israel’s destiny to be fulfilled.

There was defeat at Ai. The sin of rebellion entered the camp because of Achan coveting spoil not allowed by God. A true leader knows how to pray mightily! They know their true source, dependence rests solely on God. Joshua agonized in prayer. The Israelites were at risk of being annihilated. This would bring a reproach upon God’s name (Joshua 7:1-25). Sin became a stumbling block to victory. Achan and his family were killed and his possessions were destroyed. (Joshua 1:18, 25, 26).

It is time for comparative analysis between Joshua and Moses. Joshua’s manner consisted of military strategies, and envisioning - calculating the strengths/weakness of their combative opponents. Moses’ method of leadership was more diplomatic, about reform. Moses freed the nation of Israel from Egypt. Joshua needed to finish the work of Moses to bring victory in the Promised Land. Joshua had to wait upon divine timing which led to his divine call. Joshua 1:1-9: *“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go”.*

Joshua knew how to organize, delegate, and lead the nation of Israel. He was skilled in communication. It was concise and unwavering in very important, decisive moments. A leader with excellent communication style reveals competence and gets the job done (Joshua 11:16-23).

In review, a godly leader bears with humility (strength under God’s control) these qualities:

- a. Know when to “invade”, how to “conquer”, and “fair” division of “spoils”. Spoils is defined as “booty, loot, GAIN...” what maturation has taken place in the leader? What has the leader learned about God, himself, and their personal relationship with God?
- b. A heart sold out, surrendered to God in obedience - no compromise from the WORD.
- c. It is necessary to share God’s vision for destiny to be fulfilled.
- d. Quick to discern “sin” in the camp. Address it quickly with Christ’s redemptive robe of righteousness and wisdom.

We are greatly blessed at BBC with godly leadership across the board.

T.B.C. - To Be Continued, Part II, October BRIDGE

Fan the Flames, Elizabeth Philblad

Located in Siberia, the **Vitim River Bridge** is one of the most spectacular bridges in the world. It’s an old train bridge crossing the Vitim River, a major tributary of the Lena River. The road over the bridge is part of the challenging BAM road, one of the toughest adventure roads left on this planet.

