



# The Barnesville Lantern

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June 2007, Volume 6, No. 1

*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path (Psalm 119:105).*

## The Pastors' Spotlight

*"Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of a psalm...shout joyfully before the Lord..." (Psalm 98:5-6).*

God gifts people to sing joyfully to Him with the harp and sound of psalms, like Andrew Bennett, who ministered to us in the April 29 worship service. Andrew accompanied the congregation and choir on his flute and harp, and also sang hymns, psalms, and commentary on scriptures. He declared in music and song the awesomeness of God's love and the gospel of Jesus Christ. Andrew's heart in ministry is to bring



God's love to people. When people allow God to reveal His boundless love to them, their response is faith, repentance, and adoration. The powerful message delivered by harp is, as Andrew describes it, "a steel fist in a velvet glove". Andrew built his first harp out of scrap wood and electrical conduit pipe, plus fishing line and weedwacker cords for the strings. Hex bolts adjust the string tension, so he tuned the harp with a ratchet wrench. His newer, more elaborate harp also has a beautiful sound. Weighing about thirty pounds, it is more portable and versatile than a full-sized concert harp.

Andrew's heart is burdened for the people of Washington, D.C. God has opened amazing opportunities for Andrew to minister in Christian and secular venues where He is at work in powerful ways, from intimate prayer meetings to public displays of praise. Andrew described how after leaving a National Day of Prayer performance at the Dirkson Senate Office Building, a very strong wind blew across the harp strings, producing a "loud, different, unworldly, beautiful sound" as scores of people came down the building steps. It was as though God reached out to people saying, "I love you".

To minister in places where a harp is too large, Andrew also built a unique 20-string lyre. Andrew truly is a modern day psalmist, called and gifted by God to bring His love and the truth of His Word to all who will listen.

God Bless,

Your Pastors



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## Upcoming Events

- June 6** Business Meeting
- June 14** Flag Day
- June 16** Baptist Men's Fishing Trip
- June 17** Father's Day



*"For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children...to keep the way of the Lord" (Genesis 18:19).*

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Last month I discussed how God does most of the heavy lifting to accomplish great things for His glory. That doesn't mean, however, we are to be passive observers. The Lord will prepare and test us for His use. He calls us to salvation as we are, then grows us and improves us for the benefit of His Kingdom. God continually works on His children's faith, attitudes, and will. Three good examples of this truth from the Bible come to mind: Joseph and Gideon from the Old Testament, and Saul/Paul from the New.

We first knew Joseph as the youngest of Jacob's sons—a momma's boy, a dreamer. His older brothers, jealous of the favoritism showed to Joseph by their father, sold him into Egyptian slavery. In Egypt, Joseph prospered in spite of difficulties, rising to become second only to the Pharaoh, saving the whole land from famine. Through the trials and unjust treatment in his life, Joseph was readied by God to preserve his entire family from death. In his darkest hours, Joseph had no one to rely on but the Lord. His early testing allowed a grown-up Joseph to meet his brothers not with resentment, but with love, saying to them, *"...God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt"* (Genesis 45:7-8).

In the case of Gideon, in *Judges 6:11-12* we find a frightened, cowardly man, hiding from his enemies: *"Gideon threshed wheat in the winepress, in order to hide it from the Midianites. And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him, and said to him, 'The LORD is with you, you mighty man of valor!'"* Gideon was fruitlessly working at the bottom of the hill lest he be spotted by the Midianites who dominated Israel in that day. However, God called Gideon not a coward, but a mighty man of valor, because that is the type of servant God would make him. Building up his faith and trust, God prepared Gideon to lead Israel into victory over their enemies with a vastly outnumbered army. God provided the victory, but He chose and worked through Gideon to achieve it.

The first time we encountered Saul (Paul), he was an accomplice to murder, holding the coats of those who stoned Stephen. But God took this murderous, vengeful Pharisee and used the crucible of hardship and trial to turn him into one of the Church's all-time most effective witnesses for Christ. The Lord started out by saying, *"...he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake"* (Acts 9:15-16). Indeed, Paul suffered to share the good news of the gospel across the Roman Empire. Reflecting on his ministry toward the end of his life, Paul wrote, *"...I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked...in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness"* (II Corinthians 11:25, 27). But Paul's legacy endures to this day. Whether God raises you up to high offices to speak to the multitudes, or leads you through dark valleys to reach the least among us, He will actively use you and change you to serve as an instrument of His grace.

## Member of the Month: Joe Ivey

- ★ Born: November 10, 1937 in Sumiton, Walker Co., AL
- ★ How long a BBC member: since July 2001
- ★ Church offices held: Pastor
- ★ How he first came to BBC: he was called to do a revival at Barnesville after meeting BBC members at a senior citizens' banquet in Frederick
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "How Great Thou Art"
- ★ Favorite Pew: front pew on the right
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *Psalms 107*
- ★ Age at baptism: 14 years old
- ★ Childhood church: First Methodist Church, Jasper, AL
- ★ Most famous person he's met: Adrian Rogers
- ★ Personal claim to fame: his country band won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Walker County FFA talent show (he played guitar)
- ★ Most important historical event in his life: 1969 moon landing
- ★ Farthest place he's been from Barnesville: Hollywood, California
- ★ Story on first name: named after the family dog by his three-year old brother
- ★ Most important technology invented in his lifetime: the computer
- ★ Childhood hero: heavyweight champion Rocky Marciano
- ★ Hobbies: fishing



## June Birthdays

### *The Barnesville Lantern*

**4** Marva Cole  
**7** Stephanie Rice  
**8** Lisa Fedders  
**9** David Bennett, Kaitlyn Cole  
**10** Sharon Engle, Gary Burdette  
**11** Jan Burdette  
**16** June Luhn  
**17** Matt Yates, Donna Elgin  
**18** Frank Fowler  
**22** Joshua Thomas  
**23** June Ivey  
**27** Sandra Oden, Mark Crowe



## Business Meeting Briefs

### *Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in May:*

- No new business was presented at the May 2007 Business Meeting.

### *Expected at the June Business Meeting:*

- A motion to begin a hand bell choir ministry will be made by the Worship Committee.
- The Internal Administration Committee will offer a motion to increase our insurance coverage.
- The Internal Administration Committee will offer a motion to remove the two dead oak trees in the parsonage front yard.

## Prayer Concerns

Annie Cooley  
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.  
Margie Stream  
Bud Baumbaugh, recovering from knee surgery  
Pat Elam  
Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother  
Gertrude Weston, David Bennett's grandmother  
Emily Thorne  
Dottie Shifflett, Dot Fowler's niece  
Joseph Runkles  
Wanda Brown; Jim McKamey, friends of the Gilliams  
Chuck Ramsburg  
Quipsa Mayorga, a Watkins Cabinet friend  
Troops in Iraq: Michael Hayes; Jo Blalock's grandson Seth Rogers and nephew Ken Kercival  
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Tim MacCarthy, Raymond Enright, Norman Bishop, Raymond Money, Norman Brandenburg, Janice Shull, Karen King, Rose Grant, Betty Sica  
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).*

## Fishing Trip Announcement

*The Baptist Men invite the Church family to go fishing*



Saturday, June 16, 2007  
at Cliff Neal's Pond  
8:00 am-12:00 noon

21511 Peach Tree Road

Directions from Church: head east on Barnesville Road, turn right (south) onto Peach Tree Rd., entrance is by the animal cemetery

Lunch will be provided

*Bring your own:*

- ★ fishing rod and tackle
- ★ bait

## News You Can Use

*Vacation Bible School coming soon!* The theme for this year's VBS is "Game Day Central: Where Heroes Are Made", which will be held Jul. 23-27, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. If you would like to participate by serving in a classroom, or in music, crafts, recreation, or snack, please contact Pastor Randy or Mary Yates.



Vacation Bible School is arguably our church's most important annual outreach activity; please join us in serving the Lord and building His Kingdom.

*Baptist Men make summer plans.* The Baptist Men have planned several events for the next few months. On Jun. 16, they will have a fishing trip and lunch at Cliff Neal's Pond starting at 8:00 am to 12 noon. On Jul. 14, they will co-sponsor the Sunday School Picnic at Black Hill Regional Park, which begins at 4:00 pm. On Aug. 19, the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Father-Child banquet will be held at Dutch's Daughter. Look for additional details in the near future.

*Our own Kitty Cooley* is taking part in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life on Jun. 9th and 10th at Poolesville High School. If you would like to assist her in raising money to fight cancer, please make a donation of any amount. Please make checks payable to the American Cancer Society and put "Kitty Cooley" in the memo section. Mail donations to her at 22331 Old Hundred Rd., Barnesville, MD 20838. Donations are tax deductible. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Kitty at 301-349-5119 or visit their website at [www.poolesvillereley.org](http://www.poolesvillereley.org).



*Congratulations to the graduate.* Best wishes go out to Amy Williams for receiving her high school diploma from Wakulla High School in Crawfordville, Florida on May 25. Amy sang in the BBC choir before moving down to Florida. Way to go, Amy!

*Call for contributors.* The *Lantern* staff is considering the possibility of including some special children's content in this monthly newsletter. If anyone would like to become a long-term contributor of *original* material suitable for a kid's page, please contact the Editor.

*Homegrown talent follows chicken dinner.* May 19 was



a good time for the nearly 40 members and guests who attended the Baptist Men's

evening of good food and fellowship. Five desserts were entered into the strawberry dessert contest. The judges (Matthew & Janice Cole, Pat Elam, Sarah Marsh, and Lee Michael) awarded first place to Jane Fowler for her strawberry jello cake, second place to Mary Yates for her chocolate-covered strawberry trefoil, while third place went to Sherri Marsh for her strawberry shortcake. Afterward, Bill Morrison, Iris Rodgers, and Cris Driver gave an hour-long concert, each person singing several country/bluegrass style songs.



*Third discipleship training series begins in July.* Paul Meissner will be the first teacher in the third running of the fifth Sunday classes, which begin on Jul. 29 at 4:30 pm. The class is entitled, "Sharing the Lord's Blessing", and will feature video and workbook components. A pizza dinner will follow the lesson. The second class of the series, with a new teacher and new topic, will be held in September.

## COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



Pastoral service . . . with a smile . . .