



# The Barnesville Lantern

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April 2003, Volume 1, No. 11

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

## The Pastors' Spotlight:

The series of messages on the fruit of the Spirit continues on April 6 when the fruits of *Kindness* and *Goodness* will be presented. Other messages will be *Faithfulness* April 27, *Gentleness* May 4, and *Self-Control* May 25. Allowing the Spirit to produce these qualities in the life of a Christian is included in the expression "walking in the Spirit". These qualities allow Christians to mirror or reflect the nature of the Lord Jesus where ever they go. What a wonderful contrast these qualities are to the immoral/amoral/self-serving behavior we see around us that is so destructive to families, young people, and society in general. God will equip you to be victorious in all these areas of Christ-likeness for His glory. Your life may be the best evidence someone may ever see to convince him or her about the reality of the love of God. "Let others see Jesus in you".

*"...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control..." Galatians 5:22- 23.*

There are a lot of folks in our families and our communities who are not involved in a church and who are missing the blessings of a relationship with the Risen Lord. If you know someone who would appreciate a visit by Pastor Randy and me or by one of the visitation teams being formed at the church, please drop their name, address, and phone number in the basket at the front of the church sanctuary. Some of our members have been doing this during the invitation time on Sunday morning. You might consider spending just a moment at the prayer rail on behalf of those who need the Lord.

God Bless,

Pastor Joe

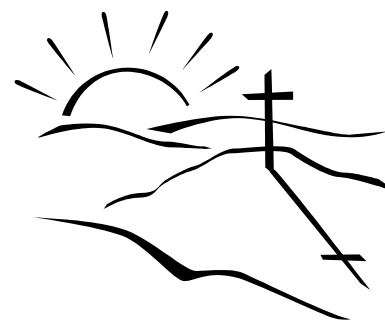


## In This Edition:

The Pastors' Spotlight, Page 1  
Upcoming Events, Page 1  
The Pew Perspective, Page 2  
Baptist Faith & Message, Part VII, Page 2  
BFM Reflection: "Baptism & the Lord's Supper", Page 2  
April Birthdays, Page 3  
Prayer Concerns, Page 3  
Business Meeting Briefs, Page 3  
A Prayer For Our Soldiers, Page 3  
News You Can Use, Page 4  
"Joyous Easter", Page 4  
April 2003 Calendar, Page 5

## Upcoming Events

**Apr. 11** Parents' Night Out  
**Apr. 12** Church Clean Up Day, 9:00 am  
**Apr. 13** Palm Sunday  
**Apr. 18** Good Friday, 7:00 pm Service  
**Apr. 20** Easter Sunday, 6:00 am Sunrise Service on Sugarloaf Mountain  
**Apr. 27** Hymn Sing, 6:00 pm



***"The Lord is risen indeed..." Luke 24:34***

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

One of the more interesting details of the Easter story, I think, occurred immediately after the moment of Jesus' death on the cross, as briefly noted in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. Matthew described the scene in this way: *And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised...* (Matthew 27:50-52). As described by God to Moses in the Old Testament, the veil of the Temple referred to the thick, multi-layered curtain that isolated the rest of the Tabernacle, and then the Temple, from the inner sanctum known as the Holy of Holies, where God's presence would reside over the Ark of the Covenant to receive the worship and sacrifices administered by the Chief Priest. As anyone who has ever watched an *Indiana Jones* movie or read through the Old Testament, to in any way disrespect the strict code of conduct concerning the Ark would result in death. Moses and Aaron were especially familiar with treating the Ark with respect, "... after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they offered profane fire before the LORD, and died; and the LORD said to Moses: 'Tell Aaron your brother not to come at just any time into the Holy Place inside the veil, before the mercy seat which is on the ark, lest he die; for I will appear in the cloud above the mercy seat' (Leviticus 16:1-2). A sinful man cannot approach a god so holy and perfect as the LORD and withstand his righteousness. To preserve the distance between (and safety of) the people of Israel and the Ark, this thick curtain, or veil, was enshrouded around the Ark to prevent any defilement and immediate divine judgment.

So why then, at the moment of Jesus' death, would a thick curtain like the one in the Temple suddenly break apart? Note the direction of the tear—from top to bottom, as well as the time of the tear, just after Jesus' substitutionary death on the cross was completed. The tearing of the Temple curtain in the specific manner and time it was ripped demonstrates that God Himself supernaturally took down that veil—no human hands were involved. The curtain's destruction proved that Jesus' death was sufficient in God's sight to justify and forgive man's sins against Him, and separation of God from man was no longer necessary.

Through Jesus' death on the cross on that first Good Friday and his bodily resurrection three days later on Sunday morning, we can have that veil of separation between our soul and God removed. There is no need to fear a holy and perfect God when we trust Jesus to forgive us our sins. Instead, we can walk through that torn curtain to be in fellowship with a God who loves us. As Paul wrote to the Jewish people of his day, "... it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation (Hebrew 9:27-28). As we remember Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and his victory over death and sin during this Easter season, remember that for those who trust in Him, the curtain between God and us is removed forever.

## Baptist Faith and Message, Part VII

### VII. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Saviour, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.

*Matthew 3:13-17; 26:26-30; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; 14:22-26; Luke 3:21-22; 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 2:41-42; 8:35-39; 16:30-33; 20:7; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 10:16,21; 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12.*

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### **BFM Reflection: "Baptism & the Lord's Supper"**

Being Baptists, it should come as no surprise that the act of baptism, along with the observance of the Lord's Supper, or Communion, are among the most important and visible symbols of our faith. Both of these sacraments are outward manifestations of our personal commitment and relationship to Jesus as our Redeemer and Lord. During this Easter season, the meaning of baptism and the Lord's Supper have great relevance.

In baptism, where a new believer is immersed under water, a word picture is presented to those who witness this act of obedience. Going under water represents the death and burial of the old life characterized by sin and separation from God. Being brought up out of the water shows that we, like Jesus on that first Easter morning, have been raised from death to a new life free from the power and penalty of sin, able to walk in fellowship with God.

The Lord's Supper is observed every first Sunday at Barnesville. The bread and the fruit of the vine we partake remind us of the physical suffering Jesus endured at the Cross on that first Good Friday—the beating and bruising of His body, and the spilling of His blood to cover our sins for all time.

At Barnesville Baptist, baptism is necessary for, and communion is a privilege of, church membership. We are united as a body of believers through our shared faith, our common Savior, and the mutual hope that we will be able to partake in these rites of faith until He returns for his Church.

## April Birthdays

April 2 Rebecca Umstead  
April 10 Mike Driver  
April 16 Dot Fowler  
April 13 Katie Holcomb  
April 24 Mark Williams



(Let us know if we missed anyone.)

## Prayer Concerns

Laura Bennett  
Pat Elam  
Gale Cole, recovering from concussion  
Jim Cole, recovering from broken bone in his leg  
Angela Myers, recovering from back surgery  
Charles Fowler, recovering from surgery  
Lindsey Baumbaugh  
Greg Scoggins, upcoming surgery for brain tumor  
Phyllis Collier  
Nickie Morris  
Joan Morris  
Cindi, friend of Leslie Foster  
Belle Strube, Carole Shreve's mother  
Ashlinn Cole, surgery 4/1/03  
Janice Cole, new baby due in June  
Annie Cooley  
Bob Lillard  
Pastor Joe, recovering from eye surgery  
Linda Gilliam  
Jim McKamey, heart transplant surgery Apr. 1  
America's young men and women in the military  
Our Nation and wisdom for 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."*



## A Prayer For Our Soldiers

Even as you read this column, American men and women are serving in the defense of their country, not only in Iraq, but in many places and situations far away from home and their loved ones. We as a church pray for all of these, and especially those friends and family members known to our congregation. We pray to God for their protection and hope they will come home to us soon. King David, who was also a warrior, keenly felt God's protection from physical harm throughout his life. As you read *Psalm 91*, say a prayer for those closest to the Barnesville congregation.

Becky Cheves, Scott Conlon, Ty Conlon, Travis Davison, Jarod Hawes, Michael Grant, Chris Midberry, DJ Mitchell, David Myers, Andrew Quinn, Aaron Roit, Andy Shields, Ed Slavin, Rob Sparks, Michael Umberger, David, Mike, Dave

### ***Psalm 91***

*He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."*

*Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.*

*If you make the Most High your dwelling--even the LORD, who is my refuge-- then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. You will tread upon the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent.*

*"Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation."*

## News You Can Use

Randy Gilliam

*Snow melts, Lumpkin family gives concert.* With the ice and snow of winter melted from the mountain passes, Abner Lumpkin and his cousin Lula Belle, along with her rooster Ralph Ed, were finally able to venture out after months trapped in their Lumpkinville, TN home. After taking care of the chickens and horses, the Lumpkins came to Barnesville Baptist, where they gave a wonderful performance at the March Hymn Sing. The concert was a remote location broadcast carried on Lumpkinville, TN's KORN-FM.

*Easter lilies for sale.* If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily in honor of/in memory of a loved one, please see Kitty Cooley. The lilies will be used to decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday and throughout the Easter season.

*Daylight Savings Time begins April 3.* Remember to set your watches and clocks forward one hour when you go to bed on Saturday night.



*Praise Reports That Just Can't Wait!* Ashlinn Cole's surgery was completed successfully and she is home recuperating. Jim McKamey, a friend in Ohio the Church has been praying for, received a new heart on April 2. His wife Kathy said that he is doing well and asked that we continue to remember him in prayer. God has truly spared his life. Also, Emma Grace Mills arrived on April 2 to Jamie and Katie (Gilliam) Mills. Flora and Rufus Gilliam are the proud great-grandparents. God is good!

*VBS Alert.* Watch for news about the 2003 Vacation Bible School. If you are interested in helping/teaching or if you know someone who would like to attend, please contact Mary Yates or Randy Gilliam.

*Church to be cleaned on April 12.* Make plans to work with the Groundsmen and to fellowship with your Church family at this annual clean up day, which will start at 9:00 am. Contact Head Groundsman Ralph Cooley for information on jobs and tools needed.

*Easter Sunrise Service on Sugarloaf Mountain.* For those early birds, this mountaintop service beginning at 6:00 am is a wonderful way to begin the celebration of the Lord's resurrection with believers from many congregations. We all have the Risen Savior in common. We extend our gratitude to Rev. Merritt Ednie of Boyds Presbyterian for coordinating this service.

## Business Meeting Briefs

*Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in March:*

No new business was presented, and no progress on old business was reported.

*Expected at the April Business Meeting:*

- A motion to define the rules of standing committee procedure
- The standing committees have not reported back yet on the motion to create job descriptions for positions not defined by the Church Constitution due at the March business meeting.
- An Auditing Committee has not been appointed yet to perform the audit of the Church's finances due at the March business meeting.

## "Joyous Easter"

Paul Meissner

Hallelujah, Christ is risen, welcome joyous Easter morning;  
Where, O grave, is now thy victory; where, O death, is now thy sting?  
Sins' dominion has been broken, vanquished by the Son of God;  
Sinless now we stand before Him, sanctified by His own blood.

Savior, ere Thy crucifixion, Thou didst pray on bended knee,  
Seeking Heaven's intervention, "Father, take this cup from me."  
Nonetheless, Thou chose obedience, as a true and faithful Son,  
Praying with contrite submission, "Father, may Thy will be done."  
How I wish I could have been there, kneeling in Gethsemane,  
As that fateful morn was dawning, there to watch and pray with Thee.

We are heirs of God's salvation, born again by grace divine;  
There is now no condemnation, may Thy light within us shine.  
Blessed Jesus, Thou hast saved us, paid for us the fullest price;  
May we ever love and serve thee, as a living sacrifice.  
Savior, from the grave arisen, seated now at God's right hand,  
Light the way before Thy children, lead us to the promised land. Amen.