

# 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

*"He who believes in me, as the Scripture has said, from his innermost being will flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38).* 

The living water that we receive from the Lord Jesus is spiritual life, and, "... whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life" (John 4:14). This water was not given to us to remain bottled up as in a cistern, but it should instead overflow to the good of others. What does this look like, when we bring living water to someone who is thirsty? Here is one example: We talked recently to a young man who drove a truck from another church to New Orleans in December 2005. He and others were taking Christmas gifts to 70 families who had been displaced by hurricane Katrina. He went out of a spirit of love and concern for those in need. As a prayerful person he asked the Lord to reveal His purpose in this trip. His real mission as it turned out was not to bring Christmas gifts to families but to bring living water to a biker whose life was in physical, spiritual and moral collapse. Following God's prompting, he encountered the biker and his friend and befriended them. As they shared experiences, the young man shared the truth of the gospel with the biker. This God-appointed meeting resulted in the biker receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Lord's living water, and being born into God's family. The young pastor who organized the trip preached to many who had come to them and several received Christ. Truly, living water gushing and springing up in these prayerful men brought new life to those thirsty and dying people.

God Bless,

**Your Pastors** 



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#### **Upcoming Events**

February 1 Business Meeting
February 3 Parents' Night Out
February 8 Sunday School Teachers' Meeting
February 11 Valentine's Day Dinner, 5:30 pm
February 17 Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends
February 18 Baptist Men's Meeting
February 20 Presidents' Day



"Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law" (Romans 13:8).

#### **The Pew Perspective**

Lee Michael

On January 8, 1956, five American missionaries were killed by Ecuadorian Indians. Jim Elliot, Nate Saint, and three other missionaries were speared to death by members of the Waodani tribe, one of the most violent cultures on Earth. Murder was commonplace for the Waodani, who exacted punishment for any slight or offense—sixty percent of the tribesmen were being killed. The situation had gotten so bad that the tribe was in danger of cultural collapse and demographic extinction. It was into this dangerous situation that Elliot and Saint traveled to share the Gospel and ended up at the end of Waodani spears.

On January 20, 2006, the movie "End of the Spear" was released nationwide, portraying not only the deaths of the five missionaries, but the response of the missionaries' families. Elisabeth Elliott, widow of Jim, and Rachel Saint, sister of Nate, took up their fallen family members' cause in Ecuador, establishing contact with Waodani and sharing the Gospel with them. One in five Waodani are now Christian, and the murder rate was reduced by 90% after the missionaries' arrival. The Waodani, who were once slated for extinction by self-annihilation, now have a chance for survival as a people.

Just as amazing as the change in heart of the Waodani is the response of the missionaries' families. No one would have blamed them in 1956 if they never engaged in missions activity again—hadn't they suffered enough? The willingness of the Elliotts and Saints to not only forgive the Waodani, but to actively love and show concern for them is a powerful example of a Christ-inspired and —powered life. Not only did many of the Waodani receive eternal life, but many Americans heard this story and were inspired to missions themselves.

Jim Elliott, had a motto for himself: "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose". This is similar to Matthew 10:39, where Jesus tells His followers, "He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it". Jesus called His disciples to active service and devotion to the Kingdom. For modern-day Americans, we will likely never face persecution or death as we serve Christ. But we are not the norm. Throughout history, Christians have been ridiculed, beaten, jailed, and executed for professing Jesus. The first-century Church was dispersed by persecution, Christians in Rome were fed to lions by pagan emperors, while 21st century believers in places like the Sudan or China suffer at the hands of their governments. Jim Elliott left the safety of his home and country to travel to a dangerous and unfamiliar land because he believed, like the Apostle Paul, "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18).

This story of selfless devotion, sacrifice, forgiveness, and love is a strong testimony for the cause of Christ. It should spur believers to seek out their own opportunities to share the good news of the Gospel, and demonstrate to non-Christians what Christianity is all about—how faith in Jesus Christ can transform lives, families, and entire cultures.

#### Member of the Month: Edith June Luhn

- ★ Born (date/place): June 16, 1927 in Barnesville
- ★ How long a BBC member: about 50 years
- ★ How she first came to BBC: "Miss Rose Griffith brought me".
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "Because He Lives"
- ★ Favorite Pew: second pew to the right up front
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *Psalm 100*
- ★ Age at baptism: 17 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Barnesville Baptist
- ★ Most famous person she's met: Betty Grable
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: Apollo 17 moon landing
- ★ Farthest place she's been from Barnesville: Georgia
- ★ Story on first name: named Edith after her aunt Edith Jamison, and June after the month in which she was born.
- ★ Hobbies: "enjoying all my great grandchildren especially Michael who lives with us; reading and enjoying our hummingbirds and flowers".



## **February Birthdays**

- **3** Gary Cooley Cynthia Westland
- 7 Michelle Vasko
- 8 Jeddie DeFries
- **9** Trudy Meissner **10** Carole Shreve
- **12** Luke Fedders
- **13** Bill Pleasants
- **20** Janet Magruder
- **21** David Gilliam
- **22** Joshua Holcomb
- **25** Paiten Cole
- **26** Joe Williams

## **Prayer Concerns**

**Annie Cooley** Virginia Shreve Margie Stream Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D. Mary Barr Sgt. Alexandre Gerena, stationed in Iraq David Myers, grandson of Pastor Joe, stationed off Bahrain **Emily Thorne, pending hip surgery** Madison Straw, 9 year old girl, leukemia Pastor David Griesemer Cancer patients: Lena Wright, Doug Swank, Tim MacCarthy, Dwayne Nichodemas, Raymond Enright, Ted Detrow, June Schaum Our missionary friends: Manuel & Cindy Batres (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 January:

- The Treasurer submitted his Annual Report on the 2005 fiscal year.
- The Pastor appointed the Deacons to serve as the Select Committee on Auditing to review the 2005 finances. The Committee will present their report at the March Business Meeting.
- Ralph and Judy Wright were both accepted into church membership by letter from Poolesville Baptist.

#### Expected at the February Business Meeting:

- The Internal Administration Committee will recommend that the Herbert Dixon gift be used to refurbish the stone foundation on the west side of the church building.
- The Internal Administration Committee will propose replacing the flowerbeds on the southeast side of the building with low-maintenance perennials.
- The Deacons will make motions to accept Bill & Sherri Morrison as members by letter from Poolesville Baptist; and a motion to accept Mary Mossberg as a member by letter by from First Baptist Church of Frederick.

#### Christian Behavior: Romans 12:9-21

"Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another, not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer: distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in our own opinion. Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine. *I will repay, says the Lord. Therefore, if your enemy is* hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him to drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

#### **News You Can Use**

Baptist Men's Day held on time. Snow fell and the wind



Buddy Baumbaugh fixes his plate

the annual performance of the MOB: Men of Barnesville choir. The choir special was, "Standing on the Promises", which was well received by the congregation. Buddy Baumbaugh read the morning announcements, blew mightily the night before Baptist Men's Day, but it wasn't enough to delay the breakfast or service on Jan. 15. The Baptist Men cooked a hearty breakfast of eggs, pancakes, hash browns, sausage gravy, bacon, and other good food for a large crowd at 8:30 am. Later in the morning, twelve men gave

Pastor Randy cooks up pancakes on his new griddle



while the father-son pair of Matthew & Nick Cole collected the offering. Thank yous go to Ralph Cooley for organizing the breakfast and the Baptist Men for a good time of fellowship and worship.

*Valentine's Day Dinner.* Our church family will celebrate Valentine's Day with a dinner on Feb. 11 at 5:30 pm. The church will provide meat and drinks. Mary Yates will contact members about bringing a dish to share.

*Lottie Moon offering goal exceeded.* \$1535 have been raised—more than \$300 over our goal for the Lottie Moon offering this year of \$1320. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this offering for international missions and helped BBC exceed our goal once again.

*Stork in flight.* Best wishes go to Julia & Steve Cole, who are expecting a baby boy in mid-June. Julia is the daughter of Larry & Anna Michael.

*Prophecy preaching to conclude on Feb. 12.* Pastor Joe's series of sermons on the book of *Revelation* and other prophecy-related messages will conclude on the second Sunday of February. Outlines of the book and video copies of the sermons will be available.

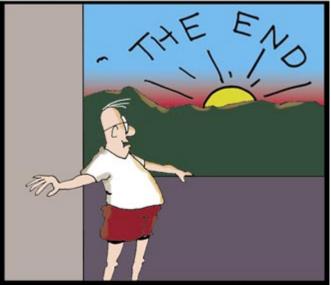
Another reading champion. Jackie Cole has submitted titles of at least 8 books she has read. Most of these were from the BBC library. We look forward to treating Jackie and her parents to dinner in recognition of this accomplishment. Congratulations, Jackie!

*MBA has moved.* The Montgomery Baptist Association has now settled in to its new office located at Upper Seneca Baptist Church in Cedar Grove, in between Germantown and Damascus. The street address is 23401 Davis Mill Road, Germantown, MD 20876. Mail all correspondence to P. O. Box 50, Germantown, MD 20875-0050. You can call the office at 301-515-3333, and fax at 301-515-3372.

*First Discipleship Training series to conclude.* Jan. 29 marks the conclusion of the first set of classes, where Lee Michael will discuss miracles, Pastor Joe will talk about evangelism, Pastor Randy will speak on the importance of doctrine, and Paul Meissner will lecture on spoken blessings. We will have a pizza dinner afterwards. The second training series will begin on Apr. 30.

#### **COTCD** Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Martha, quick, bring me my book on eschatology..."