



The Barnesville Lantern

Barnesville Baptist Church
17917 Barnesville Road
Barnesville, Maryland 20838

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

October 2003, Volume 2, No. 5

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

The Pastors' Spotlight

Revival/Missions Service on November 1 and 2
Pastor Randy and I and others have begun praying for personal and church-wide revival at Barnesville Baptist Church. Services will be held Saturday, November 1 at 7:00 pm, and Sunday, November 2 at 10:45 am. We believe that Pastor Mike Dennis, a gifted preacher of the Word and one who has completely dedicated his life to serving the Risen Savior, is God's man for this time of spiritual awakening for us, our church, and our community. Revival means a lot of things, but let me state simply that revival is looking again at Jesus and seeing Him as He is. Perhaps no better definition of revival can be given than the ideas expressed in a great old hymn:

*"Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace".*

We invite everyone, members and friends of Barnesville Baptist Church, to begin to earnestly pray for God's Spirit to move in marvelous and empowering ways. Plan to worship with us this Sunday when the message will be "Revival Cry". The next three Sundays will be focused on getting all of us ready to receive revival. We also ask that beginning on Oct. 25, our church family begin a seven-day prayer vigil for Pastor Mike, our church, and all those in our area who need to consider the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ. There are problems in many families, in our community, and in our nation. Only God has the power and wisdom to make a difference in this age. We believe that God's promise to Israel so long ago is still His intention and promise to believers in the church age: *"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, and will forgive their sin and heal their land"* (2 Chronicles 7:14).

God Bless,

Your Pastors



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Upcoming Events

October 1 Business Meeting
October 17 Lunch with Watkins Cabinet friends
October 19 Monthly Hymn-Sing
October 24 Parents' Night Out
October 25 Prayer Vigil for Revival begins
October 26 Daylight Savings Time ends



"He causes the grass to grow forth for the cattle, and vegetation for the service of man, that he may bring forth food from the earth..." (Psalm 104:14).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

I have always enjoyed fall because it marks the return of my favorite constellations to the night sky: Orion, Taurus, the Pleiades, Canis Major, with the bright star Sirius, as well as the never-setting Dippers and W-shaped Cassiopeia. Since August, the planet Mars has maintained its brightness through the evening hours after it came closer to Earth than it has in several thousand years. In recent years, several previously unknown comets and the peak Leonid meteor showers have also provided some stellar entertainment. When I view these stars and planets, I see order and purpose in the universe, rather than randomness and meaninglessness; the stars are arranged in patterns and travel fixed routes year after year. When I look up, the vastness of the nighttime panorama reminds me it was all created by, "...the LORD, who gives the sun for a light by day, the ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night..." (Jeremiah 31:35).

Astronomers tell us that we can only see a few thousand stars from our terrestrial vantage point. The universe is actually full of billions of galaxies with billions of stars in each. When the Psalmist tells us, "He counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by name" (Psalm 147:4), I am awed by the magnitude of creation and the power and might of its Creator. Contemplating the scale of the universe makes me feel small and insignificant, like David did: "When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, what is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him" (Psalm 8:3-4)? Yet, I am encouraged to know that the great God that created the ground underneath my feet and the heavens above my head knew me before I was born, and loves me. Like Jesus taught, the God that created and named the stars knows our names too: "Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows" (Matthew 10:29-31).

So, go outside some evening this month—it's still warm enough not to need a jacket. Stand out in a dark spot and look up. You will be encouraged to see and know that there is a God in the universe that is great enough to fill the sky with stars, and yet loves each one of us more than all of his creation.

Editor's Note: We encourage the submission of articles, news, and other pieces to the Lantern. Such submissions should be authored by a member or friend of Barnesville Baptist Church, as we would like to avoid any potential copyright issues with articles printed in other publications.

Baptist Faith and Message, Part XIII

XIII. Stewardship

God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. Christians have a spiritual debtorship to the whole world, a holy trusteeship in the gospel, and a binding stewardship in their possessions. They are therefore under obligation to serve Him with their time, talents, and material possessions; and should recognize all these as entrusted to them to use for the glory of God and for helping others. According to the Scriptures, Christians should contribute of their means cheerfully, regularly, systematically, proportionately, and liberally for the advancement of the Redeemer's cause on earth.

Genesis 14:20; Leviticus 27:30-32; Deuteronomy 8:18; Malachi 3:8-12; Matthew 6:1-4,19-21; 19:21; 23:23; 25:14-29; Luke 12:16-21,42; 16:1-13; Acts 2:44-47; 5:1-11; 17:24-25; 20:35; Romans 6:6-22; 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; 6:19-20; 12; 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8-9; 12:15; Philippians 4:10-19; 1 Peter 1:18-19.

BFM Reflection: "Stewardship"

Excerpt from BFM article by Douglas Walker,
BP News, Sep. 3, 2002

... God owns everything, and therefore we are to be stewards of all he gives us. A basic tenet of a Christian worldview holds that God is the Creator of the heavens and the earth. As Creator he thus owns all that is or ever will be. He owns our lives and bodies, our health and welfare, our goods and possessions and even the air we breathe. In His wisdom and providence, He has placed in our hands and at our disposal certain blessings and gifts for our use for His glory. We, in turn, are thus responsible for using His blessings for his glory, our benefit and the welfare of others. The parable of the talents in *Matthew 25* makes clear that our responsibility is to multiply the gifts given to us by God. A thoughtful stewardship of all that we have is part of our Christian discipleship... In our materialistic society we must challenge believers to work not for bigger houses and better cars, but so that they might give to the Lord's work around the world. God's glory should be the driving force behind how we use all the gifts and possessions that God has placed in our care. At the end of our lives may we be found as faithful stewards of all that He has entrusted to us.

October Birthdays

8 Karian Mitchell
10 David Shive
13 Peter Cole
23 John Shreve
27 Paul Geisler



Prayer Concerns

Ben & Laura Bennett
Pat Elam
Annie Cooley
Pastor Joe
family of Rufus Gilliam
family of Paul Stull
Charles & Dot Fowler
Virginia Shreve, recovering from fall
Belle Strube, Carole Shreve's mother
Dale Willis, blood clot
Charlie Morris
Lois Carroll, studying in Norway
Jennifer Mays, Leslie Foster's niece, kidney transplant
Dick Katzenbach, friend of the Gilliams
Todd & Sherri Marsh and new son Logan
Walt Rohwer, friend of the Michael family
Mike Smith, brain tumor
Joe Williams family
Phyllis Collier, cancer
Roberta Richards, recovering from surgery
Mike and Debbie Dennis, coming to BBC Nov. 1-2
Cecil Mahendranath, NAMB Missionary to diplomats

"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."



"The blessed and inviting truth is that God is the most winsome of all beings and in our worship of Him we should find unspeakable pleasure."--A.W. Tozer, The Pursuit of God

Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in September:

- The Church approved Randy Gilliam as the new middle school teacher for Sunday School.
- The Church accepted the audit report on Fiscal Year 2002.
- The resolution to repair the bell tower was passed by the Church.
- A motion to study the possibility of holding a Church Christmas party at Cozy Restaurant in Thurmont, MD was referred to the Outreach Committee.
- A motion to study the possibility of hiring a nursery worker was referred to the Education Committee.
- The Church selected Joe Ivey, Sandy Gilliam, Ralph & Nancy Cooley, and Joe Yates (Ann Carroll as alternate) to serve as messengers to the Montgomery Baptist Association Meeting on October 25.
- TJ Marsh was unanimously accepted as a member.

Expected at the October Business Meeting:

- The Education Committee will report on the motion to study the possibility of hiring a nursery worker.
- The Outreach Committee will report on the motion to study the possibility of holding a Church Christmas party at Cozy Restaurant in Thurmont, MD.
- Note: all outstanding motions not acted on at the October Business Meeting must be re-introduced for any further consideration by the Church.

"The Hammer and The Anvil"

John Clifford (1836-1923)

Last eve I passed beside a blacksmith's door,
And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;
Then, looking in, I saw upon the floor
Old hammers, worn with beating years of time.

How many anvils have you had," said I,
"To wear and batter all these hammers so?"
"Just one," said he, and then with twinkling eye,
"The anvil wears the hammers out, you know."

And so, thought I, the anvil of God's Word,
For ages skeptic blows have beat upon;
Yet, though the noise of falling blows was heard,
The anvil is unharmed – the hammers gone.

News You Can Use

Randy Gilliam

Revival coming to Barnesville Nov. 1-2. Rev. Mike Dennis will be bringing special Revival/Missions services on Saturday, November 1 at 7:00 pm, and Sunday, November 2 at 10:45 am. Pastor Mike and his wife Debbie are coming from Kansas City. Their daughter Rachael, who is in the Air Force, will join them and minister with her father in song. Pastor Mike is preparing to go to the mission field in Guatemala. He will serve as field director for churches in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. Pastor Mike has been to Haiti, Venezuela and other South American countries on missions trips. The Lord gave him a special love and concern for the Spanish-speaking pastors laboring in Central and South America. He returned to Venezuela after a missions trip there to teach young pastors theology and sermon preparation. Mike's heart is in evangelism and building the Kingdom of God. You will be blessed by sharing some time with him on Nov. 1 and 2. Please plan to attend and invite someone who needs to hear the blessed, exciting and life-changing message of God's Grace through Jesus Christ.

Committee heads to hold special meeting. The chairmen of the five standing committees will meet after the morning worship on Sunday, Oct. 12 to review some important matters of Church business, e.g. the upcoming budget. Any interested Church member is invited to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

Isabel storms through Barnesville. Wind gusts up to 40 mph swept through Maryland on Sep. 18-19 as the remnants of Hurricane Isabel marched up the Mid-Atlantic region. The Church lost one of its oak trees in the front yard, and millions of area residents were without power for several days. The Groundsmen will also cut down another lightning-damaged tree in the front yard.

Julia Michael and Steve Cole are wed. The power came on just in time in Joppa, MD, for Julia & Steve to have a beautiful wedding and reception on Sep. 20. After the wedding, the newlyweds took a Caribbean honeymoon cruise to Cozumel and Jamaica. Their new address is 4 Airway Circle, Apt. 2D, Towson, MD 21286; Email: jwee21@hotmail.com; Phone: 443-838-4698.

Children's Choir to start up again. Ann Carroll will be leading the Children's Choir as they begin their new fall schedule of practices on Sunday, Oct. 12 during Children's Church.

Sympathies are extended to the Ivey and Gilliam families. June Ivey's father, Paul Stull, and Randy Gilliam's father, Rufus Gilliam, both passed away in September.

Logan Howard Marsh born! Sherri & Todd Marsh are the proud parents of a baby boy, born Sep. 21, 2003. A baby shower will be held on Oct. 4 from 2:00-4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

"God of Wonders"

Lois Carroll

When all things seem imperative
And life is made of change
When you look upon your country
From the window of a plane

And you see the earth get smaller
And the highways shrink to lines
And the seven-story buildings wane
As upward on she climbs

And the ball fields turn to petals
For a second you feel lost
As the mountains become wrinkles
And the trees all turn to moss

And suddenly your mind can't hold
A single thought but this:
My God of wonders You are all
That perfectly exists

With Your hands you formed the mountains
And the sun You set aflame
You molded every icicle
And called each star by name

Though your people are like grasshoppers
You breathed your Life in man
You, Everlasting Father,
Hold the waters in your hand.

Library Acrostic

Laura Bennett, Church Librarian

L is for library, life, light, love and liberty
I is for inventory, intelligence, influence (positive)
B is for believers, books, biographies
R is for read, redeeming and reference
A is for attitude, adults, atlas
R is for return, renew, reflect, reward
Y is for you, youth, you-all-come—bring library books back for inventory.

Please return any library books you have in your possession so that we can perform an accurate inventory and add new books. More library news will be coming your way next month.

