



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

"Faith is a divine work in us which changes us and makes us to be born anew of God...O, it is a living, busy, active, mighty thing, this faith"! So said Martin Luther in his preface to the Epistle to the Romans. No doubt most who read this newsletter agree that believing the gospel of Jesus Christ and putting our faith in Him has life-changing power. Therefore, a believer's life should be noticeably different from those who do not profess a relationship with Christ. This difference is a positive, optimistic, style of life expressed in joy, gratitude, love, patience, gentleness, forgiveness, and kindness. As believers mature in the faith they become conformed to the image of Christ more and more and less and less like the world that resists godly standards. The changed life is how Christians represent God in their families and in the marketplaces of the world.

An old hymn of the church, "Take My Life and Let It Be", written by Frances Havergal (1836-1879), is a prayer of commitment of one's whole body and life to honor the Lord. William Reynolds in his book, *Hymns of Our Faith* (Broadman, 1964), relates this about Frances: "At the age of fourteen she underwent a deep religious experience and later wrote, "There and then I committed my soul to the Saviour--and earth and heaven seemed bright from that moment'. All of her hymns reflect the joy of this experience of commitment and consecration".

The world, with all of its violence and evil, desperately needs Christians whose lives are committed to the risen Savior and who can, by example, bring light and help to people who need to know that God loves them.

*Take my life and let it be, consecrated, Lord to Thee;
Take my moments and my days; Let them flow in
ceaseless praise. Let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

God Bless,

Your Pastors



In This Edition:

The Pastors' Spotlight, Page 1
Upcoming Events, Page 1
The Pew Perspective, Page 2
Member of the Month, Page 2
October Birthdays, Page 3
Prayer Concerns, Page 3
Business Meeting Briefs, Page 3
COTCD Cartoon, Page 3
News You Can Use, Page 4
October 2006 Calendar, Page 5

Upcoming Events

October 1-5 Revival Services
October 7 Marriage Enrichment Seminar
October 13 Parents' Night Out
October 20 Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Men
October 21 Baptist Men's Meeting, 7:30 am
October 29 Discipleship Training, 4:30 pm
October 31 Halloween



*"Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10).*

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Can you lose your salvation? An advertisement on the last page of the Aug. 18, 2006 *Fishwrapper* (a Christian newspaper from rural Pennsylvania with inspirational articles and cornball humor to which several BBC members subscribe) argues yes, citing Scriptures such as *I Corinthians 15:2*, *Titus 2:12*, and *Galatians 6:8-9*.

Since more than a few Christians believe salvation can be lost, I'd like to address this issue this month. It is indeed true, as the above-mentioned verses indicate, that real Christians must have died to their sins and abandoned their former, sinful way of life. However, salvation cannot be lost. It is true that there are people—tares among the wheat—who claim the name of Jesus, show up to church each Sunday, and participate in the requisite activities, but have never put their faith in Christ. Such people eventually fade away during trials and testing. Salvation cannot be lost like a newspaper subscription you forgot to renew or an annual membership fee that wasn't paid. The key issue when it comes to the doctrine of assurance, or eternal security, is Who is holding on to whom.

The Bible teaches that God chose to save you from your sinful state, forgive you with the blood of His Son, adopt you into His holy Kingdom, set you apart to His service, and will one day receive you into His presence. Until then, He sustains your faith, shapes you into a more Christ-like person, and secures your salvation for His glory. Jesus gave a powerful promise of eternal salvation when He told His disciples, *"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand"* (*John 10:27-28*). Once we are born again, Jesus guards our souls and our hearts with all of His might. We may wriggle and squirm at times due to our weaknesses and temptations, but He continues to hold onto us. We need not worry about losing hold of Him.

The apostle Peter, who stumbled several times in his faith, was confident in the permanence of salvation. He described it as, *"...an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time"* (*I Peter 1:4-5*). Again, the emphasis is on God's guarantee that we are saved, without any human involvement necessary to safeguard our place in heaven.

Paul similarly wrote about the assurance we have, saying he was, *"...confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ"* (*Philippians 1:6*). God finishes what He starts. Paul also penned these words, which should give all Christians comfort when it comes to their salvation: *"In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory"* (*Ephesians 1:13-14*). I am so glad to know Jesus Christ is responsible for securing my salvation, and not me. What a "blessed assurance"!

Member of the Month: Bill Morrison

- ★ Born: September 4, 1938 in Bethesda, Maryland
- ★ How long a BBC member: 7 months
- ★ Church offices held: Groundsman; deacon and Sunday School teacher at other churches
- ★ How he first came to BBC: attended the Thanksgiving Eve service in 2005
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"
- ★ Favorite Pew: anywhere
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *Psalms 121* and *John 3:16*
- ★ Age at baptism: 13 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Mt. Zion Baptist Church (now Wildwood Baptist)
- ★ Most famous person he's met: James Blackwood of the Blackwood Brothers at Springbrook High School
- ★ Personal claim to fame: "The Tomato Guy"—he raises his own tomatoes
- ★ Most important historical event in his life: the 1969 moon landing
- ★ Farthest place he's been from Barnesville: the Florida Keys
- ★ Story on first name: named after his father, William Sr.
- ★ Most important technology invented in his lifetime: cell phone
- ★ Childhood heroes: Roy Rogers and Gene Autry
- ★ Hobbies: model trains, records, and the guitar



October Birthdays

- 6 Michaela Driver
- 8 Karian Mitchell
- 10 David Shive
- 11 Zoie Thomas
- 13 Peter Cole, Brooke Martin
- 23 John Shreve
- 25 Judy Wright
- 30 Samantha Fowler



Prayer Concerns

Annie Cooley
Virginia Shreve
Margie Stream
Margery Lillard
Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Dottie Shifflett, Dot Fowler's niece
Dean & Connie Scoggins
the family of June Schaum
Dottie Shifflett, Dot Fowler's niece
Rose Furr, Ralph & Judy Wright's granddaughter
Rev. Jack Reynolds
The Gilliams, traveling in Israel Oct. 23-Nov. 3
Cancer patients: Lena Wright, Doug Swank, Tim
MacCarthy, Raymond Enright, Norman Bishop,
Raymond Money, Oscar Summers
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 September:

- The Church approved the Pastor's nominations of Ann Bennett, Randy & Sandy Gilliam, June Ivey, and Lee Michael to serve as messengers to the 71st Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting, being held on Oct. 14, 2006 at First Baptist Church of Damascus.
- Jim & Gale Cole submitted their resignations as Church Musicians, effective Sept. 17.
- The 135th Annual Business Meeting was rescheduled for Sept. 27 due to the date of the fall revival.

Report from the 135th Annual Business Meeting:

- The Internal Administration Committee received permission to install insulation and gutter guards.
- A resolution to begin the annual budget process for 2007 was adopted by the Church; the standing committees will report to the Treasurer by Nov. 5.
- The Pastors and Deacons nominated Bill Morrison and Ralph Wright to serve as Deacons. The nominations will be voted on by the Church at the November Business Meeting.
- The Select Committee on Nominations reported six motions to fill church officer and committee positions for 2006-2008, all of which were approved by the Church. These officers and committee members will begin their positions on Oct. 5.

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Its from our church... we've been called up for active duty."

News You Can Use

Pig Pickin' a great time for all. The Baptist Men sponsored their third annual pig roast on Saturday, Sept.



16. A large crowd of people attended and helped eat our 105-pound pig, cooked by Joe Yates and Larry Michael. In our apple dessert contest, seven people submitted entries. The first-place winner was Dot Fowler, who baked a caramel apple cheesecake that won her a copy of the new National Christian Choir CD, "Every Time I Feel the Spirit". Second place was awarded to Mary Yates for her apple crisp. Jane Fowler's third-place entry was an apple cake. Thanks to judges Janice & Matthew Cole, Sarah Marsh and her

friend Erin, TJ Marsh, and Melissa Campbell for evaluating each entry.

Rushing Wind concert rescheduled. Due to mechanical difficulties in September, the gospel concert previously scheduled for the evening of the Pig Pickin' will now be held on the second weekend of November.

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 "Call Unto Me". The convention-wide goal this year is \$240,000. BBC's 2006 goal is \$880. Please prayerfully consider how you can support state missions.

Committee heads to hold special meeting. The incoming chairmen of the five standing committees will meet promptly after the morning worship on Sunday, Oct. 1 to briefly review the upcoming 2007 budget process. Any interested Church member is welcome to attend.

Daylight savings time ends. "Fall back" one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, Oct. 28, or else you'll lose your annual extra hour of sleep and you'll be very early for Sunday School on the 29th.

Discipleship training cycle continues. Oct. 29 will mark the third time that Pastor Joe speaks about *Malachi*, Paul Meissner teaches on "Crying Out", and Lee Michael's class learns about the Pharisees and Sadducees. (Pastor Randy will be traveling in Israel). The evening will be concluded by a pizza dinner. The final Discipleship Training night of this second season will be held on the 5th Sunday of December.

Congrats, newlyweds. Jan Lillard and Gary Burdette were married on Sept. 23. BBC sends its best wishes to them.

A grand finale for Jim & Gale Cole. Our much-loved church musicians played for the last time on Sunday, Sept. 17, at the beginning of Pastor Joe's sermon series on the "Seven Deadly Sins". Jim & Gale are moving to North Carolina and have sold their home in Boyds.



A luncheon was held after the service in their honor. Both the sanctuary and the fellowship hall were overflowing with BBC members and friends of the Coles who wanted to say goodbye. We have enjoyed their music and friendship for the last five or so years and will miss them. However, we know that God has plans for them and will continue to bless them in their new home.

October revival services scheduled. Rev. Jimmy Inman of Morristown, Tennessee is our special revival speaker. In addition to morning worship on Oct. 1, there will be revival services from Sunday through Thursday each evening at 7:00 pm. Please be in prayer for this time of spiritual renewal and rededication to our great Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Directory update planned. Anyone with corrections or updates for their entry in the church directory should contact Lee Michael immediately. Supplements will be distributed in mid-October.

Marriage enrichment workshop set for Oct. 7. "The Two Sides of Love: Affection & Anger", is the theme of the seminar to be led by Ken & Kathy Jordan of the BCM/D from 9:30 am to 2:45 pm. RSVP your attendance to Joyce Dunn at 301-972-7390.

Missionaries from Guatemala spoke. Manuel and Cindy Batres paid BBC a visit on Sunday, Sept. 10, thanking BBC members for their prayers and financial support. Many people are coming to faith in Jesus in Guatemala, and congregations are sprouting up all over the countryside. The Batreses are busier than ever, constructing church structures and sharing the Gospel.



Sunday School honors top students. Six people are to be congratulated for their outstanding Sunday School participation during the summer. Each had at least 80% attendance and met other class-specific criteria for the period of July-September: David Bennett, Ralph Cooley, Michaela Driver, Scott Foster, Jane Fowler, and Virginia Magaha.