



# 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

Sometimes in reading the Scripture you read a verse that simply takes your breath away with its scope of meaning and summary of information. As you read the Scripture this month, meditate on and ask the Lord to help you grasp some of the incredible pivotal teaching of *Mark 1:15*. See how *Mark* and the other gospels and the rest of the New Testament develop this statement of Jesus and how the Old Testament points to this singular event:

*...the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel (Mark 1:15).*

In these few words Jesus revealed that God's appointed time had come. The time for the promised Anointed One had arrived. In Him the promises and prophesies of God in the Old Testament were being fulfilled. He also revealed that God's dynamic sovereign reign among men (the Kingdom of God) was brought near by His own presence and that men, women, and children would be given an opportunity to become part of it. God's great and amazing grace had entered the world.

He sounded a note of urgency in the call to repent. He calls men to a radical decision. They must either turn from sin and evil and submit to God's call (repent) and receive His mercy, or choose the things of the world and forfeit the joys and privileges of Kingdom life. In choosing God, one exercises faith or trust (believe) in the good news of the gospel. That is that one can be set free from the power and penalty of sin and be given the gift of eternal life. It means that by abiding in His Word one has great access to God through prayer (*John 15:7*). It means that by believing in Him, men, women and children are given the right to become children of God (*John 1:12*).

There is another time appointed when Christ will return to the earth and this period of grace will end. That is what makes His message urgent. Don't delay. Believe the gospel of Christ and live. God's Kingdom is at hand.

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## Upcoming Events

**October 5** 134<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting  
**October 7** Parents' Night Out  
**October 15** Baptist Men's Meeting, 7:30 am  
**October 21** Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends  
**October 23** Movie Night, 7:00 pm  
**October 30** Discipleship Training, 4:00 pm  
**October 31** Halloween



God Bless,

Your Pastors



*"I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works" (Psalm 145:5).*

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Why do bad things happen? This is a question people throughout time have asked, especially when tragic events like Hurricane Katrina occur. How can a good God allow death and suffering? Some people have concluded that God does not exist, or He is not strong enough to prevent such things. However, the Bible teaches us that sin, suffering, and death are only temporary; God will one day put an end to such things and establish righteousness and justice.

God gave us free will, or the ability to choose to do good or evil, to love God or not. God, as our Creator, has the right to punish us, his creations, for failing to fulfill His purposes. Thus, in Adam's fall, the human race and the world was punished, allowing death and suffering to enter in (*Genesis 3:17-19*). That is why roses have thorns, animals have fangs, and disease and pain shorten and burden our days. Mankind inherited Adam's nature, and is a selfish, violent, and quarrelsome race. The creation that God once called "very good" is now a world that is damaged by the effects of sin: famine and flood, war and murder continue to this day.

God also allows suffering to take place in our lives to accomplish His will. He allowed Joseph to be separated from his family and sold as an Egyptian slave to preserve the Jewish race; He let Job suffer the loss of his family, property, and health to prove Job's righteousness; and He permitted famine, war, and captivity to befall Israel as punishment for its national sins. In *John 9*, Jesus told His disciples a man was born blind so, "...that the works of God should be revealed in him" (*John 9:3*). God also uses suffering to test and train us. James instructed us to eagerly await trials. "*My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing*" (*James 1:2-4*). Just like a piece of metal is refined and strengthened by fire, so trials and sufferings polish and improve our character and faith. Our heartbreak and disappointment are real, but not permanent. "*Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it*" (*Hebrews 12:11*). Paul was afflicted by a "thorn in the flesh", and often prayed that God would remove it from him. However, Paul's request was denied. Instead, God told him, "...*My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness....*" (*II Corinthians 12:9*).

There are many questions we do not know the answers to, yet we do have some answers. We know that God loves us. We know that He is aware of our situations. We know that he has a perfect plan and purpose for our lives. We know that nothing occurs without His permission. "*And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose*" (*Romans 8:28*). Job was never told the reason for his sufferings, yet through faith, he was able to say, "...*The LORD*

*continued on page 3, column 2*

## Member of the Month: Bud Baumbaugh

- ★ Born: May 13, 1928 in Johnstown, Pennsylvania
- ★ How long a BBC member: two years
- ★ Church offices held: groundsman, drummer, Sunday School teacher
- ★ How he first came to BBC: invited by Joe & June Ivey
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "How Great Thou Art"
- ★ Favorite Pew: fourth pew on the left from the front
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *Joshua 24:15*
- ★ Age at baptism: 25
- ★ Childhood church: Brethren of Ferndale, Johnstown, PA
- ★ Most famous person he's met: U.S. Navy Admiral Pearson, commander of the *USS Missouri* in WWII
- ★ Personal claim to fame: was a Civil Air Patrol pilot
- ★ Most important historical event in his life: dropping of the atomic bomb
- ★ Farthest place he's been from Barnesville: the island of Saipan in the South Pacific
- ★ Story on first name: named (John) after father and grandfather
- ★ Most important technology invented in his lifetime: television broadcast from moon
- ★ Childhood hero: Buzz Wagner and Major Bong—Air Force flying aces during WWII
- ★ Hobbies: flying airplanes, hunting, fishing, building model airplanes, playing drums



## October Birthdays

**6** Michaela Driver  
**8** Karian Mitchell  
**10** David Shive  
**11** Zoe Thomas  
**13** Peter Cole  
**23** John Shreve  
**27** Paul Geisler



## Prayer Concerns

Hurricane victims and those helping them

Annie Cooley

Virginia Shreve

Margie Stream

Lena Wright, Margie Stream's sister, lung cancer  
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.

Kitty Cooley

Margie Lillard

Gale Cole

Doug Swank, cancer

Mary Barr

Lisa Grant, stationed in Iraq

Sgt. Alexandre Gerena, stationed in Iraq

Madison Straw, 8 year old girl, leukemia

Dean Scoggins

Laura Weller, friend of Sandra Oden

Bill Poole, heart problem

Junior Collins & Butch Thompson, Janice Cole & Sherri  
Marsh's uncles

family members of Ron Blankenship with cancer

Our missionary friends: the Dennis & Batres families  
(Guatemala); Steve & Emily Ruffner (Campus Crusade)

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).*

## Business Meeting Briefs

*Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in September:*

- The Church approved a motion to purchase a multifunction laser printer and respond to the question about carpet cleaning.
- The Internal Administration Committee was authorized to create a new church directory/binder.
- The Church approved the nominations of Nancy Cooley, Joe Ivey, June Ivey, Lee Michael, and Paul Meissner to serve as messengers to the Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting, being held on October 1, 2005.
- A bypass motion to authorize the purchase of new monitor speakers and reallocate the Worship budget line items was adopted.
- A question about replacing burned-out lights in the kitchen was referred to the Internal Administration Committee.
- A question about placing canned food items in the kitchen for overflow crowds during luncheons was referred to the Outreach Committee.

*Expected at the 134<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting:*

- A motion to begin the annual budget process for 2006 will be presented to the Church.
- A motion to have worship training for children will be reported by the Worship Committee.
- The Pastor will introduce a resolution to affirm Joe Yates' activities as a Gideon.
- Note: all outstanding motions not acted on at the October Business Meeting must be re-introduced for any further consideration by the Church.

## The Pew Perspective, continued

*gave, and the LORD has taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD.' In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong" (Job 1:21). Paul tells us more of what we can be sure of when we don't know why bad things happen to us and those we love. "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword"? "For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:35;8:38-39). We can be sure, in spite of storm or circumstance, that God loves us, and will walk with us through the perils of this life, until one day, we can walk with Him in the peace of His kingdom.*



## News You Can Use

*Pig Pickin' a great time for all.* The Baptist Men sponsored its second annual pig roast on Saturday, Sep. 18. About 80 people attended and helped eat our 93-pound pig during this wonderful time of fellowship. Proving that beauty is in the eye of the beholder, the first place winner of the cake beauty pageant was Virginia Magaha with her "Ugliest Cake in the World". Second place was awarded to Mary Yates for her cherry-topped Black Forest cake. Margie Stream's third-place entry was a hummingbird cake iced by hand. We hope more people will step up to the cake-making challenge; there were only six entries this year, down from 19 in 2004.



*Supporting missions in Maryland/Delaware.* The State Missions offering is a vital part of the on-going task of building God's kingdom. This year's theme is "hands to work, hearts to serve". The convention-wide goal this year is \$240,000.00. Allocations for this money will be targeted toward starting churches, strengthening congregations, developing leaders, and involving people. BBC's goal is \$800.00. Please prayerfully consider how you can support state missions. We will be collecting through the end of the month.

*Committee heads to hold special meeting.* The chairmen of the five standing committees will meet promptly after the morning worship on Sunday, Oct. 9 to review the upcoming 2006 budget process. Any interested Church member is invited to attend.

*Daylight savings time ends.* "Fall back" one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, Oct. 29, or else you'll lose your annual extra hour of sleep and you'll be very early for Sunday School on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

*Movie night.* Chaplain Mulvahil of the Clarksburg Detention Center will be showing a movie from the "Left Behind" series on Sunday, Oct. 23 at 7:00 pm. This free event is open to the community. A free-will offering will be taken.

*Discipleship training cycle continues.* October 30 will mark the third time that Pastor Joe speaks about evangelism, Paul Meissner holds a seminar on blessings, Pastor Randy teaches doctrine, and Lee Michael's class learns about miracles. The evening will be concluded by a pizza dinner. The next Discipleship Training night will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of January.

## Church Directory Announcement

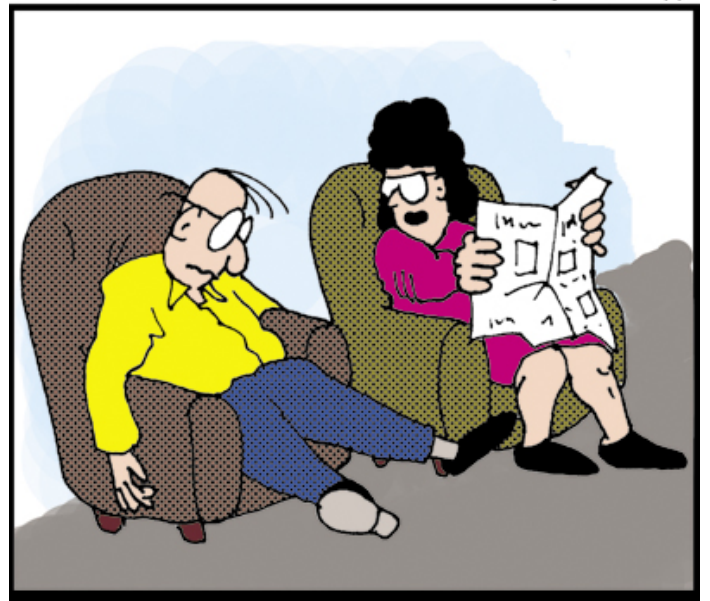
*Does this look like you? If not, your picture needs to be taken for the*



*2006 Church Directory!*  
*Stay tuned for news on how your picture and contact information will be included in this upcoming publication.*

## Baptist Press Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



**"Don't worry about it Eli. Next time just remember to turn off your lapel mike in the restroom."**

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