



The Barnesville Lantern

Barnesville Baptist Church
17917 Barnesville Road
Barnesville, Maryland 20838

301-407-0500
www.barnesvillebaptist.org
barnesvillebaptist@msn.com

September 2002, Volume 1, No. 4

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Psalms 119:105

The Pastors' Spotlight:

If I haven't told you lately, it is a great honor and privilege for your pastors to minister to the members and friends of Barnesville Baptist Church. Thank you for the opportunity.

On August 25, I began a series of messages that will focus on the biblical doctrine we cherish in the Baptist Church. We have several new members who need to be grounded in Bible truth and some long time members who have never really been taught the fundamentals of our faith. It is good for all of us to go back and take a fresh look at what we believe. This series of eight (8) messages will focus on "The Last Things" and include sermons on death, resurrection, the Second Coming of Christ, the millennium reign of Christ, judgments, heaven, hell, and the Kingdom of God. A summary of Baptist doctrine is available in the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 (BFM). Many of you received a copy of the BFM with the proposed Constitution. (If you don't have a copy but would like one, please ask me or Pastor Randy.) The *Barnesville Lantern* will carry an article from the BFM each month for you to read and consider. These next weeks will be a wonderful opportunity for you to deepen your understanding of doctrinal beliefs and perhaps to receive answers to questions you might have. On the back of the worship bulletin is a great place to take notes and jot down information to help you review or think about what was mentioned in the sermon. You might also write down questions you would like to search out answers for in the scripture.

Please pray for me as I bring these messages that the Church might be built up and that your faith will be strengthened.

God Bless, Pastor Joe



In This Edition:

The Pastors' Spotlight, Page 1
Upcoming Events, Page 1
The Pew Perspective, Page 2
Praise Reports, Page 2
Welcome New Members, Page 3
Baptist Faith & Message, Part I, Page 3
September Birthdays, Page 3
Prayer Concerns, Page 3
September 2002 Calendar, Page 4

Upcoming Events

Sept. 11: The Church will open for prayer from 6:00 am until 6:00 pm in remembrance of the 9/11 terrorist attack.

Sept. 14: "The Singing Evangelists" will present a gospel bluegrass concert at 7:00 p.m.

Sept. 15: Special Business meeting after the morning worship service to vote on the proposed Church Constitution revisions.

Sept. 20: "Parents' Night Out" Free childcare at the Church from 7:00 p.m. until 12:00 p.m.

Sept. 21: Church-wide Sunday School Picnic at the Church starting at 12:00 noon. ALL are invited to kick-off the new Sunday School year.

Sept. 28: Training seminar for everyone interested in teaching or helping in a Sunday School class. 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. (Dinner provided at 6:00)

Watch for information about a Community Picnic at BBC coming on Oct. 12!!

The Pew Perspective: Commentary from Members

Lee Michael

I know that a new calendar year starts in January and ends in December, but for most of my life, the new year always begins in September. Indeed, this September also promises many changes in our lives, not only here at Barnesville Baptist, but in our community and our nation.

In our congregation, we are preparing for several events. The proposed Constitution will be voted on at a special business meeting on September 15th, and already plans are being made for its adoption and implementation. For boys and girls of all ages, we are focusing on Sunday School. We are preparing for growth in the future, with plans for teacher training, a picnic, and new classes.

New beginnings are also occurring in our local communities. Already, the public schools have opened, and the roads are now covered with yellow buses, delivering students to new classes and new hallways to walk down. Several of our members at the college level are also just about to start a new semester both near and far from home. Political races at the local and state levels are beginning to heat up; primary elections will be held in Maryland on the 10th, with the opportunity for new leadership to be selected for the next few years.

This month also marks the one-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001—an event that brought new uncertainty and fear into our lives. Street closures and security checks that yesterday would be considered unnecessary are already considered commonplace.

Change can be exciting or scary. It can be positive, like the plans our Church has for growth in Sunday School, or it can be destructive, when lives and property are lost. However, as Christians we have security during times of change. As the prophet Malachi wrote, “*For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed*”. (Malachi 3:6) KJV

The context of Malachi’s prophecy was the Lord’s unswerving faithfulness to Israel, but we know that those who seek to follow God’s will receive His blessings and watch-care over their lives. No, we are not guaranteed constant happiness or success, but those who trust in God seem to have a better-track record than those who beat their own path through life.

As the events of September unfold, both happy and somber, I hope that we as a Church can remember that God is our Rock in times of change.



Praise Reports

At the Prayer Meeting on Aug. 28, in addition to many prayer requests made by those present, there was a listing of praises for answered prayer and blessings. It was truly amazing to acknowledge God’s faithfulness in answering the prayers of His people!

When the Church gathers to pray in faith there is a great confidence that God will move. There is also unusual power in corporate prayer. When the Church goes to prayer it is following the model of the New Testament Church in Acts. “*And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers, then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done; So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the Church daily those who were being saved*” Acts 2:42, 46-47.

Praise is a natural response to God for who He is and what He does! The following letter of Praise was received after the Aug. 18 worship service and Hymn Sing: “We were truly blessed last night with all of that wonderful music! How I love the Hymn Sings! Ed Tally’s group, ‘The Thorns’, picked the most beautiful songs! Then when ‘little’ Jimmie played! I was dumbfounded! I pray that he continues to use his gift to honor the Lord. And the group of missionaries that are staying at the Meissner’s farm, Wow! They sang so beautifully and without accompaniment. I am so glad and thankful that I was able to be there to hear those wonderful Praises. We are so blessed at Barnesville. I just can’t get over all the wonderful things God has done for us and IS doing in our midst. And to baptize 7 on Sunday morning! Praise God!”

Other Praise News:

BBC received a very gracious letter from Nardito Manalang, Pastor of the Philippine International Bible Church, expressing his praise and thanksgiving to God for the gift and friendship of the people in Barnesville. Please remember him, his family, and his church in prayer.

BBC also received a letter from Mr. Ray Hoewing, coordinator of HELPING HANDS. The roof replacement at the home of Fred and Jane Stearns was completed. Mr. Hoewing wrote: “On behalf of the leaders who organized this marvelous activity I want to thank Barnesville Baptist Church for your generous gift”.

Thank You! To everyone who helped make the 2002 Vacation Bible School a success.

Joyce Dunn is a new Grandmother! Jordan Delaney Smith was born to Joyce’s daughter Linda and husband Jeff on Aug. 16, 2002. She weighed 6 lbs and 8 oz. and was 3 weeks early. Everyone is fine....

A Thought: Sow an idea, reap and act. Sow and act, reap a habit. Sow a habit, reap a character. Sow a character, reap a destiny. (copied)

Welcome New Members

What a wonderful Baptism service we enjoyed on Aug. 18 in the morning worship. Those symbolizing their faith in the risen Savior and desiring membership in the Barnesville Baptist Church by baptism were: Matthew and Janice Cole, Nicholas Cole, Kevin and Michelle Becraft, Samantha Cole, and Paiten Cole. Please remember these new Christians in prayer as they grow in their faith, and thank God for trusting the care of these new believers to our fellowship. May we all be faithful models of Christ-like love as we serve one another.

September Birthdays

3rd Megan Fedders
11th Eric Engle
13th Michael Oden Jr.
25th Gale Cole
28th Pam Holcomb
30th Jordan Leibrand

(Let us know if we have missed someone!)



Prayer Concerns

Laura Bennett
Margery Lillard
Kaitlynn Langstaff, very ill in California
Tiffany Gamble, bone marrow transplant in Ohio
Virginia Shreve, Beverly Nursing Home & Rehab.
Pat Elam, recovering from surgery
Linda Gilliam
Jim Cole, recovering from surgery
Junior Collins
John Best family
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.*

"A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing."



Baptist Faith and Message, Part I

Editor's Note: To familiarize ourselves with the basic tenets of our faith, we will be presenting a section of the BFM every month to highlight what we believe as Southern Baptists.

I. The Scriptures

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

Exodus 24:4; Deuteronomy 4:1-2; 17:19; Joshua 8:34; Psalms 19:7-10; 119:11, 89, 105, 140; Isaiah 34:16; 40:8; Jeremiah 15:16; 36:1-32; Matthew 5: 17-18; 22:29; Luke 21:33; 24:44-46; John 5:39, 16:13-15, 17:17; Acts 2:16; 17:11; Romans 15:4; 16:25-26; II Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 1: 1-2; 4:12; I Peter 1: 25; II Peter 1: 19-21

Members' Commentary from Lee Michael: There are a lot of incredible claims in the Bible—incurable diseases were healed, floods and fire came down from Heaven, there was a Man who died and was resurrected, and that there is a God who loves mankind in spite of its sinfulness. We can trust the credibility of these biblical claims and others by the unusual properties of God's Word: a lack of contradictions or errors about history, its detailed prophecies about events and persons were accurately fulfilled centuries in the future, and the consistency of the Bible's message over 1500 years, 40 different human authors, and 3 different languages. This record of trustworthiness allows us to firmly base our doctrines, our morals and values, and our faith in the Bible, having no doubt that the words of this book are truly a message from God to humanity. When scoffers and skeptics criticize the Bible and its truths, we can confidently defend its message without relying on mere faith. We have a faith backed up by fact and evidence.

There are 17 more sections to go! If you are interested in one of the Members' Commentary, please consider signing up to write about 200 words/3 paragraphs on the section's importance or meaningfulness to you. Volunteers will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. See Randy or Lee to volunteer! Next month's topic: "God".