



# The Barnesville Lantern

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November 2003, Volume 2, No. 6

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

## The Pastors' Spotlight

As this edition of *The Lantern* goes to press (so to speak) we are right on the front edge of the Revival Services planned for Nov. 1 and Nov. 2 with Mike and Debbie Dennis. By the time you get this, you will already know how devoted these folks are to the Lord and how much they love the fellowship of believers here in Barnesville.

Your Pastors' prayer for each of the members and friends of BBC is that you allow the Holy Spirit to reveal the incredible, life-changing power that comes from knowing Christ.

An artist had her canvass out and was painting a picture of the view from Rt. 109 toward Sugarloaf Mountain this afternoon. The incredible beauty of all the colors and the mountain in the sun were breathtaking. I couldn't help but think, "That's exactly what the Lord wants to do for us in all the areas of our lives!" He wants to help us "paint" the picture that brings the greatest fulfillment to us and our families in all of life's circumstances and glorifies our Heavenly Father. He does this only so far as we allow Him to show and direct us in truth and righteousness. We always settle for less when we insist on our own colors and hues that are contrary to His will. If things in your life or in your relationships are dull and colorless and routine, I beg you to ask the Lord to help you paint the masterpiece He wants you to be!

*"I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge--that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:16-20).*

God Bless,

Your Pastors

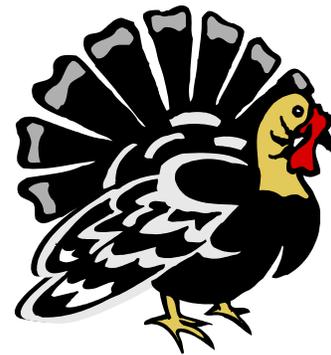


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## Upcoming Events

- November 1-2** Revival Services
- November 5** Business Meeting
- November 14** Parents' Night Out
- November 16** Monthly Hymn-Sing
- November 21** Lunch with Watkins Cabinet friends
- November 27** Thanksgiving



*"Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! For His mercy endures forever. Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy endures forever" (Psalm 136:1-3).*

“Thanksgiving” is oftentimes treated as a noun, when in fact it should be treated as a verb. Now don’t get me wrong, I enjoy oyster stuffing and stealing the cherries off the top of that whipped cream dish my dad always makes as much as the next person, but the real purpose of Thanksgiving as a holiday is to give thanks. To give thanks, there must be a recipient to accept such thanks. As the Pilgrims knew well before we did, we owe our debt of gratitude to our Lord.

Just what might we be thankful for? Here is a general list everyone could find applicable in some degree:

**Individuals**—first and foremost, we can thank the Lord for our salvation through the atoning work of his Son on the cross, a gift freely given out of the Father’s great love for each of us. Also, we can thank God for the many – day-to-day blessings in our lives, such as a house to live in, clothes on our back, and jobs to provide for our material needs.

**Families**—we should be grateful for the love and support we each need from our parents, spouses, and siblings, provided by God to nurture us in this life.

**Church**—we have been blessed with the love and leadership of our two pastors, the “ties that bind” us together in fellowship are strong, and the Lord has given us a desire to serve each other and seek the lost.

**Community**—we can show gratitude for protection from physical harm when hurricanes and blizzards blow through our area.

**Nation**—for the last 226 years, the providential care of the Lord has allowed the United States to endure through its revolutionary struggle for liberty, a civil war to purge us of the sin of slavery, and world-wide conflicts twice in the last century. At the same time, America has been richly blessed with natural resources and opportunities that have allowed its citizens to enjoy the highest standards of living in history.

In conclusion, Thanksgiving is more than one Thursday each November, but is an attitude we should have throughout the year. Our God is a god of love and mercy, showering us with our needs and wants. It is right for us to demonstrate our appreciation for his goodness, by offering him praise and worship all the time. By the way, the dark meat is mine.

*“Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased” (Hebrews 13:15-16).*

### XIV. Cooperation

Christ's people should, as occasion requires, organize such associations and conventions as may best secure cooperation for the great objects of the Kingdom of God. Such organizations have no authority over one another or over the churches. They are voluntary and advisory bodies designed to elicit, combine, and direct the energies of our people in the most effective manner. Members of New Testament churches should cooperate with one another in carrying forward the missionary, educational, and benevolent ministries for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. Christian unity in the New Testament sense is spiritual harmony and voluntary cooperation for common ends by various groups of Christ's people. Cooperation is desirable between the various Christian denominations, when the end to be attained is itself justified, and when such cooperation involves no violation of conscience or compromise of loyalty to Christ and His Word as revealed in the New Testament.

*Exodus 17:12; 18:17ff.; Judges 7:21; Ezra 1:3-4; 2:68-69; 5:14-15; Nehemiah 4; 8:1-5; Matthew 10:5-15; 20:1-16; 22:1-10; 28:19-20; Mark 2:3; Luke 10:1ff.; Acts 1:13-14; 2:1ff.; 4:31-37; 13:2-3; 15:1-35; 1 Corinthians 1:10-17; 3:5-15; 12; 2 Corinthians 8-9; Galatians 1:6-10; Ephesians 4:1-16; Philippians 1:15-18.*

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### **BFM Reflection: “Cooperation”**

Excerpt from BFM article by Mark Terry, BP News, Sep. 4, 2002

This article speaks to something near and dear to the heart of Southern Baptists -- cooperation. A key concept in understanding Southern Baptists is voluntary cooperation. Each Southern Baptist church is autonomous and self-governing under the Lordship of Christ. These churches, though, may decide to cooperate with other like-minded churches to provide for mutual encouragement and the advancement of God's kingdom through evangelism and missions. Since the 1600s, Baptists have formed associations. An association is a group of churches that voluntarily join together for fellowship, encouragement and missions. Churches are the members of the association, but the association does not rule its member churches. Churches may also choose to form a convention. In the United States, Southern Baptist churches have organized both state conventions and a national body, the Southern Baptist Convention.... (continued on page 3)

## November Birthdays

1 Dorine Shields  
5 Randy Gilliam  
9 Lindsey Baumbaugh  
10 Joe Ivey  
11 Tali Normoyle  
22 Michelle Ennis  
23 Kitty Cooley  
    Tod Luhn  
26 Joyce Dunn  
28 Cheryl Shive



## Prayer Concerns

Ben & Laura Bennett  
Pat Elam  
Annie Cooley  
Charles & Dot Fowler  
Virginia Shreve  
Belle Strube  
Lois Carroll, studying in Denmark  
Josh Zimmerman, 7 year old recovering from head injury  
Logan Marsh, tests on Nov. 17  
Kathleen Cole, Peter's 2 month old niece, cancer  
Mike Smith, brain tumor  
Sherry Crowe, at home recovering from surgery  
Joe Williams' family  
Jennifer Mays, Leslie's niece, needs kidney transplant  
Dick Katzenbach, acute leukemia  
Mike & Debbie Dennis, new missionaries and friends of BBC  
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."*



## Business Meeting Briefs

### *Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in October:*

- A motion to study the possibility of hiring a nursery worker was referred to the Education Committee.
- The Church approved a discharge motion to hold a Church Christmas party at Cozy Restaurant in Thurmont, MD on Dec. 7, 2003.
- A resolution to give Mike Dennis an honorarium and the proceeds from a love offering for his services during the November revival was adopted.
- A motion to give a donation to the UMFVD to express the Church's appreciation for their acts of kindness to BBC was referred to the Outreach Committee.
- A resolution to begin the annual budget process was adopted by the Church; the standing committees will report to the Treasurer by Nov. 9.
- The Church authorized the Groundsmen to cut down a lightning-damaged tree in the front yard.

### *Expected at the November Business Meeting:*

- The Education Committee will report on a motion to study the possibility of hiring a nursery worker.
- The Outreach Committee will report on a motion to give a donation to the UMFVD to express the Church's appreciation for their acts of kindness to BBC.
- A resolution to correct several items in the Church minutes will be offered.
- A motion will be brought to transfer funds within the Outreach Committee's budget.

## **BFM Reflection: "Cooperation", continued from page 2**

One might well ask two questions of this system of cooperation. Is it biblical? And does it work? In *2 Corinthians 8-9*, the Apostle Paul discusses the offering he was gathering for the Christians in Jerusalem who were suffering because of a famine. Paul encouraged all the churches of Macedonia and Achaia to join together in giving to meet this need. This is an excellent example of how churches of the New Testament era combined their efforts in order to minister to suffering saints. Does cooperation work? Our system of cooperation has been a significant factor in the growth of the SBC to become the largest non-Catholic denomination in the United States. What about cooperation with other churches and denominations? Southern Baptists belong to the Baptist World Alliance, but we have declined to join the National Council of Churches or the World Council of Churches because of doctrinal concerns. We do cooperate with other churches to accomplish projects like evangelistic campaigns and Bible publishing.

## News You Can Use

Randy Gilliam

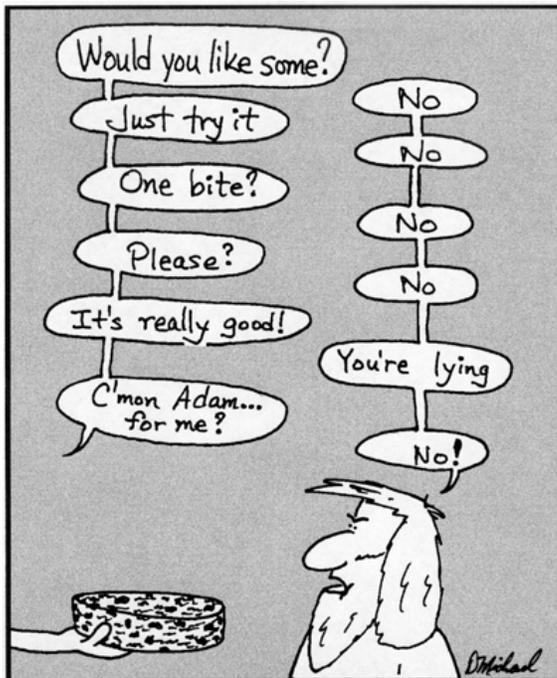
*Special Thanks to Ralph & Nancy Cooley for planting the fall mums in the church landscaping.*

*Christmas Dinner Dec. 7.* The Outreach Committee invites friends and families of BBC to a Christmas Dinner and Fellowship at Cozy Restaurant on Sunday Dec. 7, 2003, at 5:00 p.m. We will enjoy an 11-entrée dinner buffet in a private room at Cozy, 103 Frederick Rd, Rt. 806, Thurmont, MD. The cost is \$7.76 for adults; \$3.95 for ages 7-12; \$1.30 ages 3-6. Beginning Nov. 9, Tina Williams and Sandy Gilliam will have tickets for sale. Tickets must be purchased before Dec. 3. Is it too early to say "Merry Christmas"?

*Operation Christmas Child.* Again this year we have the privilege of sharing the love and hope of Jesus Christ with needy children around the world. This wonderful "Shoe Box" ministry has been a blessing to needy children and a blessing to those here who pack the boxes for the children. The WMU has information brochures about how to do this. Gift-filled Shoe Boxes should be brought to the church by Nov. 16. Last year BBC collected more than 40 boxes!

*Cards and letters.* If you want to stay in touch with Mike and Debbie, you can send cards and letters to: Mike & Debbie Dennis/6401 The Paseo/Kansas City, MO 64131. I am sure they would be encouraged by your prayers and good wishes.

## Baptist Press Cartoon



Had Eve offered fruitcake instead

Copied by permission of Baptist Press

## "When It's Freezing in the City"

Lois Carroll

When it's freezing in the city  
And you can't quite understand  
What you're doing far from home  
In this winter-wonderland

You walk and find a marketplace  
Where you can go to shop  
Even though you know each cucumber  
Is 3 dollars a pop

But you put one in your basket  
Between the milk and bread  
And though it's not quite shrimp limone  
You're thankful you'll be fed

So you walk up to the checkout  
And you smile like a pro  
But the cashier starts to speak to you  
In words you do not know

So you stand there O so smartly  
nodding like a fool  
And you give the man your money  
As you try to play it cool

Armed with fruits and vegetables  
You see it's getting late  
So you find the nearest bus stop  
Where you park yourself and wait

From the bench you hear the rustle  
Of the yellow leaves below  
On the eyelash of a little boy,  
The smallest hint of snow

As you travel, you fast-forward  
Through the silent world outside  
And finally you've made it home  
Or at least, where you reside

And you put the kettle on  
Yes, some tea would be quite nice  
And the steam soon clouds the windows  
Though outside, they're sheets of ice

You cup the mug between your hands  
And close your tired eyes  
For a moment you are blank  
As your spirit softly sighs

And slowly, all your bearings fade  
This house, this street, this place  
You remember Whose you are  
And a smile forms on your face

For He's placed you here on purpose  
In His gracious, sovereign plan  
And no matter where you are, He'll say,  
'My child, here I am'