



The Barnesville Lantern

Barnesville Baptist Church
17917 Barnesville Road
Barnesville, Maryland 20838

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

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

The Pastors' Spotlight

May is a month of celebration and remembrance. We celebrate family by paying special tribute to mothers. One thing that we all have in common is that we have been mothered by someone. In your special remembrance of your mother, thank God for this miracle of family. This is not only a holiday rite, but rather an attitude that should be evident in our behavior and speech. God Himself set the standard, *"Honor your father and your mother..." (Exodus 20:12)*. Whether your mother is physically with you or lives in your special memories and love, you still honor her through your life, your character, your children if you are a mother or father, and through the pattern of faith you demonstrate to others.

May is also a month to celebrate and remember the many men and women who have served and died in the defense of America and its ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Regardless of your religion or politics, this Memorial Day, be thankful for the lives of men and women who served willingly and helped preserve this great nation. The third stanza of *America, the Beautiful* captures this idea:

*O beautiful for heroes proved In liberating strife
Who more than self their country loved, And mercy
more than life!*

*America! America! May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness, And every gain divine.*

Please pray for our nation and its leaders and for all men and women in uniform. *"If my people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).*

God Bless,

Pastor Joe



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Upcoming Events

May 11 Mothers' Day
May 16 Parents' Night Out
May 17 Armed Forces Day
May 18 Hymn Sing, 6:00 pm
May 26 Memorial Day Observed, Church Office Closed
May 31 Dinner with Watkins Cabinet Friends and Family

As we observe Memorial Day this month, we recognize so clearly that freedom and liberty are bought with a terrible cost. Let us reinforce our resolve to never forget those who gave their last full measure for America.



To our men and women in uniform...past, present and future, God bless you, and Thank You.

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

The month of May is significant to me because of all the educational activities that are customary this time of year. As a graduate student and instructor, I am mindful of the many due dates for tests, term papers, and final exams, as well as the pomp and circumstance of graduation ceremonies that occur this month. To successfully complete such assignments and walk across the commencement stage, it is necessary to do well on those assignments by studying, researching, going to the library, and acquiring and analyzing new information.

Beyond the education one receives in the classroom, spiritual education is also important. Human knowledge is good for acquiring information about the things we can see, touch, smell, taste, and hear—things we can detect and measure. We can answer many questions of who, what, where, when, and how. But often times, we are unable and unequipped to answer the why questions: why are things as they are and not some other way? To seek answers of order and meaning in the universe, we must turn to the Creator of the universe. Wise Solomon turned to God:

To know wisdom and instruction, to perceive the words of understanding, to receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, judgment, and equity; to give prudence to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion—a wise man will hear and increase learning, and a man of understanding will attain wise counsel, to understand a proverb and an enigma, the words of the wise and their riddles. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction (Proverbs 1:2-7).

To fear God is to realize His wisdom, power, and authority, to remember His holy nature, and to respect His order and purpose for the universe and mankind. God has given us the ability to comprehend the world around us, and even ourselves, through revelation and reason. He has revealed to us heavenly and eternal truths through his Word, and he has given us the mental capacity to use our minds to explore and discover the order and complexity of the world that surrounds us. Through the disciplines of prayer, reading the Bible, studying in Sunday School, listening during Sunday morning worship, attending Wednesday night Bible study, and participating in activities like Vacation Bible School, we can familiarize ourselves with God's Word and learn how to apply its truths. Similarly, we should also exercise the minds God has put in our heads. Mastering the skills of reading and writing, mathematics and science, history and government, music and art all hone our skills to understand and appreciate the natural world and the cultures and societies around us.

So, to all the scholars out there, both in and out of school, remember both the importance of education and wisdom in your daily lives, and the Author of all true knowledge. To the graduates in our Church family, congratulations.

... Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His...He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with Him (Daniel 2:20-22).

Baptist Faith and Message, Part VIII

VIII. The Lord's Day

The first day of the week is the Lord's Day. It is a Christian institution for regular observance. It commemorates the resurrection of Christ from the dead and should include exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private. Activities on the Lord's Day should be commensurate with the Christian's conscience under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Exodus 20:8-11; Matthew 12:1-12; 28:1ff.; Mark 2:27-28; 16:1-7; Luke 24:1-3,33-36; John 4:21-24; 20:1,19-28; Acts 20:7; Romans 14:5-10; I Corinthians 16:1-2; Colossians 2:16; 3:16; Revelation 1:10.

BFM Reflection: "The Lord's Day"

Interestingly, there is no command in the Scriptures to observe Sunday as the Lord's Day or as a prescribed day of worship. In practice, the first century church met to worship and celebrate the Lord's resurrection and the Lord's Supper on Sunday. Luke records in *Acts 20:7*, "On the first day of the week we came together to break bread". Regardless of whether a church is Orthodox, Catholic, or Protestant, the assumed day of meeting as a church to worship has been Sunday.

Please note however that many Christian churches have chosen to meet to worship on Saturday, i.e. they choose to observe the seventh day of Sabbath Rest. There are Seventh Day Adventists, Seventh Day Baptists, and others. This is an honorable and Bible based practice based upon the week of God's creating activity. There is a conviction that "This day was instituted by God since the Creation, and the commandment concerning Sabbath rest is a part of God's eternal law".*

This is a difference in practice but should never be a hindrance to fellowship among Christians. The more important thing is how we worship, not particularly when. Jesus proclaimed in *John 4:24*, "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth". The Apostle Paul asserted in *Romans 14: 5b-6*, "Each person must be fully convinced in his own mind. He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord..."

God bless you as you and your family worship this week.

**Encyclopedia of World Religions*, 1999, page 14

May Birthdays

May 1 Franklin Ennis
May 2 Kevin Becraft
May 3 Dawn Geisler
May 6 Savannah Geisler
May 13 Bud Baumbaugh
May 15 Jim Cole
May 24 Nicholas Cole
Wade Williams
May 25 Michelle Becraft
May 28 Paul Foster
May 30 Sandy Gilliam



Prayer Concerns

Laura Bennett
Pat Elam
Gale Cole, recovering from concussion
Angela Myers, recovering from back surgery
Charles Fowler, recovering from surgery
Lindsey Baumbaugh
Greg Scoggins, upcoming surgery for brain tumor
Marva Cole, brother David passed away
Phyllis Collier
Nickie Morris
Joan Morris
Cindi, friend of Leslie Foster
Belle Strube, Carole Shreve's mother
Janice Cole, new baby due in June
Sherri Marsh, new baby due in October
Todd Marsh recovering from back injury
Harold Marsh recovering from back surgery
Annie Cooley
Bob Lillard
Pastor Joe, recovering from eye surgery
Linda Gilliam
Jim McKamey, recovering from heart transplant surgery
America's young men and women in the military
Our Nation and wisdom for its Leaders
Graduating Seniors Julia Michael and Virginia Carroll

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

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in April:

- The Church approved the purchase of a new shed to be placed on the western edge of the Church property
- The Church has voted to give \$100/month for a year to Oasis Christian Center to help them during a time of difficulty

Expected at the May 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.

Attention Women



*The Women's Ministry Presents
A Book Study on*

Angels: God's Secret Agents
By Billy Graham

*Lead by Kathy Jordan
Minister of Family Enrichment
Ashton Baptist Church*

Where: Barnesville Baptist Church

When: May 17, 2003
9:00 – 9:30 AM Light Breakfast
9:30 – 11:00 Seminar and Discussion

We have heard very enthusiastic comments from women who have read *Angels*. Please do yourself a 'spiritual favor' and try to attend this seminar. It is sure to be inspirational and will strengthen your Christian walk.

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it" (Hebrews 13:2).

News You Can Use

Randy Gilliam

Congratulations to graduating seniors! Certainly the family and friends of Julia Michael and Virginia Carroll are bursting with pride because of this significant milestone these students have achieved:

Julia Michael will be graduating from Towson University on May 22 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Her major is Business Administration with a track in E-commerce and has a minor in Economics. Julia is a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society, received a scholarship as a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma business honor society, and will graduate as a member of the Towson University Honors College. She has recently been invited to attend the "Outstanding Graduates Recognition Reception" as one of the top scholars in the business college. Julia will begin this spring as a Management Analyst with the Social Security Administration in Baltimore. Congrats again!!

Virginia Carroll will be graduating from the University of Maryland, College Park, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry on May 23. She will be attending graduate school starting July 2003 at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. She hopes to earn a Ph.D. in Immunology. Virginia has excelled in her science curricula at the University of Maryland and has charted a very challenging course in science research for her future. We pray for her success, her well-being, and for godly wisdom as she undertakes this next academic challenge. Way to go, Virginia!!

Good foundation laid for shed. Anticipating the new storage shed to be delivered this spring, Ralph Cooley and Tod Luhn with technical assistance from Jim Cole and heavy equipment help from Jack Cooley, completed a very nice block foundation. You can see it on the west side of the Church. When you see these gentlemen, give them a personal thank you. This was a difficult job. We appreciate so much the willingness of men such as these to roll up their sleeves in service to the Lord's local Church.

Wingerts in concert. The Wingerts will be in concert at the Dawsonville Mennonite Church, 16500 White's Ferry Road, on Sunday, May 11, at 6:00 in the evening. The community is invited to attend.

Are you interested in finding out about BBC? If you or someone you know, perhaps someone new to the area, would be interested in finding out more about Barnesville Baptist Church, please contact the Church Office. The Pastors would be happy to answer questions and provide information about services and ministry opportunities.

BBC Choir is looking for singers! Our choir director, Paul Foster, is looking for people who love to sing. The choir practices on Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. You will find that participating in the choir is **fun** as well as a worshipful experience. It is above all an opportunity to express your talents in service and worship to the Lord. Come join us!

Vacation Bible School 2003

VBS at Barnesville Baptist Church will be held July 7 – 11, 2003, in the evenings from 6:30 until 8:30. The theme for this year's VBS is "The Great Kingdom Caper, Cracking the Character Code". The VBS Scripture is *Colossians 3: 12-14*: "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."

What a wonderful opportunity to reinforce to children these godly character traits. Wouldn't it be something if all of us, children, youth and adults, made it a point to "clothe ourselves" with these virtues! What a church, what a community, what a world that would be!!



"The Foot-Path to Peace"

Henry Van Dyke

"To be glad of life because it gives you the chance to love and to work and to play and to look up at the stars; to be satisfied with your possessions but not contented with yourself until you have made the best of them; to despise nothing in the world except falsehood and meanness; and to fear nothing except cowardice; to be governed by your admirations rather than by your disgusts; to covet nothing that is your neighbor's except his kindness of heart and gentleness of manners; to think seldom of your enemies; often of your friends, and every day of Christ; and to spend as much time as you can with body and with spirit in God's out-of-doors; these are little guide-posts on the foot-path to peace."

The Lord Jesus is the Prince of Peace and the source of true peace, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful" (John 14:27).