

Read the BBC blog The BRIDGE online at [BraddockBaptistChurch.com](http://BraddockBaptistChurch.com)

# The BRIDGE

Building Responsible Individuals Demonstrating Godliness to Everyone



## BRADDOCK Baptist Church

Seeking God • Serving Others

### January 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 Cancelled
--------	-----------------------------------

##### Saturdays

9 a.m.	Exercise
10 a.m.	ESL Classes
12p.m.	GED Class

### Pastor's Corder Note

This is a personal note from your pastor, for the beginning of this New Year. On the last Sunday of 2015, I will have preached "Lord Willing". No, really, that will have been the sermon: "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." [James 4](#). By the time you read this I will—"Lord Willing" have preached that and posted the sermon on line to read in its entirety, so I won't rehash too much of that now.

God's is Sovereign for certain. He has final say in all matters. Yet, he may allow things to go as planned by man that are not what he would wish for us, for a short time. But even that is because he is able to bend reality around our misplaced plans and bring about the good he had formulated all along. This is often to allow us time to come around to seeing and agreeing with His way. While this brings uncertainty to our lives, it for me brings great comfort!

Why do you suppose I would choose to use, "comfort" concerning the possibility that God may overthrow or turn around any plan of mine at any time? My answer is "Heart set"! My heart is set on His Will even over my own will, even for my own plans. August 11, 1974 God put His Holy Spirit in my heart, I wish I could say that from that time 41 years ago, that I have always acted in His perfect will, but I cannot. If you, like me, find while reading this that you have failed to walk in complete obedience, welcome to humanity. If the Holy Spirit lives in you as well, welcome to conviction. Conviction is when the Holy Spirit from whatever means, brings to light you are wrong, and that causes your heart to remorse. The Holy Spirit will not leave you there, in your deep despair. He will show you that righteousness will always be a better path, things will work out better if you will choose to right the wrong and be right before your God! In John 16:8-11 the scriptures tell us that the Holy Spirit was sent to convict us of Sin-convince us of Righteousness and of Judgement.

If the Holy Spirit convicts us of sin and we respond with an earnest heart of repentance, followed by actions to change course to once again head in the 'right' direction: Then we are in right standing with God- the Holy Spirit, God-the Father and Jesus God himself the Son! When we are in right standing by grace, through faith in Jesus' work on our behalf, then the Holy Spirit will continue to convince us of a pending Judgment coming. This judgment is meant for Satan, yet all who are going in the direction he leads rather than following the one true savior Jesus, will find themselves too in the pit that has been reserved for the devil.

I conclude today reiterating that in my 41 year since accepting Jesus as Lord of my personal life, I have not always gotten it right. Yet I further state that I so firmly believe that God is always right, his ways are always better than anything I could contrive. So I remain "Heart Set" on not quenching the Holy Spirit, by digging in my heels and saying to him "not your will but mine must be done". And let's all face it; God can say "poof" and it might just be all over. Your plans will never thwart the will of God, but God's Will, will always come to pass. Say with me I will do my best in 2016 to say "if the Lord wills- that is my heart set will as well.

God bless us all in this coming year!

**Pastor Timothy**

### Where In The World Did Our Shoeboxes Go??

Thank you for blessing children in need through Operation Christmas Child and for donating online to discover the destination of your shoebox gift.

Your shoebox has begun its journey and will be delivered to a child in [Ghana](#). The gift-filled box you packed will share the love of God in a tangible way and can impact not only the boy or girl who receives it, but also their family and community.

You can learn more about how Operation Christmas Child is working in [Ghana](#), and then share it with your friends via social media. Most important, please remember to pray for the child who will receive your gift.

Thank you, and may God bless you!

*"Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." MATTHEW 19:14, NKJV*

*Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse.*

*Franklin Graham, President*



## Deacon Ministry

Dear Braddockians;

Wow a new year 2016! Many times with a new year comes new commitments.

However this new year, let's look forward to old commitments. Now that does not sound right...looking forward to old commitments?

As I look at my life, I find when I look to that time when I gave my heart to Christ and I said, "Lord I have tried to live this life you gave me on my own, Lord show me that new way you have for me." At that point in my life, I received Christ and I was willing for anything he told me. You know what was important to me in my "new life"? Spiritual things were now more important to me than the old life I had been living for 25 years. At this point in my life, I knew I was the Lord's, the Lord was mine and I would come to Him daily for direction. I was crucified with Him, yet I was living by the faith of the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me. (Galatians 2:20) How did I know I was living by the faith of the Son of God?

Well, I looked back to when the church was born in the Book of Acts chapter 2 and verse 42 and saw what the priority of the church was at that time when the church was impacting the world and in one day 3,000 souls were saved. Acts 2:42 says they were 1) **continually devoting themselves to the apostles teaching**. They were willing to listen and submit themselves to the word of God whether it was an encouragement or a rebuke. They allowed the Lord to teach them. 2) **Fellowship**; they loved God's people and knew of the importance of being around God's people and building them up. In doing so it helped build their faith. They knew that friendship with the world and its system was enmity with God. 3) **Breaking of bread**; they valued the Lord's Supper and saw the importance of allowing the Lord to examine their life with Him. Have you ever been cross-examined in a court of law to see if your testimony aligns to what you have done? It can be a fearful thing. Let us value the Lord's Supper not as a ritual but as a measure of our life with Him. 4) **Prayer**; when problems arose they were commanded to pray first and last. I find in my life that I think I do pray; but in reality I pray little and usually on my own. How often do I pray with those who I have problems with or whom I complain to others the most about? The Lord knows us better than we know ourselves that is why we need to pray....always.

When you gave your life to Christ, you transferred complete control of your life to Him and His ways. (Gal 2:20) So in 2016, let us re-commit to the commitment we made when we gave our heart to Him. You will not be disappointed.

The deacon team is here to support you in your walk of faith.

Blessings,

**Mitch B and the deacon team**

## MIHI YOUTH MADE IN HIS IMAGE

A Note to God's  
CHURCH,

Its always great to start fresh, be it a new year or just a new goal. Many times throughout the year, Hector and I strive to start fresh, and, usually we use Monday as a starting point. As we turn from 2015, to 2016, I have a specific request of BBC: Let us remember that we are God's church. We are not in competition with one another, but rather, we are all working and striving for the same thing: "[to] go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I (Jesus) have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20a). It is always our goal that the youth be involved in everything and anything that captivates their heart for the Lord. As we have often said (many times right here in The BRIDGE), our biggest desire is for our youth to continue their walk with Jesus even after they leave youth. Please, church, help us. The youth see you. They observe you as Christians. Our attitudes are expressed and the youth form their opinions of the world and of the CHURCH, God's church, based on what they observe in us. Those opinions will shape how they view Christianity into adulthood. Let us remember this as we are faced with temptations throughout the year. Not only is God always watching, but your youth and children are as well.

We will continue with our lesson "Serve Like Jesus" during Sunday School throughout January. Coming up in February, we are excited to take the youth on a Ski Retreat. This will be a great time of renewal and hopefully a time to focus and set our eyes on Jesus. Parents, we urge you to please insist that your youth join us. Being surrounded by Christian adults and other Christian youth is always a good "peer influence". Don't hesitate to ask any questions! More details to come, and online.

Love, **Cristina Riojas**





## A New Song

We shall be presented with a series on the Biblical guidelines for giving.

Do we give with SIMPLICITY or pomp and circumstance? Mark 12:42, Jesus noted the widow's mite. Christ looks first and foremost at our heart. Abba Father has a depth of vision which far surpasses ours. He can see beyond all outward, natural appearances of the gift. His search is going much deeper. Are we worshipping Him with our gift? Sometimes it is so easy to give with wrong motivation of recognition, praise from man. We need to be focused heavenward, straining to "see" the throne room of God.

Jesus was dissatisfied with the presentation of the Pharisees when giving. He pointed out they were hypocrites in their giving—all for show. (Matthew 6:1-4) Our motive behind giving needs to glorify God. Jesus instructs us to give secretly without any fanfare drawing attention to ourselves. (Matthew 6:5, 16 are other references Christ made about hypocrisy being present in praying and fasting.)

Those who give in secret and with heartfelt motivation to honor God will be rewarded openly by Abba Father. (Matthew 6:4) Simplicity in giving makes our lives less complex and stressful. (Romans 12:8 "...he who contributes, let him do it in simplicity and liberally..." Amplified) God has His own unique way of blessing us. His timing is always perfect, too!

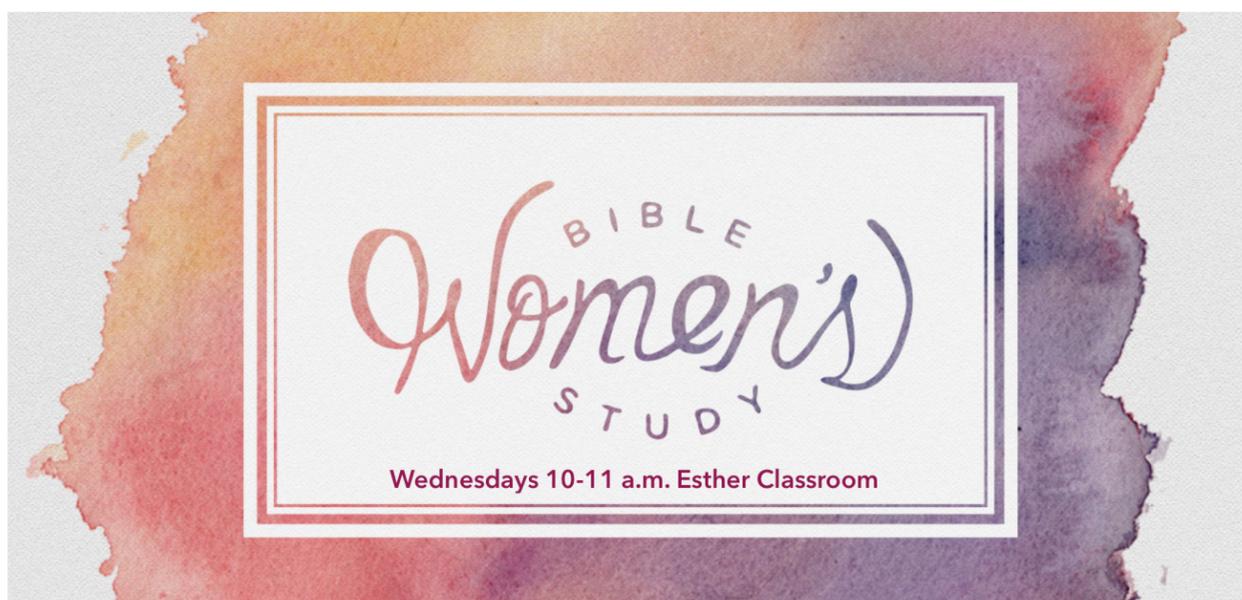
Our next guideline is to give WILLINGLY. We are living in God's sequence of events leading to His end-time harvest of souls. In order to take the Gospel, the good news to all corners of the earth, Jesus needs the Church, His Bride. We are the Church—you and me. We have much work ahead of us before Christ returns. (Matthew 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.") Giving for the purpose of winning souls is an example of a pure motive.

To accomplish this goal of being willing requires many resources which God has already provided. Remember, one of the real critical resources is resident within us. Our love for God and the yearning to see souls redeemed, no longer separated from God eternally! Our giving, whether it is a "widow's mite" or major contributions, provides the catalyst to implement the outreaches, etc. Jesus prayed every evening to His Father. Retreating to our secret place with Him, to pray, is never a wasted resource. Prayer fits perfectly in the Kingdom plan of redeeming souls.

When members of the Body of Christ give willfully with joy, God blesses and multiplies to bring in the abundance. There is no lack based on both God's macro and micro-economic plan. People's needs are met, the church flourishes, and do not forget the songs of rejoicing heard near and far. (Exodus 25:2 "Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering; of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.")

T.B.C.-To Be Continued February 2016

Fan the Flames, **Elizabeth Philblad**



### Birthdays

01 Chang (Peter) Ahn  
06 Evan Song  
08 James Hix, Jr.  
10 Barrie Dunn  
12 Stanley Dunning  
17 James Lewis  
21 Joyce Taylor  
25 Volana Adriama Sinoro  
30 Hillary Lewis  
31 Madeline Waters

### Anniversaries

06 Tim & Terry Stockdale  
07 Jason & So Hyun Williams

### Stewardship

The 2016 envelopes for financial donations will be available Sunday, Jan 3, 2016 outside the church office. If you are not able to make it to the church in January/early February, ask your deacon about ways to get the envelopes to you. If you don't see your name, and would like envelopes, please see Jody Dunning or Gary Moore to get 2016 envelopes. We ask that you use your envelope when you regularly give money to the church - this assists with the accurate recording of donations.

Also note that the 2015 Donation statement will be mailed in a few weeks. If you don't receive a statement by January 31, 2016 and would like one - please see Jody Dunning or Gary Moore.

### Nursery

Thank you to all the new volunteers! The new nursery schedule of volunteers will be ready, Sunday, January 3, 2016. Please be sure to pick up your copy from me (if I don't see you). I am very excited to bring in some new changes in an effort to assure the best security for our children and workers, as well as efficiency. It can not be said enough: Thank you for giving your time and energy to ensure that our babies are in a Jesus centered environment!

Many Blessings, **Cristina Riojas**



Double living root bridge in East Khasi Hills. Living root bridges are a form of tree shaping common in the southern part of the Northeast Indian state of Meghalaya. They are handmade from the aerial roots of living banyan fig trees, such as *Ficus elastica* by the Khasi people and War Jaintia peoples of the mountainous terrain along the southern part of the Shillong Plateau.