



# The Barnesville Lantern

Barnesville Baptist Church  
17917 Barnesville Road/P.O. Box 69  
Barnesville, Maryland 20838

301-407-0500 (phone/fax)  
www.barnesvillebaptist.org  
barnesvillebaptist@comcast.net

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

## The Pastors' Spotlight

*"This is what the Lord says, 'Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls'"*  
Jeremiah 6:16-17 (NIV).

Jeremiah prophesied a coming judgment on Judah because of the people's rebellion against God and their rejection of His law. Jeremiah's encouragement to them from the Lord was, think about what you are doing and ask where the "good way" is. The "good way" begins with reverence for God and loving Him. This leads to repentance, reconciliation with God, and right decisions. The result of this is "rest for your souls".

We all know from experience what happens when someone stands at a crossroad in life and chooses a direction contrary to the teaching of Scripture, e.g. the Ten Commandments, loving God and other people. The results can be devastating.

A good illustration of this truth comes from the hiking trails on Sugarloaf Mountain here in upper Montgomery County. A hiker gets a map of the trails and chooses which one he or she will take. The trails are mapped out and marked by a color: yellow, white, blue, orange, red, or green. As the hiker goes along he or she can follow the trail because the markers are painted on trees at various intervals. This keeps the hiker from getting lost. But more than this, there is a note on the trail map that says that Sugarloaf Mountain is the natural habitat of timber rattlers and copperhead snakes. Now, staying on the trail becomes really important because the hiker can normally avoid an encounter with one of these poisonous creatures. Getting off the trail exposes the hiker to an avoidable danger. In life there are dangerous situations, the rattlers and copperheads of life, which we can avoid by wisely choosing the "good way", that is, God's way.

God Bless,

Your Pastors

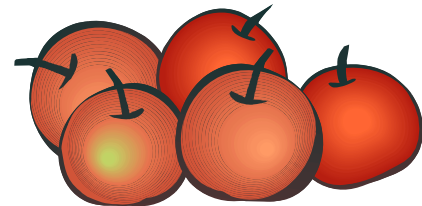


## In This Edition:

The Pastors' Spotlight, Page 1  
Upcoming Events, Page 1  
The Pew Perspective, Page 2  
Member of the Month, Page 2  
September Birthdays, Page 3  
Prayer Concerns, Page 3  
Business Meeting Briefs, Page 3  
Pig Pickin' Announcement, Page 3  
News You Can Use, Page 4  
COTCD Cartoon, Page 4  
September 2007 Calendar, Page 5

## Upcoming Events

**September 3** Labor Day, Church Office Closed  
**September 5** Business Meeting  
**September 14** Parents' Night Out  
**September 21** Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Men  
**September 22** Baptist Men's Pig Pickin'  
**September 28** Family Movie Night  
**September 30** Discipleship Training



*"He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper."*  
(Psalm 1:3).

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

The Baptist Men held our fifth annual Father-Child Banquet this past month. As the emcee for the evening, my opening comments were based on a psalm of David, where he spoke of his trust and faith in God throughout his lifetime, from his birth and youth to the end of his life. David also spoke of his faith as a legacy to be passed down to his family and even generations to come. Two key verses that express these thoughts are found toward the end of the scripture, where David wrote, *“O God, You have taught me from my youth; and to this day I declare Your wondrous works. Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, do not forsake me, until I declare Your strength to this generation, Your power to everyone who is to come” (Psalm 71:17-18).*

David, after expressing his faith and appreciation for God’s great goodness in his life at the beginning of the psalm, used the end of the psalm to respond in gratitude by making five “I will” statements: I will trust you, I will praise you, I will speak of Your righteousness, I will walk in You, and, I will declare You. These statements should be just as true for us today as they were for David when he first wrote them.

The first statement, I will trust You, meant that David would rely on God when he was afraid and didn’t know what to do. As Paul explained this idea, *“... We should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead, who delivered us from so great a death, and does deliver us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver us...” (II Corinthians 1:9-10).*

The second statement, I will praise You, means that both David and we today should thank God for His goodness, grace, and mercy in our lives. Those who follow Christ have been doing this from the beginning, as Luke recorded: *“Then, as He [Jesus] was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen...” (Luke 19:37).*

The third statement, I will speak of Your righteousness and salvation, is based on God’s redeeming love for all mankind. Paul wrote, *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek” (Romans 1:16).*

Fourthly, David wrote I will walk in You, expressing that he wanted to follow the Lord’s will and plan for his life. As John wrote, Jesus has a plan for each of our lives: *“Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life’” (John 8:12).*

Finally, David concluded his psalm with a ‘I will declare You’ statement, meaning that those who love God should share His gospel with their family, friends, and neighbors. As Peter explained, this is the Christian’s high calling: *“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light” (I Peter 2:9-10).*

David’s ‘I will’ statements are good disciplines to practice as we strive to become better followers of Jesus Christ, and even better habits to share with our families. Will you also apply these ‘I wills’ in your life?

## Member of the Month: Jack Cooley

- ★ Born January 1, 1942 in Frederick, Maryland
- ★ How long a BBC member: since March 1954
- ★ Church offices held: Groundsman, Trustee, Usher, Teller
- ★ How he first came to BBC: moved to upper side of town so he could walk to BBC
- ★ Favorite Hymn: “Just A Closer Walk With Thee”
- ★ Favorite Pew: on the right side
- ★ Favorite Bible verse: *John 3:16*
- ★ Age at baptism: 12 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Barnesville Baptist
- ★ Most famous people he’s met: Bill & Gloria Gaither
- ★ Personal claim to fame: “Being happily married to the same woman for 45 years. I have been blessed with two great children and their mates and four grandchildren.”
- ★ Most important historical event in his life: 1969 moon landing
- ★ Farthest place he’s been from Barnesville: Alaska
- ★ Story on first name: born Charles Douglas, but has been called Doug, Charlie, Weaver, Mack, and Pap Pap.
- ★ Most important technology invented in his lifetime: the computer
- ★ Childhood hero: Lone Ranger, Tex Ritter
- ★ Hobbies: relaxing with his family at Bethany Beach, DE, NASCAR racing, enjoys most sports



## September Birthdays

- 1 Andrew Yates
- 3 Megan Fedders
- 4 Kristina Cole, Bill Morrison
- 7 Scott Bennett
- 10 Ben Bennett
- 11 Shirley Yates, Eric Engle
- 13 Michael Oden
- 14 Duane Yates
- 21 Melissa Campbell, Logan Marsh
- 25 Gale Cole, Lexi Dorsey
- 29 Mary Mossburg



## Business Meeting Briefs

*Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in August:*

- The Church approved the Pastor's nominations of five members (Randy & Sandy Gilliam, Lee Michael, June Ivey, and himself), plus an alternate (Nancy Cooley), to serve as messengers to the Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting, being held on October 13, 2007 at Upper Seneca Baptist Church in Cedar Grove.

*Expected at the September Business Meeting:*

- As of press time, there were no motions ready for action by the Church at the September 2007 Business Meeting.

## Prayer Concerns

Annie Cooley  
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.  
Margie Stream  
David Gilliam, in U.S. Army basic training  
Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother  
Kenny Hurd, Dot Fowler's nephew  
Will Noegel  
Rod Kaufman, Pastor Joe's neighbor  
Joseph Runkles  
Chuck Ramsburg  
Roberta Richards  
Helen Hughes, Dot Fowler's sister  
Jack Harrington  
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, Rose Grant, Betty Sica, Glen & Helen Magaha, Janice Shull  
Our missionary friends: Manuel & Cindy Batres (Guatemala); Steve & Emily Ruffner (Campus Crusade)  
Our nation and its leaders  
All of our military men and women

## Pig Pickin' Announcement

*The Baptist Men invite the Church family to a Pig Pickin'*



*Saturday, September 22 in the Fellowship Hall  
Dinner will be served at 4:00 pm  
Bring a side dish to share*

*Enter an apple-based dessert (pie, cake, cobbler, turnovers, tarts, etc.) into the Apple Dessert Contest!*



*"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).*

## News You Can Use

*Fifth annual Father-Child banquet a good time.* A wonderful time of fellowship was held on Aug. 19 at Dutch's Daughter Restaurant in Frederick. Nineteen fathers and guests



gathered for a delicious meal. Afterwards, Lee Michael started the program with comments on *Psalm 71*, where King David desired to share his faith in God with

generations to come, Ralph Cooley gave a reading on what it means to be a father, and keynote speaker Randy Gilliam spoke on how a father is like a gardener, who prepares a safe environment for his seeds (children) to grow into what God has intended for them to be.

*Church to open early for prayer.* Tuesday, Sept. 11 marks the sixth anniversary of the terrorist attacks on New York City, Washington, DC, and Shanksville, PA. The church will be open as early as 6:00 am if you want to come and pray for your nation, its leaders, and members of the armed forces.

*Montgomery Baptists to meet.* The 72<sup>nd</sup> Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting will take place on Saturday, October 13, 2007, 9:30 am-12:30 pm at Upper Seneca Baptist Church in Cedar Grove. The guest preacher will be Rev. Jorge Fonseca, a BCM/D missionary for Hispanic Church Development. Barnesville will send five delegates to attend this important meeting.

*New library titles.* Check out these new acquisitions today: "Foxe Voices of the Martyrs: 33 A.D. to Today"; "Christianity and Islam, Bridging Two Worlds"; "Understanding Muslim Teachings and Traditions, A Guide for Christians"; "Out of the Crescent Shadows, Leading Muslim Women into the Light of Christ"; "The John Bunyon Story" (DVD; children 8-12), "Israel Homecoming, Gaither Gospel Series" (VHS).

*Evangelism/visitation training.* For those who want to learn how to reach the lost through home visitations, join Pastor Joe during the Sunday School hour Sept. 23-Oct. 14 in the library. Visitations will occur in November. Please sign up in foyer if you are interested in these classes.

*Family movie night.* On Friday, Sept. 28 at 7:30 pm, Barnesville will show "Facing the Giants", a movie about a high school football coach that teaches people to never give up, never back down, and never lose faith. Join us for this time of entertainment and fellowship.

*Book fair coming.* From Oct. 24-28, BBC will have a wide assortment of Christian books and materials from Lifeway publishers available for everyone, kids through adults. Purchase a book for yourself or as a gift, donate a book to the library, or nominate a title for the church to purchase.

*Discipleship training on Sept. 30.* Lee Michael will be the second teacher in the third running of the fifth Sunday classes, which begin at 4:30 pm. The class is entitled, "The Trinity". A pizza dinner will follow the lesson at 6:00 pm. The third class of the series, with a new teacher and new topic, will be held in December.

*Barbershop quartet in concert.* On Aug. 26, *Dominion 4* led the Fourth Sunday worship service. The group and their music were extremely well received. BBC will definitely



invite them back soon. You don't want to miss this style of music done so professionally. Watch for their return date and bring a friend. You will be glad you did.



*Bell choir news.* Thank you for your interest in and enthusiasm for the new handbell choir! Many people have signed up and even more are welcome. Weekly practices begin on Sept. 12 at 8:15 pm. Please keep this new music ministry in your prayers. See Ann or David Bennett to join or just "try out" the handbell choir.

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

## COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"I don't think he understands the symbolism in the phrase 'are you washed in the blood.'"