

“Stand Firm: The Power of Unity in Christ” - Philippians 4:1-3

Pekin First Church of the Nazarene

Sunday, June 8, 2025

Cheryl Sherwood – PFN Associate Pastor

Who wrote this book? Paul

Where was it written? Roman prison

Why is this book important? Paul wrote to express his appreciation
and affection for the Philippian believers.

What is the main idea of Philippians? The portrait of Jesus Christ as a
humble servant.

How could we apply the lessons we will learn from Philippians?

True joy comes only through humble faith in the saving work of
Jesus Christ, joining ourselves in harmony with His followers, and serving others in the
name of Christ.

**Philippians 4:1-3 (NIV) – “Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and
long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends! ²I plead
with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes,
and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended
at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my
co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.”**

Here are some good **life lessons** from this scripture:

1. Deal with problems quickly, accurately, and personally – don’t let them fester.
2. Address the people and the problem.
3. Humility will be honored over pride. It never hurts to be humble.
4. Redemptively be of the same mind. We don’t have to have the same opinions,
but we do need to be on the same page.

**Psalm 133:1 (NIV) - “How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together
in unity!”**

Questions to ask myself:

How can I personally “stand firm in the Lord” this week, especially as we anticipate new leadership? _____

What does it mean for my daily walk to be anchored in Christ? _____

Questions to ask together:

What steps can we, as a church, take to foster deeper unity? _____

How can we actively support our Church Board, one another, and Pastor Lauren in a spirit of collaboration and love? _____

Can we identify any areas where minor differences might be creating subtle divisions and instead encourage a spirit of reconciliation? _____

PFN Summer Preaching Schedule:

JUNE 15 – “The Peace That Passes Understanding: A Father’s Legacy”
(*Philippians 4:4-7*) by Pastor Lloyd Brock

JUNE 22 – Jersey Sunday and “Living a Life of Christ-Like Excellence”
(*Philippians 4:8-9*) by Cheryl Sherwood

JUNE 29 – “Contentment in Christ: Ready for Every Season”
(*Philippians 4:10-20*) by Pastor Lloyd Brock

JULY 6 – Anna Kindle, *Missionary from Papua New Guinea*

JULY 13 – Pastor Lloyd Brock

JULY 20 – Pastor Lauren’s Installation Service and Welcome Brunch