



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

*"Rejoice in the Lord and be glad,
you righteous;
Sing, all you who are upright in heart!"
(Psalm 32:11).*

Every season is a time for believers to rejoice and be glad! We would like to share information about the February 25, 2007 service that may encourage you to take a moment to rejoice and be glad in the Lord.

Sunday morning, Feb. 25, started out with mist and a little sleet, but the prospect of more severe weather became real as the morning went on. By the time Sunday School began we were receiving heavy snowfall in Barnesville. Yet many people who live nearby or have large vehicles came to fellowship and to worship. Andrew Bennett, our guest harpist, arrived early to see the sanctuary where he would bring special music during the morning service. Also arriving early was a first-time visitor who had been invited to our church by Frank and Jane Fowler.

The fellowship on such mornings is intimate and sweet and that spirit flowed into the worship service. We knew that the Lord was visiting us in a special way. Andrew's extraordinary giftedness in music was used to help all in attendance to worship. Andrew played the harp and presented his own arrangement of "It Is Well With My Soul". Then an inspiring sermon from Pastor Joe revealed to us the principles of prayer Jesus taught His disciples in the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-15). Andrew closed the service with a worshipful arrangement of "The Lord's Prayer". During the invitation a wonderful young couple made public their desire to join the BBC fellowship. On top of all of this, the Lord reminded us of His holiness by covering all the area in pure whiteness! Rejoice and be glad!

God Bless,

Your Pastors



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Upcoming Events

March 7 Business Meeting
March 9 Parents' Night Out
March 16 Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends
March 17 Baptist Men's Meeting



"I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own" (John 10:14).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

By now many people have heard that James Cameron, the famous Hollywood director, will soon air a documentary about the discovery of several ossuaries in Jerusalem, one having the inscription, "Jesus, son of Joseph". Ossuaries (bone boxes) were used in first-century Israel to store the bones of the dead. Cameron claims that DNA evidence and an analysis of the names on the ossuaries, first unearthed in the 1980s, "prove" that these boxes belonged to Jesus and his family members. In recent days, many Christian scholars have easily been able to point out the massive holes and underwhelming level of proof in Cameron's claims, so I will not spend my time here repeating their work. Instead, I want to focus on the implications of James Cameron's allegation—what would it mean if Jesus' body were actually found? Paul answered this question for the church at Corinth: *"...If Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable"* (I Corinthians 1:17-19).

It would be so easy to refute the most basic tenet of Christianity, that Jesus rose from the grave. Think of the impact on Jesus' claims to be the Messiah if the Pharisees and Sadducees displayed Jesus' corpse in the streets of Jerusalem, forever silencing the apostles' post-Easter claims of resurrection. Christianity would have died instantly; Jesus of Nazareth would have been yet another obscure Jewish teacher and philosopher in first-century Judea. History would have quickly forgotten His name and His message; who would even have bothered to record or remember them? However, no one was able to prove what is so easy to prove for every other human being: death happens. Yet death was unable to claim the life of Jesus Christ. Paul shared with the Corinthians just *some* of the evidence that Jesus won a permanent victory over death: *"He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time"* (I Corinthians 1:5-8).

The founders of every other religion are well known to be dead. The Old Testament records the death of Moses, and how Israel mourned him for a month. Muslims unhesitatingly acknowledge that Muhammad is dead. The same goes for the followers of Buddha. Only Christians insist their religious leader is still alive. The Church of the Holy Sepulcher still stands over the traditional spot of Jesus' tomb in Jerusalem, but no one, not even the most skeptical atheist, argues that it has an occupant. What does this mean for those who accept Jesus as Savior and Lord? Again, listen to Paul: *"Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God"* (Romans 6:8-10). We can thus have confidence that our faith and salvation are grounded in the fact that Jesus Christ is alive.

Member of the Month: Dot Fowler

- ★ Born: April 15, 1936 in Johnson City, Tennessee
- ★ How long a BBC member: 25 years
- ★ Church offices held: Sunday School teacher, Choir member, Worship and Outreach Cmte.s member, Church Custodian
- ★ How she first came to BBC: "We moved to Barnesville looking for a church and found BBC; we loved the church and the people".
- ★ Favorite Hymns: "Amazing Grace" and "Precious Lord Take My Hand"
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *John 3:16*
- ★ Age at baptism: 11 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Beech Cliff Baptist in Johnson City
- ★ Most famous people she's met: bluegrass singers Doyle Johnson and the Lewis family
- ★ Personal claim to fame: married to Charles for 49 years
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: sharing her parents' 72nd anniversary
- ★ Farthest place she's been from Barnesville: Florida
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: the cell phone
- ★ Childhood heroes: her mom and dad
- ★ Hobbies: gardening and painting



March Birthdays

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



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in January:

- A motion to accept Brooke Ahalt as a member by profession of faith pending baptism was passed.
- An Internal Administration Committee motion recommending an increase in pastoral salaries was adopted.
- The Church approved a Worship Committee-sponsored motion to start a regular Sunday evening worship service.

Expected at the March Business Meeting:

- The Select Committee on Auditing will present its report on the 2006 finances.
- The Deacons will make motions to accept Charles Watson as a member by statement and Juanita Watson as a member by letter from First Baptist Church of Century, Florida.

Prayer Concerns

Annie Cooley
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Margie Stream
Tod Luhn
Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother
Flora Gilliam, ankle problem
Bill Morrison
Emily Thorne
Dottie Shifflett, Dot Fowler's niece
Joseph Runkles, son of Bob & Stephanie
Mary Barr
Limor Bregman
Reyna Poole
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Tim MacCarthy, Raymond
Enright, Norman Bishop, Raymond Money, Norman
Brandenburg
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).*

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



One good sign you need more training
in the area of visitation...

News You Can Use

Valentine's dinner held. On Feb. 10, BBC members and friends gathered for a festive ham dinner to celebrate the Valentine's holiday. Despite the cold, a sea of red shirts soon filled the fellowship hall. Thanks to Mary Yates and those who helped set up the bright decorations and to everyone who contributed by bringing a dish or dessert to the meal.



New Sunday service. Starting on Apr. 22, BBC will hold a regular Sunday evening worship service on the 4th Sunday of each month. This hour-long service will be focused on helping members achieve spiritual growth, a key goal the pastors have set for the year. During the winter months, the service will start at 6:00 pm; 7:00 pm in the summer. The worship hour will feature special music and singing hymns together. The messages will focus on topics that will help members deepen their understanding of their faith and learn how to live it out daily. Offerings will not be taken. Please join your fellow church members in participating in this new service in April.

Valentine's Day snowstorm effects linger on. A Feb. 14 snowstorm and weeks of subfreezing temperatures



Ice and frozen sleet cover the parking lot on February 18

made BBC members' arrival for Sunday School and morning worship on Feb. 18 a challenge. Although the roads had already been cleared, the snow and sleet that fell midweek had transformed the BBC parking lot into a sheet of solid ice by Sunday. Cars and trucks didn't even make an impression in the ice, much less boots and shoes. Free valet service and some creative parking saved the day; everyone made it inside and back home without a slip or fall.

Directory update coming soon. Attention all members: the next update to the church directory will be distributed in April. Anyone with changes to their contact information or regular attendees who would like to have their picture and information included for the first time should promptly submit their data to Lee Michael. After April, the next scheduled directory update is planned for October—don't delay!

Daylight Savings Time begins Mar. 11. Remember to set your watches and clocks forward one hour (and lose an hour of sleep) before you go to bed on that Saturday night. The time change comes early this year due to a change in federal law.

VBS 2007 dates set. Believe it or not, Barnesville Baptist is already preparing for this year's Vacation Bible School. The 2007 theme is "Game Day Central: Where Heroes Are Made"! Based on *Hebrews 12:1-2*, Game Day Central will get kids in the game and help them learn how to become heroes both on and off the field by focusing on Jesus and following God's plan for their lives. Keep the evenings of July 23-27 open on your calendar and begin praying for this important outreach event of the year; in 2006 BBC reached over 100 students and staff, not counting students' parents and family members.



Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal set. The WMU has set for this year a goal of \$1320 for BBC. This offering is used to support the 5300+ missionaries serving under the North American Mission Board. The national goal is \$57 million, \$1 million more than last year. Receipts to the 2007 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering will support the following mission endeavors: Missionary Support, 75%; Church Planting, 15%; Evangelism, 10%. Let's do our part to support the missionaries in the United States & Canada who are spreading the good news of the gospel. Thank you for your prayerful generosity.

Choir practicing Easter cantata. The choir is busy preparing for its Palm Sunday presentation of "Jesus Is Alive!", an Easter cantata filled with classic songs and hymns, along with several new songs. This musical performance will help all in attendance celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.