



The Barnesville Lantern

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November 2002, Volume 1, No. 6

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

The Pastors' Spotlight:

Your Pastors' prayer for the members and friends of Barnesville Baptist Church is that you take time to experience the abundance of God's love and provision for you, that you live in unity and harmony with those around you, and that you daily know the peace of God which can bring confidence and comfort and understanding even in the midst of these trying and sometimes dangerous times. We wish each one of you a blessed time as you gather with those you love to celebrate this Thanksgiving season. *Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever! Psalms 107: 1*

You have probably noticed in the newsletter masthead that *Psalms 119:105* is quoted. God's Word truly is a 'lamp to our feet and a light to our paths'. Because His Word is so vital to everything we do and understand as Christians, we would like to help you take a fresh look at the Bible and perhaps gain better appreciation for each of the Old Testament and New Testament books. Beginning January 12, 2002, the second Sunday of the month, we will begin a Bible survey class. I will conduct a four-week survey of the books of the Old Testament. Then, Pastor Randy will do a survey of the New Testament books. The intent is to help us all be aware of the major themes of each book, the key verses and messages, how each is organized, how it came into being, and its role in the entire Bible. The survey classes will meet in the sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday morning.

Another wonderful study opportunity will begin after the survey classes. Larry Michael will begin a four-week study of the religion of Islam. Because this is a major world religion and more specifically because of the recent events involving Muslims, it will be helpful for us as Christian evangelicals to have some understanding of this sometimes violent religion. This information will be very helpful when many of us have an opportunity to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with a Muslim neighbor.

Please take advantage of these opportunities to learn about the Scriptures. Invite a friend to come with you.

God Bless,

Pastor Joe



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Upcoming Events

- Nov. 6:** Fellowship dinner & business meeting.
- Nov. 14:** Prime Time outing to "Boys Bear Country" in Gettysburg, PA.
- Nov. 15:** Thanksgiving lunch with friends from Watkins Cabinet.
- Nov. 15:** Parents' Night Out, 7:00 - 10:30 pm.
- Nov. 17:** Hymn Sing, 6:00 pm.
- Nov. 27:** Thanksgiving "Eve" service in the sanctuary.



*Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
I Thessalonians 5: 16-18*

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Did you ever wonder how Thanksgiving really got started? The Pilgrims didn't just invent it out of whole cloth in 1621. Here is, not "the rest", but the beginning of a story marked by thankfulness to God, even during times of trouble:

The Pilgrims were a congregation from Scrooby, England who were Separatists in the larger Puritan movement. Puritans were strict Calvinist Protestants who rejected what they considered to be excessive religious ritual and pageantry, including established worship formulas and many religious holidays.

Unlike Puritans, who only wanted to reform the Church of England, Separatists believed that the established Church was too corrupt to restore, and therefore separated themselves to worship in a purer way. The Pilgrims were persecuted for treason, since church & state were one in 17th century England, and all royal subjects had to be members of the Church of England. The Scrooby congregation, which fled to Holland in 1608 to escape the king's wrath, saw themselves as continuing in the Old Testament tradition of being "pilgrims", or God's special people, and saw America as a place to live as free Englishmen while establishing a "city on a hill" for God. They appreciated the twelve years of hospitality and religious toleration from the Dutch, but wanted to maintain their English culture. Therefore, the Pilgrims sailed for the New World in late 1620.

The first year at Plymouth Rock was marked by death & starvation. The Pilgrims intended to settle near Jamestown in Virginia, settled in 1607, but instead landed far to the north in unknown territory, in what is now Massachusetts. The settlement of Pilgrims was reduced from 110 to 50 by diseases such as scurvy, pneumonia, and typhus, in addition to starvation. It wasn't until Squanto, a member of the local Wampanoag Indian tribe, came and helped them that the Pilgrims were able to plant corn and store food for the upcoming winter of 1621.

The Pilgrims brought with them familiar English customs, among which were a secular harvest celebration and a Puritan religious Thanksgiving holy day reserved for special occasions to express gratitude for deliverance. These two types of events were totally separate and independent in the Pilgrims' minds. However, their physical salvation during the year of 1621 led the Pilgrims to combine a Puritan Day of Thanksgiving with the traditional English fall harvest celebration, which is the origin of our uniquely American holiday known as "Thanksgiving." Let us remember, as we celebrate the rich harvests of plenty in our lives, that we need to give Thanks every day to our Provider.

Then I proclaimed a fast there at the river of Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God, to seek from Him the right way for us and our little ones and all our possessions. Ezra 8:21 NKJV

(a Scripture used in the last sermon given by the Pilgrims' pastor in Leyden, Holland, before they set sail for America in July 1620.)

Baptist Faith and Message, Part III(b)

B. God the Son

Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One Mediator, fully God, fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and man. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever present Lord.

Genesis 18:1ff.; Psalms 2:7ff.; 110:1ff.; Isaiah 7:14; 53; Matthew 1:18-23; 3:17; 8:29; 11:27; 14:33; 16:16,27; 17:5; 27; 28:1-6,19; Mark 1:1; 3:11; Luke 1:35; 4:41; 22:70; 24:46; John 1:1-18,29; 10:30,38; 11:25-27; 12:44-50; 14:7-11; 16:15-16,28; 17:1-5, 21-22; 20:1-20,28; Acts 1:9; 2:22-24; 7:55-56; 9:4-5,20; Romans 1:3-4; 3:23-26; 5:6-21; 8:1-3,34; 10:4; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2:2; 8:6; 15:1-8,24-28; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; 8:9; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:20; 3:11; 4:7-10; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:13-22; 2:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 3:16; Titus 2:13-14; Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-15; 7:14-28; 9:12-15,24-28; 12:2; 13:8; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 3:22; 1 John 1:7-9; 3:2; 4:14-15; 5:9; 2 John 7-9; Revelation 1:13-16; 5:9-14; 12:10-11; 13:8; 19:16.

BFM Reflection: "God the Son"

Excerpts from BP News Aug. 6, 2002

By Robert Stein

The uniqueness of Jesus as God's Son is taught throughout the New Testament. We find this within the Gospels as well as the rest of the New Testament. Most importantly, Jesus himself both explicitly and implicitly taught of his unique relationship as God's Son. During His ministry, he was recognized as the unique Son of God by demons (Mark 5:7), Satan (Matt. 4:3, 6) and most importantly the voice from heaven at his baptism and transfiguration.

During his ministry, he acted as one who possessed a unique authority over the temple by cleansing it, over demons and Satan by his exorcisms, over disease by his healings, over the Sabbath by his actions, over death by his raising the dead and at times even over the Law by his teachings. He assumed the divine prerogatives of forgiving sins, claiming that one's eternal destiny rotated around his relationship to him and claiming that he would ultimately judge the world.

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November Birthdays

Nov. 1 Dorine Shields
 Nov. 5 Randy Gilliam
 Nov. 9 Lindsey Baumbaugh
 Nov. 10 Pastor Joe Ivey
 Nov. 11 Tali Normoyle
 Nov. 22 Michelle Ennis
 Nov. 20 Rufus Gilliam
 Nov. 23 Kitty Cooley
 Nov. 23 Tod Luhn
 Nov. 26 Joyce Dunn
 Nov. 28 Cheryl Shive



(Let us know if we missed anyone.)

Prayer Concerns

Kaitlynn Langstaff, 8 year old very ill in California
 Junior Collins
 Pat Elam
 Linda Gilliam
 Ryan Zobro, struggling new Christian
 The Baumbaugh's grandson Andrew
 Angela Myers, Pastor Joe's daughter for back surgery
 The Joe Williams Family
 Annie Cooley
 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. Psalms 34: 4-7 KJV



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



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Annual Business Meeting in October

- The Church approved the Nominating Committee's five slates of candidates for the Standing Committees. The terms of office are from October 2002-October 2004.
- The Church approved the nomination of the Minister of Education to be the Chairman of the Education Committee.
- The office of Sunday School Superintendent was created and defined. Joe Yates was then elected to serve as Superintendent.

BFM Reflection: "God the Son", Continued

He also maintained that he was greater than all who have preceded him, whether Abraham, Jacob or Moses.

In the New Testament Jesus is accorded such divine attributes as being the Creator and possessing pre-existence. In a number of instances, he is specifically referred to as God.

Alongside of statements of Jesus' uniqueness and deity are statements of his full humanity. His virginal conception in no way minimizes this. The incarnation involves experiencing a human birth, being circumcised on the eighth day, possessing a true human nature, being tempted in all points like we, experiencing sorrow and agony, hungering and thirsting, becoming weary, possessing flesh and blood and learning obedience. He is the one mediator between God and man. Because of his sinless life, he could bear the penalty of sin that all humanity deserves. By grace he became a curse for those under the curse and satisfied the righteousness of God. Thus, by offering himself once for all time, he brought about for sinful humanity expiation of sin and propitiation from the divine wrath. In so doing, Jesus Christ brought a host of benefits such as justification, peace, reconciliation, forgiveness, adoption as sons, being born again, being raised in newness of life, and eternal life.

Business Meeting Briefs, Continued

Choir Director's Report

The Choir is now practicing music for the Christmas season. Please come & join us on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm!

Expected Motions at the November Business Meeting

- Re-establish the order & rules of the Business Meeting
- Authorize & fund the Groundsmen to paint and do other needed maintenance on the Church
- Amend the membership of two Standing Committees
- Adopt a by-law to determine how the quorum needed to ratify a constitutional amendment would be determined

We will try to bring up-to-date committee reports to you as the new church year progresses.

We will also try to highlight some of the marvelous services rendered to the church by kind and caring people. This month just to mention a few:

The Groundsmen (Ralph, Larry, Charles, Buddy, Joe W.) have replaced electrical switches and lights; power-washed the entire church exterior; scraped and painted the west and south shutters; planted flowers.

Kitty Cooley makes sure every Sunday that beautiful floral arrangements are placed in the sanctuary to beautify our place of worship.

Sandy Gilliam faithfully prepares the church bulletin and special bulletin inserts each week and does double duty as the friend, wife, right-hand helper and patient spouse of Pastor Randy.

Missions Notes: State Missions Offering

Thank you, Barnesville Baptist Church, for your generosity to the State Missions Offering. The theme of this year's offering was "OUR HOME, HIS PLAN" ...*Take this message of repentance to all nations...beginning in Jerusalem....*
Luke 24:47

The Goal set for BBC was \$300. The actual amount given was \$640!! When our gifts are combined with those of other churches all across Maryland, the result will be changed lives, new churches, needs of people and congregations being met. Your Pastors are certain that the Lord has blessed BBC in the past and continues to bless us because of your faithfulness to the cause of missionary activities. There is nothing closer to the model of Christ than reaching out to people with the Gospel of life. *For we are labourers together with God... .*
I Corinthians 3:9

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

You will be hearing a lot in the next several weeks about this international missions emphasis by the Southern Baptists. Please begin praying now for a sense of how you can be involved in or support world wide missions. The week of Prayer for foreign missions isn't until Dec. 1, but we need to begin now to ask God to help us understand the urgency in missions outreach.

Because of sacrificial giving by Southern Baptists last year, missionaries and their overseas partners started 5,775 churches and baptized 395,773 new believers. That's more than 1,000 people baptized every day!

This year's emphasis will be on China, the very country and people so much loved by Lottie Moon. Be sure to pick up a copy of the November *Commission* magazine. It focuses on China and has wonderful information about the Chinese people and Christian work going on there. The magazines are in the foyer at the church entrance. *If you would like a magazine sent to you, please phone the church office and we will see that you receive one.*

There is a local matter you might be in prayer about regarding Chinese outreach. A young Chinese church planter is working in the Germantown area to begin a church for Chinese speaking residents. Pastor Lee is being helped by the Germantown Baptist Church and Pastor Curry Mitchell. The young church planter shared a wonderful account of 13 people recently accepting Christ after a Christian concert for the Chinese community. Pastor Lee and his wife are praying people and we are certain would appreciate prayer support by our church. Pastor Mitchell said at a recent pastors' luncheon that a revival has broken out at the Germantown Baptist Church. He believes it started after the church began reaching out to help other people. A Korean congregation meets there, now a Chinese Bible study group has been organized and he is exploring providing assistance to Spanish speaking neighbors. Who are our neighbors?

Washington, D.C.
October 3, 1863

By the President of the United States of America.

A Proclamation.

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defence, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battle-field; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People.

I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln