



# The Barnesville Lantern

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

## The Pastors' Spotlight

Jack Taylor, a retired Baptist pastor, suggested in his book *The Hallelujah Factor* that, "God is restoring praise to the body of Christ all over the world". Some have called praise the missing element in much of today's worship practices. Praise might be defined as an expression of worship, which recognizes and acknowledges God as the ultimate source and giver of all good gifts and the creator of all things and thus worthy and deserving of being glorified and honored. Praise is not just an awareness of who God is, but rather "an outward expression of the inward reality that one has encountered the Living God"! When we get a glimpse of the majesty of God and the present reality of Jesus to whom all authority in heaven and on earth has been given (*Matthew 28:18*), our needful, worshipful response is PRAISE! Listen to the Scriptures:

*"I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth" (Psalm 34:1).*

*"Let my mouth be filled with your praise and with your glory all the day" (Psalm 71:8).*

*"Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; For it is pleasant and praise is beautiful" (Psalm 147:1).*

*"Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God" (Colossians 3:16).*

Because of what Christ has done for us and who He is the writer of *Hebrews* says in 13:15, "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".

We encourage each of you to practice private, personal praise so that when we come together as a family of faith, we can be free to offer up joyous praise to our great God through Jesus our Savior. Hallelujah!

God Bless,

Your Pastors

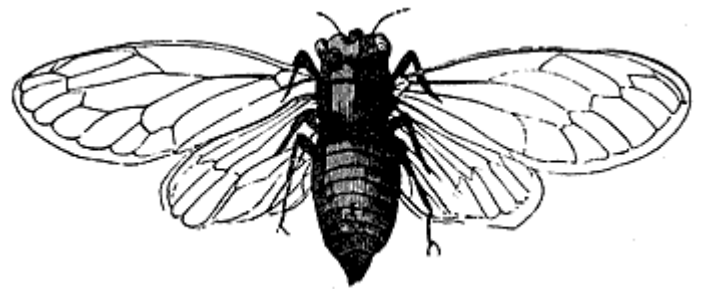


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## Upcoming Events

**June 2** Business Meeting  
**June 7** VBS Workers' Meeting, 7:00 pm  
**June 9** Sunday School Workers' Meeting  
**June 14** Flag Day  
**June 19** Baptist Men's Meeting, 7:30 am  
**June 20** Father's Day



The 17-Year Cicada (Brood X)  
*Magicicada septendecim*

*"He spoke, and locusts came, young locusts without number, and ate up all the vegetation in their land, and devoured the fruit of their ground" (Psalm 105:34-35).*

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Have you ever been in a situation where you think of something brilliant to say, but only after the moment is passed, the conversation is ended, and everyone has gone home? A recent situation in which I wish I had said something “brilliant” occurred a few weeks ago, when two Mormon missionaries were canvassing my neighborhood. I was outside, walking up the street when they found me. I had just woken up from a nap, so my brain was not quite at full steam. They asked me if I knew about the Book of Mormon, which they claimed was another revelation from God. Still groggy from my nap, I really didn’t want to talk to anyone, much less two Mormon missionaries, so I kept the conversation as short as possible; I mumbled some answer to their question to the effect that I believed the biblical canon was closed and kept on walking.

Later that evening, after I thought about it some more, here is the response I wished I had given them, as they brought up an important question—exactly how do we know that the 66 books we consider to be the Bible are in fact the Word of God—and how do we know there isn’t a 67<sup>th</sup> book? After all, there isn’t a P.S. in *Revelation* that says, “this concludes God’s Word”. Why can’t I, like Joseph Smith, write a new book of scripture? There are three criteria that the 27 books of the New Testament all met: the writer must be authorized, the theology must be agreeable to previous Scripture, and the message must be accepted by the Church universal. Contenders that fail to meet these standards deserve a critical eye.

The apostles or their immediate associates wrote all the gospels and epistles that make up the New Testament. The apostles were authorized by the Holy Spirit to proclaim and teach doctrine. *Ephesians 2:20* tells us that the church is “...built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets...”. The apostles had the standing to teach as they did because of their proximity to Jesus Christ. In *II Peter 1:16*, the apostle Peter told the churches, “For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty”. The apostles got their message first-hand, and instructed the early Christians as they were taught and inspired to teach. *Acts 2:42* records that the early Church in Jerusalem, “... continued in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship...”. Paul reminded the early Christians that they were called to salvation by, “our gospel...Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle” (*II Thessalonians 3:14-15*). As the apostolic age ended, so did the revelation of new doctrine. *Jude 3* tells us to, “...contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints”. Therefore, any new “doctrine”, “gospel”, “tradition”, or “epistle” must agree with previous Scripture to avoid disqualification.

The apostles predicted that many false teachers and errant teachings would arise, which the Church must resist. In *Galatians 1:9*, Paul warned the church in Galatia, “As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be

(continued on page 4)

## Faith of our Fathers

*This month we conclude the biography of our first pastor, Rev. Joseph H. Jones. The following is a minimally-edited compilation of his life story, which was taken from various documents in our Church archives.*

In 1845 after 24 years of service Mr. Jones resigned his pastorate of Rockville Baptist Church and moved to Frederick, Md. While living there he preached at Barnesville in school houses &c, and after the close of the Civil War a church was organized at that place and regularly supplied by him, and a meeting house was built under his auspices. Much of this time he was actively engaged in missionary work in Frederick County distributing Bibles among the destitute and needy and preaching at other regular appointments. In 1864 his wife, who had been a help-mate in all his labors of love for more than 40 years, departed this life. This severe trial, with a rather delicate state of health, induced him to spend his winters with his son-Judge Claggett Jones of King & Queen Co., Va. About 1871 the house of worship near Barnesville was erected as a monument to his faithful life work. Thence he was called home to his Father’s house on above, Dec. 31, 1871.

He was a man of strong faith and untiring energy. Where ever a sense of duty led, there he was bound to go and do his best. He was never known to fail in meeting his appointments, unless something beyond his control prevented. His was a remarkably kind heart, with a strong tenacity for what he conscientiously believed, and he candidly proclaimed his convictions of what was right. His preaching and conversations seemed more bent on instructing and comforting Christians than the converting of sinners. His style of preaching was similar to that of the venerable Jeremiah Moore—“well versed in scripture, often giving lucid explanations of different passages. Christian experience was with him a favorite theme. His life was an ornament to religion as a man, a Christian, a preacher, he was an honor to his Country, the Church, his family and himself. He was cheerful even when suffering and joyful during his last illness, his last words were “Happy, happy, happy.”

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*The missionary labors of Joseph H. Jones, whose field extended from Occoquan [Virginia] to Brownsville, Washington County, Maryland, resulted in the formation of Barnesville Church in Montgomery County, the last year of his life. He called it his “Monument”. Several of the early members were his relatives who withdrew from Upper Seneca, where he was revered for his faithful services of many years in that church...The church was organized September 24, 1871, with twenty-two members who elected:—Rev. Joseph Hawkins Jones—Pastor*

*H. Marvin Flinn, Pastor.  
Rose V. Griffith, Church Clerk.  
ca. 1933-1936*

## June Birthdays

### *The Barnesville Lantern*

**4** Marva Cole  
**8** Lisa Fedders  
**9** David Bennett  
Gary Burdette  
**10** Sharon Engle  
**11** Jan Lillard  
**16** Edith J. Luhn  
**17** Matt Yates  
Donna Elgin  
**23** June Ivey  
**27** Sandra Oden



## Business Meeting Briefs

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

- No old business was ready for action, nor was any new business presented.

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

- The Finance Committee will report on the set of questions about church fiscal planning, which was due in May.
- A motion to call for the Standing Committees to authorize Church officer and committee positions for the 2004-2006 term will be made.

## Cicada Fun Facts

<http://www.urhome.umd.edu/newsdesk/scitech/cicadas.cfm#>

- ★ The periodical cicadas like this year's brood may emerge in HUGE numbers – as many as 1 million per acre!
- ★ Several broods will emerge in Maryland this year. The largest is called Brood X (That's Roman numeral for 10.)
- ★ These cicadas have been 2-3 feet underground for 17 years, waiting for this spring to crawl to the surface.
- ★ This year's brood of 17-year periodical cicadas will arrive in early May and be around through mid-June.
- ★ The noise you hear from cicadas is the male singing to attract females. He makes the sound by vibrating membranes on the side of his body, underneath his wings.
- ★ The song of just one periodical cicada can be as loud as nearly 90 decibels. If you're standing right next to him, it would sound as loud as a power lawn mower!
- ★ The brown casings you'll find are the cuticles (called 'exuviae') cicada nymphs shed after they emerge from the ground and molt into adults.
- ★ Periodical cicadas cause damage by laying eggs in tree twigs and branches. Females cut a small slit in young branches with their ovipositor, then drop the eggs into the space.
- ★ Female cicadas will lay eggs about a week after they emerge. After 6 weeks, the eggs will hatch, and the babies, called nymphs, will drop to the ground, where they will burrow into the soil for another 17 years.

## Prayer Concerns

Charles & Dot Fowler  
Ben & Laura Bennett  
Pat Elam  
Annie Cooley  
Pastor Joe, issues with new cornea  
Virginia Shreve, at the Sunrise Retirement Center  
Kathleen Cole, Peter & Marva's niece, cancer  
the Rohwer family, friends of the Michael family  
Margie Stream, recuperating from hip surgery  
Mike & Debbie Dennis, missionaries in Guatemala  
Steve & Emily Ruffner, Campus Crusade missionaries  
David Bennett, broken toe  
Lena Wright, Margie Stream's sister, lung cancer  
James Rice, wounded sailor at Bethesda Naval Hospital  
Lauryn Gilliam, Peyton was born 5/27/04!!!  
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery V.F.D.  
Frankie Hurd, Dot Fowler's sister, heart problem  
LaCoy Toms, new Christian  
Steve Epperson, needs salvation  
John Shreve, broken foot  
Lee Luhn, Tod's brother, diabetes & kidney failure  
our nation and its leaders  
All of our military men and women



*"The LORD is righteous in  
all His ways,  
Gracious in all His works.  
The LORD is near to all who  
call upon Him,  
To all who call upon Him in  
truth.  
He will fulfill the desire of  
those who fear Him;  
He also will hear their cry  
and save them"  
(Psalm 145:17-19).*

## News You Can Use

*You Glow Girl, The Portrait of a Glowing Christian*, a women's seminar, will be held at BBC on June 5 from 9:30-11:30 am. Susan Dunn, Christian speaker to many women's groups, will present the program, inspiring women to become glowing Christians. Adult and teen women are invited to attend.

*Vacation Bible School coming soon!* VBS at Barnesville Baptist Church will be held July 26-30, 2004, in the evenings from 6:30 until 8:30. The theme for this year's VBS is "Rickshaw Rally: Racing To The Son". Contact Pastor Randy or Mary Yates if you would like to participate by serving in a classroom, or in music, crafts, recreation, or snack. VBS is arguably our church's most important outreach activity; please join us in serving the Lord. A workers' meeting will be held on June 7 at 7:00 pm.

*"The Bridge" gave concert on May 23.* BBC members and guests enjoyed the musical stylings of this contemporary Christian folk band, made up of four Laurel, MD residents. The band played a variety of original songs composed by guitarist and singer Bob Reilly, who has over 30 years of musical experience. We thank God for these wonderful musicians with such a rich testimony for the Lord.

*Call for flowers.* If you have an abundance of flowers blooming in your yard, or you receive flowers for a special occasion, why not share them and beautify the Church on Sunday morning? Contact Kitty Cooley at (301) 349-5119 to arrange for flowers to be placed in the Church in honor or in memory of a loved one.

*The cicadas are here!* The famous 17-Year Cicadas are back in Maryland. These red-eyed creatures are now in local backyards and woodlands, making a ruckus that sounds like a chorus of tiny car alarms. Brood X cicadas last appeared in 1987, and will next show up in 2021. Enjoy them while they last, until mid-June, when they will mate and die, starting the 17-year cycle over again.



Credit: Lee Michael

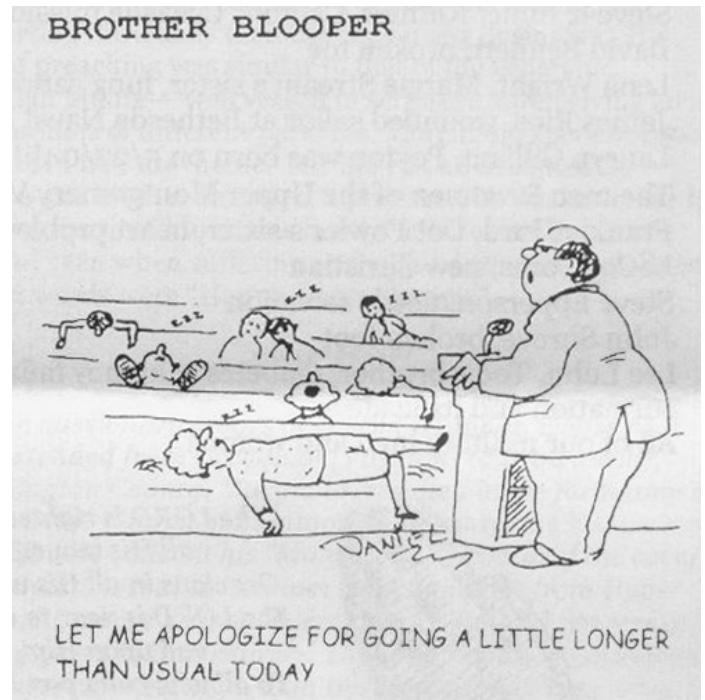
## The Pew Perspective, *continued*

*accursed*". Paul again reminded Christians in *I Thessalonians 5:21* to "test all things". Similarly, John wrote, "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world" (*I John 4:1*). Luke, Paul's penman, recorded in *Acts 17:11-12* that the Bereans were commended for diligently searching the scriptures to test the words of even Paul, to see if his message agreed with established doctrine. So, what are these established doctrines? Those most often attacked include the truths that there is one God, a Trinity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; that Jesus Christ was fully God and fully man, and was crucified, buried, and resurrected for our salvation; that salvation is of faith, not works; and that there will be a final accounting for all mankind, to be judged by the Son of God. These basic doctrines are often denied or twisted by many cultic groups, including the Mormons. These differences lead orthodox Christians to reject the contention that Joseph Smith received additional divine revelation in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

It was by these standards that the Church fathers in the first centuries came to overwhelming agreement as to which writings were inspired of God, such as the gospels, and those that had a human origin, like the Apocrypha. We don't need a "The End" verse in the Bible to know that the Book of Mormon and other cultic works are not the Word of God.

And that's what I *wish* I had said.

## Baptist Press Cartoon



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