



# The Barnesville Lantern

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July 2003, Volume 2, No. 2

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

## The Pastors' Spotlight

I have to share with you a delight June and I experienced at our home this past week. Thanks to the imagination, creativity, and willingness of Jim Cole, we now have a beautiful 22' flag pole in our front yard. Jim made it and we "planted" it together. When all the preparations were completed (the flag pole painted, the rope and pulley and attachments all in place), we raised that beautiful red, white, and blue Stars and Stripes flag of the United States! What a wonderful experience to fly *Old Glory* at our home and declare to all that we are so very proud of this nation and thankful to be Christians in this land of freedom and liberty. With all of its problems it is still the greatest country in all the world. Please join us in prayer for our nation especially over this July 4<sup>th</sup> Independence Day Holiday. *"Happy is that people, whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 144:15).*

*Blessed the nation whose God is the Lord;  
Blessed the land where He reigns.  
Blessed the people who trust in His Word,  
And worship His glorious name.*

Elizabeth de Gravelles

As you pray for our nation, please also pray for our church. We will be praying and preparing for a two- or three- day revival in November. It seems so clear to me and Pastor Randy that the Lord desires to send revival here. He has marvelous plans for our church in these days to find, and to help, to comfort and to bring the Gospel to people all around us. Please meditate on *II Chronicles 7:14* and pray....

God Bless,

Pastor Joe

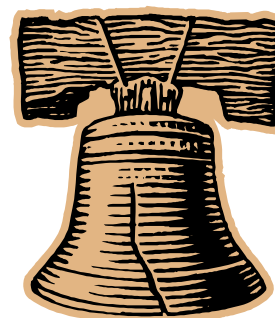


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## Upcoming Events

**July 2** Business Meeting  
**July 4** Independence Day, Church office closed  
**July 7-11** Vacation Bible School  
**July 27** "Sons of Thunder", 10:45 am service



*"...Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof..." (Leviticus 25:10).*

(the inscription on the Liberty Bell, rung to announce the approval of the Declaration of Independence to the citizens of Philadelphia)

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress approved a document authored by Thomas Jefferson declaring the United States to be independent from Great Britain and King George III. The Declaration of Independence was an indictment by the American colonists against the British for violations of Americans' rights, violations severe enough to warrant the separation of the American colonies from British rule. Jefferson proclaimed that the rights Americans valued came not from personal taste, or societal norms, or from the government. Rights come from God Himself. Thus, the famous passage, "We hold these Truths to be self-evident: that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness".

Americans, and indeed all men throughout all time can claim their liberties and freedom because they are the universal and timeless gift of the Creator. The inherent value and dignity of each and every human life is proclaimed throughout the Bible from cover to cover. "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them" (Genesis 1:31). Just as we respect God, we must demonstrate respect for his human creations, which were made like Him, with His attributes of reason, intelligence, and personality. This requirement for mutual respect was further repeated in the Old Testament Law. The Ten Commandments demand that: "You shall not murder... You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor ... You shall not covet... anything that is your neighbor's" (Exodus 20:13, 15, 17). Additionally, it was expected that "... You shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD" (Leviticus 19:18), which Jesus echoed in the New Testament, recorded in Matthew 22:40 as the second greatest commandment, the first and greatest being to love the LORD your God. Christians are doubly-required to love and respect all men, not only as co-equal created beings, but as witnesses to the love of God to mankind through Jesus. "And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also" (1 John 4:21).

The Founding Fathers were familiar with such biblical language, and were easily able to assume the self-evident truths of equal worth and equal rights for all mankind. The further the world gets away from such truths, the easier it becomes to devalue the life and the worth of the weak, poor, and downtrodden among us. It is hard to explain why we should care about the lives and rights of others without understanding the origin of human life and rights, especially when no one else seems to care and we can get ahead by devaluing others. But what other basis could the weak, poor, and downtrodden Americans of 1776 used to justify to the British and indeed the whole world, that their lives, liberties, and pursuit of happiness had value and meaning, absent the moral authority of God's Word? I thank God that the rights and liberties I enjoy as a citizen of the United States are a gift from Him. As you celebrate your independence this Fourth of July, take some time to thank God for our common birthright of freedom.

## Baptist Faith and Message, Part X

### X. Last Things

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth; the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.

*Isaiah 2:4; 11:9; Matthew 16:27; 18:8-9; 19:28; 24:27,30,36,44; 25:31-46; 26:64; Mark 8:38; 9:43-48; Luke 12:40,48; 16:19-26; 17:22-37; 21:27-28; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; 17:31; Romans 14:10; 1 Corinthians 4:5; 15:24-28,35-58; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Philippians 3:20-21; Colossians 1:5; 3:4; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 5:1ff.; 2 Thessalonians 1:7ff.; 2; 1 Timothy 6:14; 2 Timothy 4:1,8; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 9:27-28; James 5:8; 2 Peter 3:7ff.; 1 John 2:28; 3:2; Jude 14; Revelation 1:18; 3:11; 20:1-22:13.*

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### BFM Reflection: "Last Things"

A "feeling" pervades many evangelicals that we indeed are the "terminal generation." The 2000 Baptist Faith and Message statement on "Last Things" is a judiciously written statement that provides insight into some of the most significant events in the future and at the same time can be embraced by believers from various millennial perspectives.

The initial sentence affirms God's sovereign control of history. Christians are confident in the final outcome of history because we believe that God is sovereignly directing history toward its pre-ordained conclusion.

The next sentence affirms Jesus Christ's return. Significant areas of agreement exist among evangelicals in regards to Christ's Second coming. First, evangelicals believe that Jesus Christ's return will be sudden, personal, visible and bodily. Second, believers should anxiously await Christ's return (*Titus 2:12; Philippians 3:20*).

A third area of agreement is that we cannot know the time of His return; however, Jesus encouraged his followers to be vigilant as we await His coming.

Finally, evangelicals agree that believers will live with Jesus Christ in a new heaven and a new earth.

## Business Meeting Briefs

### July Birthdays

5 Savannah Wasko  
6 Buddy Baumbaugh  
8 Nancy Cooley  
9 Fred Bird  
22 Douglas Cooley  
23 Mary Yates  
26 Joe Yates  
    Virginia Magaha  
27 Margery Lillard  
28 Jacqueline Cole  
29 Joanne Dorsey  
30 Sherri Marsh



### Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in June:

- The Church voted to roll over its certificate of deposit for a six-month period.
- The Church approved a \$175 fertilizer treatment of the Church grounds.
- The Church budget was amended to reimburse Kitty Cooley \$300 for the remainder of the 2003 fiscal years for flowers.
- Randy and Sandy Gilliam were approved by the Church to serve as messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention this month, and were given a \$600 stipend for travel expenses.
- The Church authorized the outlay of \$700 to *Rushing Wind*, plus the proceeds from a love offering during their two concerts.

### Expected at the July Business Meeting:

- The Finance, Outreach, and Worship committees are expected to report back on the motion to define job descriptions for offices under their jurisdictions.
- The Education Committee is also expected to report back on the job description motion as well as a motion from the Deacons to study the issue of moving the Nursery upstairs.
- The Internal Administration committee will report back on the job description motion, a motion to study the possibility of building a "crying room", and the motion to define the rules of standing committee procedure.
- An Auditing Committee has not been appointed yet to perform the audit of the Church's finances, which was due at the March business meeting.

### Prayer Concerns

Annie Cooley  
Laura Bennett  
Pat Elam  
Gale Cole, Praise God for His healing!  
Charles Fowler and Dot  
Lindsey Baumbaugh  
Belle Strube  
Sherri Marsh, new baby due in October  
Todd Marsh, recovering from back injury  
Bob Lillard  
Pastor Joe, improved vision after eye surgery  
Linda Gilliam  
Dale Willis, heart attack (Joe Yates' cousin)  
Vacation Bible School; workers, teachers, children  
Church family members traveling in July  
Mike Dennis, coming to BBC in Nov. 2003  
Missionaries in North America and around the world

*"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7).*



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



### VBS Announcement

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
JULY 7 – 11, 2003**



**REGISTRATION PICNIC/ *Wonders of the Horse*  
MONDAY, JULY 7, 5:00- 6:30 pm**

## News You Can Use

Randy Gilliam

*Kaitlyn Catherine Cole* was born to Janice and Matt Cole on June 9, weighing 7 lbs., 3 oz. Congratulations to the Coles on this new addition to their family.

*Congratulations to our neighbor*, Father George Reed of St. Mary's Shrine in Barnesville on his 50 years of service to the Lord.

*Anger Resolution Seminar in our area.* A friend of BBC, Mrs. Michele Normoyle, is hosting a Bill Gothard Seminar on Anger Resolution at her home on Thursdays, July 3–August 21, from 7:00–9:00 pm. “Bill Gothard communicates practical ways to turn the act of *anger* into *love*. Discover the power of crying out to God and turn your conflicts into blessings!” If there is enough interest in our Church and community another seminar can be planned later in the summer or early fall and held at Church. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact the Church Office at 301-407-0500.

*“Sons of Thunder” coming July 27.* Jeff Hunter is the leader of a dynamic singing and guitar playing duet of Christian music. Jeff is a classmate of Pastor Randy's at the Southern Seminary extension courses in Columbia. Jeff has almost completed his seminary training and is called and gifted to minister in music evangelism. The “*Sons of Thunder*” will present the Gospel in song and spoken word in the morning service on July 27. You will notice immediately that Jeff loves the Lord Jesus and is EXCITED about praising and serving Him.

*Jars of Clay* are coming to the Weinberg Center in Frederick on Tuesday, August 5. Reserve seat tickets (for a group of 10 or more) cost \$19.00. Pastor Randy and Sandy Gilliam plan to go and would love to have a group from BBC go for an evening of contemporary Christian music and fellowship. Please contact Randy or Sandy if you are interesting in going. They will arrange to purchase tickets.

*Bruce Elman shared his personal testimony.* BBC was happy to host Bruce Elman of Chosen People Ministries on Friday, June 27. Bruce shared how he came to realize that Jesus, Yeshua, truly is the Messiah, and accepted Him as his personal Savior. Bruce left a successful career in mortgage banking to prepare for the full time ministry of evangelism. We hope to have Bruce return to BBC next year to share a message on “The Messiah in the Passover”.

*The following video and books* have been added to the Church Library. You will find them very interesting as you search for Jewish roots of your Christian faith and as you prepare to witness to Jewish friends about the Savior:

- *Messiah In The Passover* (video)
- *Answering Jewish Objections to Jesus Vol. Two*, Brown
- *Fall Feasts Of Israel*, Glazer
- *Jesus Was A Jew*, Fruchtenbaum
- *Hitler's Cross*, Lutzer
- *The Passover Anthology*, Goodman
- *The Temple, Its Ministry and Services*, Edersheim

## Reports from Phoenix

Sandy Gilliam, Messenger

Thank you for allowing Pastor Randy & me to attend the SBC Annual Meeting as your messengers. The sessions were Spirit-filled and we had the sense of belonging to a very long tradition of Christian beliefs and teachings. The music provided by a 400-voice choir and full orchestra created the atmosphere for the Holy Spirit to work freely. Every message was focused on the SBC theme of “Building Kingdom Families”, the emphasis of our denomination for the next year. We have a responsibility to do what it takes to enable our families to “seek first the kingdom of God”.

The plight of some of our SBC missionaries came home to me when Don and Terry Caswell spoke to us. Don is a pharmacist who worked in the Jibla Baptist Hospital in Yemen. On December 30, 2002, a gunman entered the hospital, shot and killed 3 missionaries (Martha Myers, William Koehn, and Kathleen Gariety) and wounded Don, shooting him twice. He and Terry spoke briefly about this traumatic experience and his recovery. Terry said that while praying about where they should serve God in the future, He gave them *Luke 6:27*, “*But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you...*”. With a strong voice of conviction, she said they will be returning to Yemen on August 1, 2003. Please join us in praying for Don & Terry and their sons, Thomas, age 11, and Caleb, age 5.

Randy Gilliam, Messenger

We are very grateful to you for giving us the opportunity to attend the SBC Annual meeting in Phoenix. I was privileged to share with you a report about the meeting from the pulpit on Sunday, June 29. In the August *Lantern* I will write a more detailed account of the business of the annual meeting, the speakers, and especially the resolutions that the messengers approved.

We are happy to report to you that the messengers and officers of the SBC Annual Meeting had a common theme and desire, “Exalt the King, Expand the Kingdom”. The music, preaching, and even the reports of the SBC entities were encouraging, challenging, and inspirational. We came away with a greater appreciation for the accomplishments of the group of churches who choose to call themselves “Southern Baptists”. We got a first hand look at the incredible accomplishments made possible by the Holy Spirit empowering the ministry of men and women all over the world and here in the United States. These ministries are made possible and grow stronger because of the cooperative effort of some 43,000 Southern Baptist churches in the United States. Barnesville Baptist contributes regularly and sacrificially to the Cooperative Program and so we also share in the ministry to people around the world.

Surely this voluntary convention of Baptist Churches can accurately be described as “The Rope of Sand with Strength of Steel”! “*...Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you*” (*Matthew 6:33*).