



The Barnesville Lantern

Barnesville Baptist Church
17917 Barnesville Road
Barnesville, Maryland 20838

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

January 2003, Volume 1, No. 8

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

The Pastors' Spotlight:

Please do not get bored with hearing this, but with all our hearts Pastor Randy and I thank you for your kindness to us. We were surprised and humbled by your thoughtfulness and generous gift on Christmas Eve. We are so grateful for the opportunity to serve you here in Barnesville!

Let me remind all of you about the "Study of Islam" class that will be taught by Larry Michael beginning Jan. 12 in the Adult Sunday School class. Islam is the world's second-largest and fastest growing religion. We need to be prepared to understand this religion and be able to witness to Muslims. This class will help us do that.

I want to repeat some of the things mentioned in the sermon last week and assure you that I was preaching to myself as much as to anyone. While I am not one to make new year's resolutions, I do believe that we are to grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord. As always, Jesus is the model: *"And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men". Luke 2:52.*

- Here are four ways that we can grow in this new year:
1. Mentally: learn more, remember more, understand more. (*Philippians 1:9*)
 2. Physically: everything in moderation; exercise. (*1 Corinthians 9:25*)
 3. Socially: be kind to friends; make new friends; know how to treat our friends; love our enemies. (*Ephesians 4:32*)
 4. Spiritually: grow in grace and knowledge: pray more; read more; give more. (*2 Peter 3:18*)

As we grow in our 'heart faith' and in our 'head knowledge' we reveal a Christ-like nature in our character so that God is glorified. God bless each one of you in the coming year. We anticipate an exciting year at BBC and we depend on your faithful prayer support in all we do.

God Bless,

Pastor Joe



In This Edition:

- The Pastors' Spotlight, Page 1
- Upcoming Events, Page 1
- The Pew Perspective, Page 2
- Baptist Faith & Message, Part IV, Page 2
- BFM Reflection: "Salvation", Page 3
- January Birthdays, Page 3
- Prayer Concerns, Page 3
- Business Meeting Briefs, Page 3
- News You Can Use, Page 4
- Yemen and the New Year, Page 4
- January 2003 Calendar, Page 5

Upcoming Events

- Jan. 1:** New Year's Day Church Office closed
- Jan. 8:** Fellowship Dinner and Business Meeting
- Jan. 17:** Lunch with Friends from Watkins Cabinet
Parents' Night Out
- Jan. 19:** Hymn Sing, 6:00 p.m.
- Jan. 26:** Baptist Men's Day. Church-wide breakfast at 9:00 a.m. prepared by the MOB (Men Of Barnesville)



"Happy New Year"

May your home be especially blessed in 2003 with health, with love, with peace, and with the joy of the Lord.

"...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness."
Gal. 5:22

Over the past few weeks, I have noticed that many major newspapers and TV news programs have had “slow news” days. I too, find that “we” in the local religious media are also in a news lull, with little to report in between the Christmas season and the beginning of the new year. So, in keeping with the practice of my more famous news colleagues, I offer you this month a 2002 Barnesville year in review. Here are some of the more important Church news headlines from the past 12 months:

January: Baptist Men’s Breakfast, MOB sing, new mural painted in baptistery in memory of Ann Yates, Church Website (barnesvillesbaptist.org) established, new Church computer purchased, Rev. Nardito Manalog gave missionary talk on the Philippines

February: The Eylers in concert

March: new carpeting installed in memory of Earl Shreve, Easter Cantata on Easter Sunday, new sound equipment installed in the sanctuary

April: new Sunday School and Morning Service time, Watkins Cabinet friends built us a cabinet for the sound equipment

May: new Deacon elected, Women’s Ministry holds first of several seminars

June: The Barnesville Lantern begins publication, “Bring A Friend” Sunday, *Rushing Wind* concert

July: Vacation Bible School

August: CRC meets, Baptism service held, new Deacon ordained

September: *Singing Evangelists* concert, Church adopts new Constitution and BFM 2000, Sunday School Picnic and Teachers’ Meeting

October: new Sunday School year begins with new classes, new teachers, State Missions goal exceed

November: Thanksgiving Service held, many new by-laws passed to carry out the new Church Constitution

December: WMU leads focus on Missions, two presentations of the Christmas Cantata, Lottie Moon missions goal exceeded

In general, the last year’s headlines indicate that our Church has improved in the areas of communications and service to the community, grounds and governmental organizations, dedication to missions, and an emphasis on Sunday School. If 2002 is any indication, 2003 will be a year in which Barnesville Baptist will continue to develop in our love for our community at large and our Church family’s fellowship. Look for more new headlines in the coming months to highlight our service together for the Lord’s work.

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works....” Hebrews 10:24

IV. Salvation

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

A. Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God’s grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace.

Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Saviour.

B. Justification is God’s gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer unto a relationship of peace and favor with God.

C. Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God’s purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person’s life.

D. Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.

Genesis 3:15; Exodus 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14,29; 3:3-21,36; 5:24; 10:9,28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Romans 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff.; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18,29-39; 10:9-10,13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18,30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1ff.; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2 Timothy 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8,14; James 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:2-23; 1 John 1:6-2:11; Revelation 3:20; 21:1-22:5.

January Birthdays

- 1 Jack Cooley
- 3 Annie Cooley
- 4 Bob Lillard
- 8 Dan Yates
- 8 Flora Gilliam
- 8 Hanna Leibrand
- 9 Pat Elam
- 10 Lois Carroll
- 11 Jesse Yates
- 19 Nikki Holcomb
- 20 Julia Michael
- 21 Robert Fowler
- 22 Leslie Foster
- 22 Michele Normoyle
- 26 Todd Marsh Jr. (T.J.)



(Let us know if we missed anyone.)

Prayer Concerns

Laura Bennett
Pat Elam, heart surgery coming up in Jan. 2003
Angela Myers, recovering from back surgery
The Joe Williams Family
Annie Cooley
Pastor Joe and his January 9th eye surgery
The Family of Robert Winfield who passed away Dec. 27
John Dunn
Our Nation and its Leaders

Now it came to pass in those days that He (Jesus) went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. Luke 6:12



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



Business Meeting Briefs

The January Business Meeting will be held on January 8, 2003.

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in December

- The 2003 Budget was approved
- The membership of two Standing Committees was amended
- A by-law to determine how the quorum needed to ratify a constitutional amendment would be determined was adopted
- The Committees were instructed to define job descriptions for Church offices in time for the March Business Meeting

BFM Reflection: "Salvation"

Randy Gilliam

John Wesley, a great 18th-century Christian and a founder of the Methodist Church, was asked by a Moravian Christian, "Do you know Jesus Christ?" Wesley answered: "I know He is the Saviour of the world." The questioner then said to him, "True, but do you know He has saved you?" This was an embarrassing question for Wesley. He then determined to find out more about the Moravian Christian beliefs and their experiential quality of Christianity. The Moravians taught a complete self-surrendering faith, an instantaneous conversion, and a joy in believing. On Wednesday, May 24, 1738, the transforming experience came to John Wesley. That evening, as he recorded, he went unwillingly to an Anglican "society" in Aldersgate Street, London, and heard Luther's preface to the *Commentary on Romans* read. "About a quarter before nine, while he (Luther) was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; and an assurance was given me, that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death." The far-reaching impact of this experience was monumental to the growth of Christianity. Wesley had discovered the simplicity of how one enters the Christian life and he entered into full freedom from fear and complete joy in believing.

The Gospel of salvation by grace through faith is so simple that many people stumble over it. Our part is simple: admit that we have fallen short of God's standards and turn away from what we know is wrong; believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and accept His gift of forgiveness; and confess our faith in Him. *Romans 10:9* says "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hat raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved". You see, our part is easy, God does the miraculous part!

Not every experience of salvation is the same. You may have an "Aldersgate" experience like John Wesley with a 'strangely warm feeling'; you may have just a gentle awareness that God has done something in your heart; or you may be electrified with excitement about your new birth in Christ. Whatever your experience, trust God to do His part and He will not disappoint you. Cherish your new faith and allow the Holy Spirit to help you grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord. Then, like Wesley, you can enter into full freedom from fear of things in life or death, and complete joy in believing. And all the people said, "Amen".

News You Can Use

Randy Gilliam

Power outage on Barnesville Hill. All electrical power was out at the church and surrounding homes for about 53 hours following the recent ice storm Dec. 11. The phones remained in service through it all. The parsonage was kept comfortably warm by the fireplace and a kerosene heater the Gilliams brought with them from Ohio. Large oak limbs at the north end of the church parking lot fell and took down the power line, cable line and phone lines. Another large limb fell behind the parsonage but did not do any damage. Thanks to Larry Michael and Joe Yates for cutting up the large limbs and to Ralph Cooley for a wonderful job of 'cleaning up' the debris. Ralph loaded and hauled away about 4 carts full of wood and raked the two areas. (Are you still sore, Ralph?) Thanks also to Jack Cooley who shared a generator with Pastor Randy and Sandy that kept their refrigerator working and kept warm coffee on. (You know how important coffee is to Pastor Randy.)

Christmas Cantata well received. Special thanks to the Choir, the musicians, and all who participated in the 2002 Christmas musical "*Hark! The Angels Sing*". We are especially grateful for the ministry of Paul Foster as Choir Director in getting the choir ready to sing this music, and to Gale Cole as piano accompanist. This musical service also launched the Drama ministry under the direction of Pastor Joe. Thanks to all for a memorable Christmas program.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering exceeds goal! BBC members' willingness to support foreign missions is alive and very, very healthy! During the December emphasis on Foreign Missions, members and friends of Barnesville Baptist Church gave \$2260.00, which goes directly to foreign missions work. The church goal was \$1000. Thank you for continuing to support missionaries in the field with your giving and your prayers. Thanks also to the members of the WMU for their Sunday morning service about Lottie Moon and the significance of the Christmas offering.

Make plans to attend the church-wide breakfast prepared by the MOB on Sunday morning Jan. 26. This will be part of the Baptist Men's Day recognition. The men will prepare breakfast for everyone so please come and evaluate their culinary skills. The menu will include: eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, grits, hash brown potatoes, juice and coffee. (I can hardly wait!)

Children's Choir. Attention! Girls and Boys ages 6 to 12. Ms. Ann Carroll is ready to form a Children's Choir at BBC. Everyone is excited about our children participating in a singing program and taking part in worship services. Please be thinking about this wonderful opportunity to take part in a singing ministry. Parents will be contacted. The first Children's Choir practice will be on Wednesday evening, Jan. 15, 2002, at 7:00 at the church. We hope to see YOU there.

Yemen and the New Year

Randy Gilliam

On Monday, December 30, 2002, a gunman shot and killed 3 medical missionaries in the Baptist Hospital in Jibla, Yemen. A fourth missionary was wounded and has returned to the U.S. The grief and shock caused by this senseless act have touched people around the world. One of the co-workers of those slain said that the residents of Jibla have been "as devastated by the deaths as much as the other Americans at the hospital".

The Baptist Hospital in Jibla treats over 40,000 patients a year and provides free medical treatment and medicine to the poor. The miracle of this ministry isn't the medical treatment provided, but rather the context of unconditional love in which it is given. Listen to comments about the slain missionaries: (Kathleen Gariety) "From the crown of her head to the soles of her feet, she was devoted to this ministry and felt that God had called her to be involved in this hospital"; (William Koehn)

"He gave his life doing what he loved to do, helping people and serving God." (Martha Myers) "She had such a passion for ministry to the people of Yemen. She gave her life to it. It's all she wanted to talk about...She loved the country, she loved the people and she loved being a doctor to help take care of them...She'd give her last dollar so someone else would have food or medical help."

What's ahead for this ministry in Yemen in 2003? "For the past 35 years there's been a lot of plowing of hard, almost punished earth. But, yes, there's a harvest here. God is working in people's hearts." A gentleman who works at the hospital made this comment. God can use this evil attack on love's work to draw a nation and a region to Himself. Jesus set the standard with His own life: "*Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone: but if it dies, it bears much fruit.*" John 12:24

For 3 1/2 decades this ministry has plowed and cultivated the spiritual soil in Yemen. Many Yemeni people are mourning a great loss and can see in stark contrast the difference between love- and-light and evil-and-darkness. "Something is happening in my heart", said one Yemeni national.

Perhaps this is God's time to shake the spiritual soul of this nation and turn it to Himself. Yemen will never be the same. The New Year could truly be a 'great awakening' in this region of the world.