

HERE AND NOW

WHAT'S HAPPENING
AT PHBC

MARCH 3, 2019

HARD TO SAY GOODBYE BY: MATT WILLIAMS

One of my favorite singing groups is BOYZ II Men! Okay, they're not a Christian group, and most of you probably don't even know who they are, but they sing a song entitled, "It's So Hard to Say Goodbye".

Here are some of the words:

*How do I say goodbye to what we had?
The good times that made us laugh, outweighed the bad.
I thought we'd get to see forever, but forever has blown away.
It's so hard to say goodbye to yesterday.*

*I don't know where this road is gonna lead to.
All I know is where we've been and what we've been through.
If it gets me to tomorrow, I hope it's worth all the pain.
It's so hard to say goodbye to yesterday.*

*And I'll take with me the memories to be my sunshine after the rain.
It's so hard to say goodbye to yesterday.*

As I was thinking about my last days with PHBC, that song came to mind. As a church, we've been through so much...but at the end, at least for me, the "good times that made [me] laugh, outweighed the bad."

As a family, we identify with the words, "I don't know where this road is gonna lead to", but we know that God is leading and wherever He leads has to be good.

It's hard to leave an emerging young adult ministry. Sheri and I have grown to love, admire, and do life with these outstanding men and women. The depth of their love for Jesus, the way they see the world through God's eyes, and the passion they have to worship Him, serve Him and know Him is beyond many of those our own age. We love these guys and we know our lives will continue to cross, that our "doing life" together will not change. We praise God for that.

It's hard to leave a family that we have grown to love. We started attending just before my mother died and we were impressed by the outpouring of love we received from our church family. We have been blessed by you and by our relationship with you. Our sincerest hope is that you will remain connected with our family and us.

It has been a pleasure to serve with the pastors and staff of PHBC. Our prayer is that they will continue to serve and lead wherever God directs.

It's hard to say "Goodbye"...but within the family of God, it's more like, "See you later!"



AHUMBE PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Dr. Martins as he leads the GHNI work in Africa. Pray for his leadership over the work being done in Ahumbe. Pray also that through the help we have given Ahumbe so far, there will be many villagers who hear and receive the Gospel.

MISSIONS PRAYER FOCUS



Emily Cernoia-Barkley helps train Bridges staff members via distance learning. Bridges works with international students who study in the United States. Through Emily's training, more Bridges chapters can be opened on campuses throughout the U.S. Due to health reasons, Emily has not been able to lead a Bridges group on a campus, but has been able to help others start new

groups. Pray that Emily will continue to heal from her chronic ailments. Pray also for the work she is doing in Ohio with the Great Lakes Prayer Team.

PRAYER THOUGHTS

Paul prayed for the Colossians:

We ask God to give you complete knowledge of His will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better (Colossians 1:9-10 NLT).

Pray this for one another. Ask God to give wisdom and understanding so we live a life worthy of Him, doing good works and growing in our knowledge of His will.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

All children's workers, have you carved out 8:00 to 11:00am on Saturday, March 23 on your calendar for a very important up-to-date security training? "HELP IS HERE" at our annual Children's Worker Breakfast and Training. You'll experience an interactive hands-on training for safety in today's world, as well as updates that can help us receive important info on the needs of our kids. You will also receive your new worker badges. Sign up in the glass walkway.

Don't miss the Big Race on Wednesday, March 20 from 6:45 to 8:30pm. Car weigh-in and check-in will be from 6:15 to 6:40pm. The race will begin at 6:45pm sharp. Please come as a family and sit together in the bleachers to cheer on the kids and their cars. Even if you don't have a car to enter, come to cheer on your friends. Refreshments will be sold during the race to help benefit our mission project, the village of Ahumbe in Nigeria. **There will be NO regular club meetings for Pioneer Girls, Tree Climbers, or Stockade this night. Come help us make this a great night at the race!**



Do you know of a family who has a child with special needs? Maybe they don't attend church because there is no place for their child? Well, it's time to invite them to church!

Our Treasure Cove ministry is here to meet the needs of children with special needs through elementary age. As they are surrounded by many of God's treasures, children will hear about the greatest treasure, Jesus. Our trained volunteers will lovingly care for each child while sharing truths from God's Word. Stop by our Treasure Cove room in the B hallway – the room with the aquarium – if you want to get a peek yourself, then begin inviting your friends. We can then care for the child with special needs and point them to Jesus, and parents can have the opportunity to worship with our loving church family. Classes in Treasure Cove are at 9:30 and 11:00am on Sunday mornings.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

The Adult 101 Growth Group, along with high school seniors, are invited to an evening of ice skating on Saturday, March 16 from 7:00 to 8:30pm. Details to come but mark your calendars and invite your friends!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Men of Valor is hosting a Family Night Out to watch the Cleveland Cavaliers on March 22 at 7:30pm. This special theme night includes a Larry Nance Sr. bobblehead giveaway and is Faith and Family Night featuring Christon Gray! Cost will be around \$20. Please contact Dan Buncher at 216.280.4553 or dbuncher@phbaptist.org by March 11 if you are interested. Transportation is available from the church.

PHBC is updating our church directory. While collecting and updating contact information for our Members and Regular Attenders, we can also update our church database. Please visit the table in the glass walkway to give us your family's current contact information. Turn in your form in the glass walkway now through March 17.

PARMA HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

We are gearing up for our annual Bowl-a-Thon fundraiser. Please check out the Academy table located in the glass walkway or stop in the Academy office to pick up information to participate.

Open enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year is now accessible to new families.

More information is available on our website, www.phcawarriors.com. With questions or to schedule a tour, please contact Jen Robinson at 440.845.8668.



WHO ARE YOU? BY: MATT VINCE

A few weekends ago, our students were able to get away for our annual Winter Retreat.

This year, our theme verse was Mark 12:30: *“And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”* Over the course of the weekend, we looked at what it means to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.

I had the privilege of digging into what it means to love Him with all your soul and admittedly, I wasn't sure what it meant. I could give a decent idea of the other three off the cuff, but I had to study what it meant to love God with all our soul.



So, what is our soul, and how do we love God with all of it? I found that what is conveyed in the word “soul” is what makes us ourselves. It's our life; it is who we are. In short, it is our identity. This then brought me to the question, who are you? Who am I? How would we, or others, define ourselves? If we had to boil down who we are to the bare bones, what would make the list – both the good and the bad?

Well, there are some of the obvious physical things that can identify us: our height, hair color, body shape, or skin color. But then there are the positions we hold: in our families, we're sons/daughters, siblings, spouses, parents, etc. In our social circles we're friends, confidants, employees/employers. We're members of groups or clubs: Democrat or Republican, a Boy or Girl Scout, a member of the school band, national honor society, the management team, etc. Then there are things that we might see as being even more foundational to our identity, like our passions: writer, singer, creator, or teacher.

For the majority, most of what we would say makes up our identity are positive things. But unfortunately, that isn't always the case. Some would see their identity as something very negative: a failure and a screw up, unloved and unwanted, a victim, a target, etc.

All these things, and many more, impact and contribute to our identity. For all of us, we tend to cling to some of these things, with a vise-like grip, to bring us purpose in our lives; to the point that if something happened to challenge or change that identity, we would be unable to define who we are, and our world as we've known it would come crashing down around us.

But we all have a deeper, more foundational identity that we must understand and cling to. That is our identity in Christ. The Bible tells us that, as believers in Christ we are *“...a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come”* (2 Corinthians 5:17). We are not bound by how we used to define our identity, we are made new! Here are just a few ways we ought to see ourselves in Christ:

- **You have been chosen, handpicked by the God who created the universe** (1 Peter 2:9; Ephesians 1:3-4)
- **You are treasured** (Deuteronomy 7:6, 14:2)
- **You are irreplaceable** (1 Thessalonians 1:4)
- **You are worth dying for** (1 John 3:16; Romans 5:7-9)
- **You are set free** (Romans 6:18; Galatians 5:1)
- **You are His Child** (1 John 3:1; Galatians 3:26)

And this list is nowhere near exhaustive! It is this identity – our identity from God – that we must test against all other means of defining ourselves. I am a creation of God who has created me to be a parent, a sibling, a teacher, a writer, an employee... whatever He has created you to be. But we also must understand that this also helps to expose the lies of who we can think we are. I am NOT worthless but valued. I am NOT a failure but I have a purpose. My identity is not set by me or anyone else, it is determined by God my Father!

So my question to you is this: are you going to continue to allow the world or your feelings to define who you are? Or are you going to allow the Creator of the universe to define your identity, and teach you who He has made you to be?

Who are YOU?

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT PHBC

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
3	4		6		8	9
10			13			

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

All In – 11:00am/B-5

MONDAY, MARCH 4

GriefShare – 7:00pm/B-5

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

IMPACT Night – 7:00pm

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

MOPS – 9:30am/parlor

Bangers and Bangers – 5:00pm

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

Set your clocks ahead one hour!

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

All In – 11:00am/B-5

New Life Class – 11:20am/C-5

Puppet Team Rehearsal – 4:00pm/B-1

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

White Cross – 10:00am/parlor

IMPACT Night – 7:00pm

PHBC LEADERSHIP STAFF

Dan Adams – Interim Senior Pastor

Pam Scott – Children's Pastor

Jon Perkins – Discipleship and Senior Adults Pastor

Tim Hunsicker – Connections Pastor

Matt Vince – Interim Youth Director

Dave Griffey – Christian Schools Administrator

Jen Moench – Preschool Director



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:15 & 9:30am *Classic* | 11:00am *Contemporary*

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