



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

Joy (the experience of gladness or true joy in the soul) is a familiar theme throughout the Scriptures. If you ever feel battered by the storms and difficulties of life, pick up a good concordance and go to Scripture passages referring to joy, joyful, rejoicing, and gladness. You cannot help but be moved by expressions of joy and rejoicing because of God's greatness, mercy or faithfulness.

As in the other traits of perfection, like love, humility, forgiveness, patience and kindness, Jesus is also our ultimate model for joy. In *John 15:9-11* Jesus reveals that the result of abiding in His love and keeping His commandments is joy. This is true whether life is easy or hard, happy or sorrowful. It is true because we are moving toward the completion of God's will and that brings joy to us and to the Lord. Jesus perfected this truth. In perfect love and obedience to the Father's will, Jesus, "...for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and He sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (*Hebrews 12:2*). He accepted and looked beyond the agony of the cross to the joy of bringing salvation to those He loved.

This Easter season, be renewed in your spirit by the Lord's example. Abide in His love, obey His commandments in your life with His help and you will experience His joy (true joy in the soul).

*"When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me:
Lo! It glows with peace and joy."*

John Bowring, "In The Cross of Christ I Glory"

God Bless,

Your Pastors



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Upcoming Events

March 2 Business Meeting
March 4 Parents' Night Out
March 18 Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends
March 19 Baptist Men's Meeting, 7:30 am



"...A great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! The King of Israel!"
(*John 12:12-13*)

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Palm Sunday is such an interesting event because it is chock-full of symbolism and meaning. It was also a potentially dangerous day for Jesus, even beyond the Pharisees' smoldering anger. The deeds performed and words spoken on that day could have just as easily angered and worried the Romans. Palm Sunday took place in the context of Passover, just as the Last Supper, Good Friday and Easter Sunday did. Passover, as we all know, commemorates the emancipation of the Hebrew slaves from Egypt after a series of devastating plagues that culminated with the death of the firstborn of Egypt. The Jewish nation was to gather at Jerusalem every year to remember this event with worship and ceremony. In Jesus' day, this annual event, nearly 15 centuries old, was held during a time of Roman occupation.

In a sense, Passover is the Jewish equivalent of America's Fourth of July. Imagine the United States living under foreign occupation, and then having millions of Americans coming from across the nation to the National Mall on July 4th to celebrate their ancient day of freedom. If that sounds like a recipe for trouble, then you understand what the Roman soldiers in Jerusalem were thinking. They didn't want any problems from zealous Jewish patriots. However, Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem was not quiet. First, *"...two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying, 'Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!' Then the multitude warned them that they should be quiet; but they cried out all the more, saying, 'Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David' (Matthew 20:30-31)!* "Son of David" wasn't just a title of respect, but a claim that Jesus is the rightful Ruler of Israel. Don't forget that Jesus was riding atop a young donkey, fulfilling the Messianic prophecy that said, *"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey" (Zechariah 9:9).* And shout the crowd did, with a mix of religious and patriotic fervor. *"And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: 'Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' Hosanna in the highest!' And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved..." (Matthew 21:8-11).* Spreading branches and clothes was a traditional greeting for a king, and doing so on Jerusalem's front door was a gauntlet thrown down at the Romans' feet. Therefore, *"... some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, 'Teacher, rebuke Your disciples.' But He answered and said to them, 'I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out'" (Luke 19:39-40).*

The Pharisees wanted to keep the Romans happy and stifle any thought that Jesus was the Messiah. But how could anyone keep their praise quiet, either then or now, when we know that Jesus is indeed King, Messiah, and Savior? As we approach the Easter season, let us remember the great love the Father has shown to us through Jesus His Son, that we could become his sons and daughters.

Member of the Month: Flora Gilliam

We are starting a new series in this space, this time sharing some little-known facts about our fellow members.

- ★ Born: January 8, 1920 in Stratford, North Carolina
- ★ How long a BBC member: 52 years
- ★ Church offices held: Sunday School teacher, WMU president
- ★ How she first came to BBC: "We had a friend living with us that went to the Catholic Church in Barnesville. I would take her and come back to go to the Presbyterian Church in Boyds. One Sunday, I decided to go to church in Barnesville. I liked it there and have been going ever since. That was either 1951 or 1952".
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "Amazing Grace"
- ★ Favorite Pew: "Fourth one down on the right hand side of Church by the window".
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *John 3:16* and *Isaiah 40:28-31*
- ★ Age at baptism: 13 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Antioch Primitive Baptist, Stratford, North Carolina
- ★ Most famous person she's met: "Congressman R.L. Doughton. He was a neighbor and friend".
- ★ Personal claim to fame: "Would only be through the wonderful family the Dear Lord saw fit to bless Rufus and me with".
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: World War II
- ★ Farthest place she's been from Barnesville: Alaska
- ★ Story on first name: "I was named for my half brother's wife".
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: Salk's vaccine for polio and the vaccine for smallpox
- ★ Childhood hero: her mother
- ★ Hobbies: gardening and fishing



March Birthdays

- 5 Stape Shields, Iva Musser
- 12 Brittney Lucas
- 17 Tammy Thomas
- 18 Steve Bennett
- 24 Janice Cole
- 25 Virginia Shreve
- 26 Nevada Pleasants
- 27 Sharon Davidson
- 28 Jack Hough, Todd Marsh
- 29 Sarah Marsh
- 30 Earle Stevens
- 31 Ted Burriss, Robert Shreve,
Jessica Thomas



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in February:

- The Church approved a motion to double the amount of Missions Support funding given to missionaries Steve & Emily Ruffner.

Expected at the March Business Meeting:

- The Outreach Committee will request an increase in the appropriation for Missions Support.
- The Select Committee on Auditing will give its report on the 2004 fiscal year.
- The Internal Administration will make a motion regarding the disposition of the Laura Bennett Memorial Fund.
- A motion to approve the membership application of Jo Blalock will be offered.

“Joyous Easter”

Paul Meissner

Hallelujah, Christ is risen, welcome joyous Easter morning;
Where, O grave, is now thy victory; where, O death, is now thy sting?
Sins' dominion has been broken, vanquished by the Son of God;
Sinless now we stand before Him, sanctified by His own blood.

Savior, ere Thy crucifixion, Thou didst pray on bended knee,
Seeking Heaven's intervention, “Father, take this cup from me.”
Nonetheless, Thou chose obedience, as a true and faithful Son,
Praying with contrite submission, “Father, may Thy will be done.”
How I wish I could have been there, kneeling in Gethsemane,
As that fateful morn was dawning, there to watch and pray with Thee.

We are heirs of God's salvation, born again by grace divine;
There is now no condemnation, may Thy light within us shine.
Blessed Jesus, Thou hast saved us, paid for us the fullest price;
May we ever love and serve thee, as a living sacrifice.
Savior, from the grave arisen, seated now at God's right hand,
Light the way before Thy children, lead us to the promised land. Amen.

Prayer Concerns

the family of Charles Fowler

Maggie Cole

Annie Cooley

Virginia Shreve

Rebecca Umstead

the Dennis & Batres families, missionaries in Guatemala

Steve & Emily Ruffner, Campus Crusade missionaries

Lena Wright, Margie Stream's sister, lung cancer

the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.

the Van Houtens, relatives of the Michael family

the Rohwer family, friends of the Michael family

Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother

David Stull, June Ivey's nephew

Kitty Cooley, breast cancer

Jake Rockenhauser, Cris Driver's father-in-law

Blake Reuter

J.C. Hartley

Lauren Weller and Amy Killeen, cancer

Margie Lillard

Ray Oaks, friend of the Baumbaughs

Mary Barr

Jim & Kathy McKamey, friend of the Gilliams

Dale Willis, Joe Yates' cousin

Lisa Grant, stationed in Balad, Iraq

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

Roof fund drive underway. Please pray about giving a special gift toward this effort above and beyond your normal tithes and offerings. So far we have collected \$3,640 toward our goal of \$10,500. The work on the bell tower and roof should begin in April.

Snow splits Baptist Men's Day in two. The Baptist Men's Day service was held on Jan. 30 despite another snowstorm the night before. The breakfast, however, was postponed until Feb. 6, when temperatures in the 50s allowed the men to demonstrate their culinary skills for the Church family.

Volunteers needed for monthly cleaning. If you have not done so already, please consider volunteering to serve in this ministry opportunity. We rely on our members to help keep the church clean. The sign-up calendar is located in the foyer.

Charles Fowler, 1934-2005. Our brother Charles G. Fowler, Jr. passed away on Feb. 21 at the age of 70. He served his Church and his Lord as a Groundsman. We mourn Charles' death with his wife Dot and the entire Fowler family. We pray that the Lord will give comfort and strength to Charles' family in the days and weeks ahead.

Easter lilies for sale. If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily in honor of/in memory of a loved one, please see Kitty Cooley. The lilies will be used to decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday and throughout the Easter season.

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal set. The Week of Prayer for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is March 6-13. The WMU has set a goal of \$1100 for BBC. This offering is used to support the 5000+ missionaries serving under the North American Mission Board. The national goal is \$55 million. Receipts to the 2005 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering will benefit the following mission endeavors: Missionary Support, 75%; Church Planting, 16%; Evangelism, 9%. Let's do our part to support missionaries in the United States & Canada--thank you for your generosity.

Laura Fels speaking at March 13 service. Laura is representing Chosen People Ministries and will share her testimony about her 'discovery' that Jesus (Yeshua) truly is the Messiah of God. Please plan to attend and bring a friend.

Easter Sunrise Service on Sugarloaf Mountain. For early risers, this mountaintop service beginning at 6:00 am is a wonderful way to begin the celebration of the Lord's resurrection with believers from many congregations. We all have the Risen Savior in common. We extend our gratitude to Rev. Merritt Ednie of Boyds Presbyterian for coordinating this service.

Easter Services planned. BBC will gather for a Good Friday worship service on Mar. 25 at 7:00 pm. The BBC Choir will present "Behold The Lamb" on Easter Sunday, Mar. 27 during the morning worship.

Daylight Savings Time begins April 3. Remember to set your watches and clocks forward one hour when you go to bed on Saturday night.

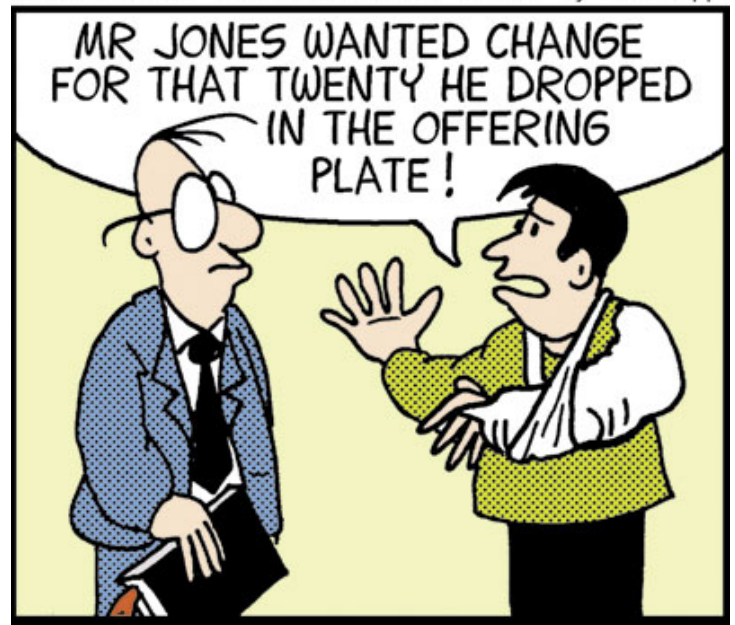
Church to be cleaned on April 16. Make plans to work with the Groundsmen and the Baptist Men, as well as the rest of your Church family at this annual clean up day. We will start at 9:00 am. Contact Head Groundsman Ralph Cooley for information on jobs and tools needed.

Rushing Wind coming in May. *Rushing Wind* will be in concert at BBC on the evening of May 14 and during the morning worship service on May 15. We feel as though these are old friends of our church family. Plan to come and bring your family and friends as they share new music and old favorites with us.

VBS Alert. Watch for news about the 2005 Vacation Bible School. If you are interested in helping/teaching or if you know someone who would like to attend, please contact Mary Yates or Randy Gilliam.

Baptist Press Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



Being an usher isn't as easy as it looks

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