



The Barnesville Lantern

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

The Pastors' Spotlight:

We all realize because of the calendar, the longer, cooler nights, and that dried leaves are already piling up in the yards that fall has arrived! It is a wonderful season with new smells and activities, and of course, the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are just over the horizon and will be here before we realize it, and certainly long before we are ready for them!

To really enjoy this fall season, I pray *that we join with the Psalmist and determine day by day that, "From the rising of the sun to its going down, the Lord's name is to be praised." (Psalm 113:3)* (See Paul Meissner's excellent poem about the Lord's name on Page 2.) Determine to praise His Name every single day.

October brings the beginning of a new Church year as well. Pastor Randy and I are excited about what the Lord wants to do at Barnesville Baptist Church through all of us. Here are some of the opportunities for worship and service that you might want to take advantage of:

Pray for your pastors as we try to be obedient to our call.

Try out the Fellowship time on Sunday mornings for the 'early risers'.

Come visit the new Sunday School class for Couples in the Fellowship Hall. You can build strong relationships with peers for Bible study, prayer support, and exploring family/children issues.

Shoe Box Gifts for Operation Christmas Child will be collected in October. Our church donated about 35 boxes last year. What a blessing to those who shared with children around the world. Watch for details.

Pray for Sunday School teachers and join them and your Pastors as we invite others to join us. We have asked the Lord to increase our attendance to at least 50 this year. You can be a part of this Kingdom work.

Sing in the choir for God's glory.

Join your Church family in prayer and Bible study on Wednesday nights. You will be blessed!

In light of what the Lord has done for us, how can we be anything but faithful to Him in our walk and service?

God Bless,

Pastor Joe



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Upcoming Events

Oct. 5: Women's Seminar "How To Worry" with Kathy Jordan. 9:00-11:00 am. All women are invited.

Oct. 8: The Choir has started preparing its Christmas music. If you are waiting for the right time to join the choir, this is it! Choir practice starts at 7:00 pm.

Oct. 18: Lunch with our special friends at Watkins Cabinet.

Oct. 18: Parents' Night Out, 7:00 - 10:30 pm.

Oct. 20: Hymn Sing, 6:00 pm.

Oct. 26: Children's (ages 3 to 11) trip to "Homestead Farm" Pumpkin Patch. Meet at the Church at 10:00 am. Please call Pat Elam for details. 301-349-2068.

Oct. 26: Harvest Party at Pastor Joe and June's home. Hayrides, cookout, singing, and fellowship are in store.



"You crown the year with Your goodness, and Your paths drip with abundance." Psalm 65: 11

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

In many Asian cultures, each year within the calendar cycle is assigned an animal from their version of the zodiac: therefore 2002 is the year of the horse, while other possibilities include the rat, the dragon, the chicken, etc. Even though our conception of time is normally not as imaginative, the 2002-2003 year beginning this October could be called the “year of Sunday School” here at Barnesville Baptist.

We currently have an average Sunday School attendance of 30 people. Admittedly, our classes are top-heavy, with more teachers than students on most Sunday mornings. But coming out of the Sunday School Training Meeting on September 28, I believe that Barnesville is in a position and an attitude to grow. This is the focus of our pastors and the desire of the teachers.

Why is Sunday School so important, other than the fact that “we’ve always done it”? As a Sunday School attendee for more than 15 years of my life, let me offer a few reasons why Sunday School is important:

It provides growth for our Church and growth for the Kingdom. Numbers for numbers’ sake is not the goal—but rather the eternal relationship of a person with his Creator.

Sunday School creates opportunities for service and use of time, talents & gifts for members of all ages and abilities.

It is a time for families, students, and teachers to fellowship together. This helps the Church as a whole to bond and create friendships with one another.

The training in doctrine and Bible knowledge can create faith and trust in God and His Word, and can point toward salvation based upon an full understanding of an individual’s need for a relationship with Jesus.

It is an opportunity for teachers, students, and other Church members to regularly practice the disciplines of Bible study, prayer, and consistent living.

Unlike the sermon during the Morning Worship, education at the Sunday School class level can be tailored to specific needs, personal experiences, and individual interests.

Join the teachers as we prepare for this new year of growth and opportunity. Pray for the instructors, the students, and the lessons they are taught. If you know anyone who is even remotely interested in learning about God’s love for them, please invite them to Sunday School at Barnesville Baptist Church.

*“Happy is the man who finds **wisdom**, and the man who gains understanding; for her proceeds are better than the profits of silver, and her gain than fine gold.” Proverbs 3:13-14*

“Thy Holy Name”

Paul Meissner

Thou art the God who hath ordained all things;
Bowing down before thee, all creation sings;
Our God **Elohim** is Thy Holy Name;
Thou art the GREAT I AM, Hallelujah!

Thou art the God who calls us to obey;
May we ever love and serve Thee faithfully;
Our Lord **Adonai** is Thy Holy Name;
Thou art the GREAT I AM, Hallelujah!

Thou art the God who’s always standing near;
Thy perfect love doth surely cast out fear;
Jehovah Shammah is Thy Holy Name;
Thou art the GREAT I AM, Hallelujah!

Thy banner, Lord, is always over us;
‘Neath Thine outstretched arm we are victorious;
Jehovah Nissi is Thy Holy Name;
Thou art the GREAT I AM, Hallelujah!

Thou art the God who doth provide for me;
Grace and mercy flow from Thee abundantly;
Jehovah Jireh is Thy Holy Name;
Thou art the GREAT I AM, Hallelujah!

Thou art the God who overcomes disease,
Healing our afflictions and infirmities;
Jehovah Ropha is Thy Holy Name;
Thou art the GREAT I AM, Hallelujah!

Thou art the God of everlasting peace;
Thou hast commanded all our fears to cease;
Jehovah Shalom is Thy Holy Name;
Thou art the GREAT I AM, Hallelujah!

Thou art the God of our salvation;
We lift up Thy Name in exultation;
Jehovah Messiah is Thy Holy Name;
Thou art the GREAT I AM, Hallelujah!

All things are possible, O Lord, for Thee;
Thou art the wellspring of our victory;
The Mighty **El Shaddai** is Thy Holy Name;
Thou art the GREAT I AM, Hallelujah!

Thy presence, Lord, is with us everywhere;
Sharing every burden, hearing every prayer;
Our God **Emmanuel** is Thy Holy Name;
Thou art the GREAT I AM, Hallelujah!

Thou art the God who sent Thine Only Son;
Offering eternal life to everyone;
Our Savior **Jesus Christ** is His Holy Name;
Name above ev’ry name;
Yesterday, today, and evermore He is the same;
Come quickly, now, Lord Jesus, and rule and reign!

AMEN

October Birthdays

10th David Shive
27th Paul Geisler



Baptist Faith and Message, Part II

II. God: There is one and only one living and true God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. God is all powerful and all knowing; and His perfect knowledge extends to all things, past, present, and future, including the future decisions of His free creatures. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. The eternal triune God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being.

A. God the Father: God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all men.

Genesis 1:1; 2:7; Exodus 3:14; 6:2-3; 15:11ff.; 20:1ff.; Leviticus 22:2; Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:6; 1 Chronicles 29:10; Psalm 19:1-3; Isaiah 43:3,15; 64:8; Jeremiah 10:10; 17:13; Matthew 6:9ff.; 7:11; 23:9; 28:19; Mark 1:9-11; John 4:24; 5:26; 14:6-13; 17:1-8; Acts 1:7; Romans 8:14-15; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 11:6; 12:9; 1 Peter 1:17; 1 John 5:7.

BFM Reflection, continued

Ultimately in this kind of world, there are no rules, no norms, no standard by which we can consistently measure truth from error, right from wrong. We do not live in a world where people believe nothing. We find ourselves drowning in a world that believes everything.

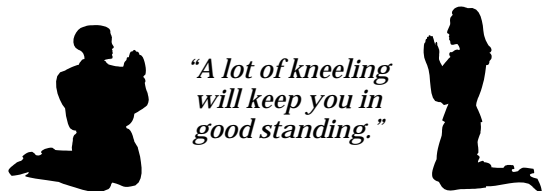
Genesis 1:1 teaches us, "In the beginning God..." Southern Baptists speak with one voice in giving affirmation to this proposition and all others in Holy Scripture that reveal to us real and true truth about the God who has created us in his image, redeemed us through his Son and made us spiritually alive by his Spirit.

There are 16 more sections to go! If you are interested in one of the Personal Reflections, 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: The Son".

Prayer Concerns

Laura Bennett
David Bennett
Kaitlynn Langstaff, 8 year old very ill in California
Tiffany Gamble, bone marrow transplant in Ohio
Virginia Shreve, Beverly Nursing Home & Rehab.
Pat Elam
Linda Gilliam
Junior Collins
Linda Pepe
Kevin & Michelle Becraft and new son Brennan
Ryan Zobro, struggling new Christian
Sunday School Teachers in the new Church Year
Pastor Joe and his November eye surgery
Our Nation and its Leaders

"I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed. This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them." Psalm 34: 4-7



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

BFM Reflection: "God"

Excerpt from BFM article by Daniel Akin, BP News, Aug. 2, 2002

The Christian God is personal and more (a tri-unity). In other world religions like Buddhism, God is less than personal. Islam views God as utterly transcendent and basically unapproachable. Mysticism and its New Age offspring see God as wholly immanent.

The Bible says the one true God is both. He is above us and separate from us, and yet he is also a God who can be known, truly and genuinely known, in a personal relationship.

What is the relevance of our theology of God? Does our thinking about and answer to the God question (Does God exist?) really make any difference in the day-to-day experience of life? I believe the answer is a resounding yes.

Ivan, in Fyodor Dostoyevsky's novel, *The Brothers Karamozov*, got it exactly right-- if God is dead, everything is permissible. To this we can add, if we are all gods, then anything goes, for by definition God (or gods) makes the rules.