



The Barnesville Lantern

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The Pastors' Spotlight

Up-Coming Sermon Series:

I am very excited about a series of three messages on **"The Bible"** beginning on **Sunday, July 7, 2002**. I have been a student of The Word since I was thirteen years old and I still marvel at the freshness of Scripture. (Of course it has been some time since I was thirteen!) I never fail to learn something new or to receive new insight into the person and character of Almighty God when I go to the Scriptures. Pastor Randy and I encourage you to attend the services with Bible "and pen" in hand for study and note taking. The topics of the series will be:

- "Revelation" of the Word
- "Inspiration" of the Word
- "Illumination" of the Word

In this age of skepticism, indifference, and even hostility to God's Word, it will do us all a lot of good to take another close look at the inspired Word of God.

"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Hebrews 4:12

If you have questions about the Scriptures, please send me a note or e-mail, or mention them to me at one of our services. Your question may be the very one that someone else has always wondered about. So please, don't hesitate to ask. None of us ever knows all there is to know about God's Holy Word. We do, however, have the Holy Spirit. In John 16:13 Jesus said, "When He, the Spirit of Truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth." What a Wonderful Teacher!!

God Bless, Pastor Joe



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Upcoming Events

July 3: Covered dish dinner and Church Business Meeting

July 13: Important VBS Meeting for all teachers, helpers, and other volunteers

July 14: Deacon Ordination Service for Larry Michael

July 21: Third Sunday "Hymn Sing". You won't want to miss the humor of Abner Lumpkin

July 27: Family Swim & Cook out at Sharon & Eric Engle's. Please RSVP 301-874-2784

July 29-Aug 2: Vacation Bible School. 6:30 pm-8:30 pm. Tell all your neighbors and plan to attend. Classes for children from nursery to 7th grade and Adults!!

A calendar with the full schedule of meetings and services is attached.

The Pew Perspective: Commentary from Members

Lee Michael

Besides Vacation Bible School, one of the most significant activities our Church will undertake this summer is the revision of our constitution, which dates to 1972. The Constitutional Revision Committee (CRC) will spearhead this task. The other members, who are Flora Gilliam, Eric Engle, Tod Luhn, and Pastor Joe, will meet on July 20th to review and discuss proposed changes to the way our Church is governed. Out of this meeting, the CRC will submit a constitution for the Church to review and evaluate.

As a political science student and a Baptist, I am doubly excited by this opportunity to serve on the CRC. Constitutions and rules of governance, and why they succeed or fail, are part and parcel of what I study and teach at GWU. Similarly, as a Baptist, I share with you the conviction that a church should not be ruled by a supreme leader or a group of wise elders. Rather, we as a local and autonomous congregation are to rule ourselves according to democratic principles. It is therefore up to us to determine the rules by which we will guide our decisions—and to make sure the rules we adopt are beneficial to our needs.

But what exactly is a constitution, and what makes a constitution a good one? This is the task set before the CRC. Very briefly, I would suggest that a constitution is a written agreement between the members of a community that creates and defines the powers and limitations of office-holders and their government, as well as enumerating the rights and responsibilities of the community members.

And what makes a constitution a success or a failure? A good constitution is like the framework of a house. The framework determines the spacing of windows, walls, and doors, but does not control the eventual paint color of the building, or how a room will be furnished. Therefore, a good constitution only delimits the broad outlines of government, and leaves more specific choices to be decided upon after it has been established. Did you know that the United States Constitution is only seven pages long, but has only been amended 17 times since 1800? Our national constitution's longevity can be largely explained by its brevity and succinctness—a characteristic I hope we can replicate here at Barnesville Baptist Church.

After we submit our proposed constitution to the Church, probably in early August, the CRC will ask for your questions, opinions and suggestions. Until then, please pray for the CRC as we begin this very important endeavor.

Vacation Bible School July 29 – Aug. 2

The Theme of the 2002 VBS is “Amazon Outfitters: On Expedition With The One True God”. Vacation Bible School is a fun-filled spiritual adventure that provides concentrated Bible study and encourages real-life application. The intention of VBS is to reach people of all ages, leading them to know and respond to Jesus Christ as led by the Holy Spirit. ‘Amazon Outfitters: On Expedition with the One True God’ will launch ribereños (people who live on the river) on a journey that will ultimately lead to “One God! One Saviour! One Lord!”

The visual theme of VBS is the Amazon River and the rain forest. “Outfitters” will guide “explorers” on this adventure.

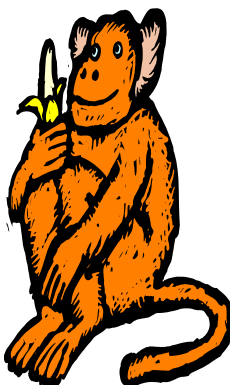
Amazon facts: In the Amazon Rain Forest are over 500 types of mammals, 175 different lizards, 300 other reptile species, tree climbers of every kind, and a third of the world's birds!!

The rain forest is home to more than 1,500 types of butterflies.

The Amazon's treetop world is nine times the size of Texas.

The Amazon River is 4,000 miles long and at its mouth is 90 miles wide.

The rain forest gets about 6 ½ feet of rain each year. Some places get as much as 18 feet.



July Birthdays:

6th Buddy Baumbaugh
8th Nancy Cooley
9th Fred Bird
23rd Mary Yates
26th Joe Yates
26th Virginia Magaha
28th Jaqueline Cole
30th Sherri Marsh

(Let us know if we have missed someone!)



Prayer Concerns:

Margie Stream, at home recovering from surgery
Laura Bennett, at home recovering from surgery
Kaitlynn Langstaff, very ill in California
Tiffany Gamble, bone marrow transplant in Ohio
Virginia Shreve, Beverly Nursing Home & Rehab.
Mary Barr, hip replacement
Charles Williams, Joe William's father, heart related
Dan Goddard, cancer in Nebraska
Jim & Kathy McKamey, friends of Gilliam's in Ohio
David Bennett, one-year check-up
Bill Dice, Ollie Baumbaugh's brother
VBS
Pastor Joe, rib injury
Peace between Israel and Palestine
Our Nation and its Leaders

"Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:16.

George Washington's Prayer for America June 8, 1783

Almighty God: We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy Holy protection; and Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to Government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for the fellow citizens of the United States at large, and particularly for their brethren who have served in the field.

And finally that thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose to us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that Charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the Characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed Religion, and without a humble imitation of whose examples in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation.

Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Independence Day

As you celebrate July 4 this year, we encourage you to consider what an unimaginable blessing it is to live in this great country. Take some time to thank God for His faithfulness to you as an individual, your family, your community, your state, and your nation. No, things are not perfect. Neither are they easy. But, with all our problems, we enjoy social, economic and political liberties and freedoms that are uncommon in all of human history. These freedoms are not free and they are not to be assumed. They must be protected. Each generation has to be willing to do whatever is necessary to see that freedom rings all across this land.



Pledge of Allegiance:

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the united States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

America the Beautiful (Katharine Lee Bates)

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining ea!

O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife.
Who more than self their country loved
And mercy more than life!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness
And every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
Till nobler men keep once again
Thy whiter jubilee.