



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 to My Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples" (John 15:8).

Spring is coming! The gardeners among us have probably already ordered their seeds for planting. Excitement is in the air anticipating getting outside and preparing the soil. Plans are being made for cleaning up flower gardens and preparing them for this year's annuals. Lawn mowers are being made ready for the work that is coming, and no doubt some daydreaming associated with spring fever is beginning.

Words we associate with spring are new life, renewal, starting over, rebirth, renewed hope. Each spring we are assured of new life when we see evidence of the early flowers breaking through the soil and trees and shrubs budding. It is an exciting season. No other season has invoked inspiration in poets as much as the idea of spring.

It is appropriate that the most important celebration in the Christian church is observed in the springtime. When we affirm the bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we explicitly proclaim God's power to bring life out of death. We can claim by faith the great promise of Jesus in *John 14:19*, "...Because I live, you shall live also". Hallelujah!

The harvest of fresh fruit and produce that gardeners and farmers will reap later this year will result from the spring work and summer care they put into tending the soil of their gardens and fields. We will enjoy the literal fruits (and vegetables) of their labors this summer and fall when we find them in the stores and stands where we shop. Jesus likens the person who receives and understands the gospel message as "good soil" (*Matthew 13:23*) that will produce a crop to the glory of God. This spring, pay special attention to your spiritual soil. Cultivate it by worshiping, meditating on God's Word, praying, and finding ways to serve others. This is not only for God's glory, but shows that you are a disciple of the Lord Jesus.

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Upcoming Events

- March 5** Business Meeting
- March 14** Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends
- March 15** Baptist Men's Meeting
Parenting Teens Seminar
- March 21** Good Friday Service, 7:00 pm
- March 23** Easter Sunday; Easter Cantata
- March 30** Discipleship Training



God Bless,

Your Pastors



"This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses" (Acts 2:32).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

The road to Emmaus was full of sadness on that first Easter Sunday. Two disciples were returning home from Jerusalem after the death of their rabbi, a Man named Jesus. They had hoped He would be the Redeemer of Israel, but He had been crucified and buried. They had heard rumors from some women that Jesus' tomb was empty, but the men didn't know what to make of it. Walking on, the men met a Stranger who asked them, "*Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory? And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself*" (Luke 24:26-27).

Jesus' arrest, death, burial, and resurrection are foretold with pinpoint accuracy and detail in the Old Testament. For example, Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would be, "*...led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth*" (Isaiah 53:7). Both Herod and Pontius Pilate marveled that Jesus would not defend himself in front of his accusers.

Consider *Psalm 22:1*, which forecasts Christ's words on the cross: "*My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?*", as well as vv. 16-18, which describe the behavior of the Roman soldiers: "*...They pierced My hands and My feet; I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me. They divide My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots*". *Psalm 69:21* explains the pain medications Christ was offered on the cross: "*They also gave me gall for my food, and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink*".

The Messiah was not only destined to suffer, but to rise up from the grave: "*For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption*" (*Psalm 16:10*), and to save men from their sins: "*Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin...By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities*" (*Isaiah 53:10-11*).

The prophet Zechariah described how Christ will redeem Israel when they recognize Him as their Messiah: "*...They will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn*" (*Zechariah 12:10*).

The Old Testament is full of verses like these, from *Genesis* to *Malachi* the Bible testifies of the promised Savior. We do not exactly which verses Jesus shared with the two men, but Luke records that after Christ had explained the Scriptures to them, "*then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight. And they said to one another, 'Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?'*" (Luke 24:31-32). Easter was a sad occasion no longer in the town of Emmaus, but a day of hope and victory. Jesus appeared many more times to His followers, explaining to them that, "*...it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem*" (Luke 24:46-47). We today who call Christ our Risen Savior still share in that same good news, and in the call to preach His name to all nations.

Member of the Month: Pauline Fowler

- ★ Born August 17, 1947 in Derwood, Maryland
- ★ How long a BBC member: since August 2006
- ★ Church offices held: adult and bell choirs member
- ★ How she first came to BBC: visited for a baptism
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "Softly and Tenderly", "How Great Thou Art"
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *Psalm 23*
- ★ Age at baptism: 59 years old
- ★ Childhood church: St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Derwood, Maryland
- ★ Most famous person she's met: Conway Twitty
- ★ Personal claim to fame: her family
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: 1969 moon landing
- ★ Farthest place she's been from Barnesville: Nashville, Tennessee
- ★ Story on first name: named after her cousin Pauline
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: modern medicine
- ★ Hobbies: puzzles, bowling, going on long car rides



March Birthdays

5 Stape Shields, Iva Musser
11 Jim Gilliam
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



Prayer Concerns

the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Margie Stream
Spc. David Gilliam, stationed at Ft. Huachuca, AZ
Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother
Kenny Hurd, Dot Fowler's nephew
Joseph Runkles
Dave & Evelyn Fowler, Sandy Gilliam's father & stepmother
Helen Hughes, Dot Fowler's sister
Pastor Danny Moore & Towne Baptist Church
Junior Collins, Janice Cole & Sherri Marsh's uncle
Evan Archer, two-month old, respiratory distress
Steve Gibson, recovering from back surgery
James Thomas, Dave & Jamie's year-old son, losing weight
Shirley Streilein, Bud Baumbaugh's sister
Troops in Iraq: Pfc. Michael Hayes
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Raymond Money, Rose Grant,
Helen Magaha, Pat Stabler, Jim Cole, Connie Ewin, Nancy Gallo
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 February:

- The Church adopted the Outreach Committee's motion to rename the Women's Ministry the Family Ministry, and adjust its budget line item description accordingly.
- The Deacons' request for an additional \$5400 in benevolence spending was approved.

Expected at the March Business Meeting:

- The Select Committee on Auditing will present its report on the 2007 finances.
- The Internal Administration Committee will offer a recommendation on replacing the furnace and air handlers.

COTCD Cartoon



News You Can Use

Valentine's dinner held. On Saturday, Feb. 16, Barnesville Baptist members and friends gathered for a delicious fried



chicken dinner to celebrate Valentine's Day and enjoy a time of fellowship. After the meal, we

were entertained by *Dominion 4*, who sang—acapella

—several Valentine-themed songs from the 1950s. Thanks to everyone who helped set up the festive decorations and to those who contributed by bringing a dish or dessert to the meal.



Easter services planned. The BBC Choir will present their cantata entitled, "In Christ Alone", which celebrates that victorious day when God's redemption plan was fulfilled, on Easter Sunday, Mar. 23, during the morning worship. The soloists will be Ann Bennett and Eddie Fowler, who will sing "Sweet Jesus", and Penny Barton, who will sing "In Christ Alone". Lee Michael will narrate. The cantata will first be presented during at the Sunrise Center service on Palm Sunday, Mar. 9. BBC will also gather for a Good Friday worship service on Mar. 21 at 7:00 pm.

Easter lilies for sale. If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily in honor of/in memory of a loved one, please contact Kitty Cooley at 301-349-5119. The lilies will be used to decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday and throughout the Easter season.

Easter sunrise service on Sugarloaf Mountain. For early risers, this 54th annual mountaintop service beginning at 6:45 am is a wonderful way to begin the celebration of the Lord's resurrection with believers from many local congregations. We all have the Risen Savior in common.

BBC to host the 2008 MBA meeting. Barnesville Baptist has been selected to host the 73rd Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting, the first time we have been asked to do so. BBC has been an active part of the MBA since 1935, when the association was formed. We are very pleased to host the other Baptist churches in the county this coming October.

Daylight Savings Time begins Mar. 9. 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.

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!

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal set. The WMU has set for this year a goal of \$1450 for BBC. This offering is used to support the 5,271 missionaries serving under the North American Mission Board. The 2008 SBC-wide goal is \$61 million, \$4 million more than last year's goal, which was exceeded by \$2 million. Receipts to the 2008 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 who are spreading the good news of the gospel in the United States & Canada. Thank you for your prayerful generosity.



VBS 2008 dates set. Believe it or not, Barnesville Baptist is already preparing for this year's Vacation Bible School. The 2008 theme is "Outrigger Island". Based on *Psalms 86:11*, kids will develop the stability they need to face a world of shifting sands and wavering opinions. Keep the evenings of Jul. 28-Aug. 1 open on your calendar and begin praying for this most important outreach event; in 2007 BBC reached over 66 students and staff, not counting students' parents and family members.

A parenting teens seminar will be held on Saturday, Mar. 15 from 6:00-8:00 pm. Sponsored by the BBC Family Ministry, Kim & Bill Brown of CentrePointe Counseling will lead a workshop for parents and teens to learn about reconnecting, communication, and relationships. A dinner will precede the session. For questions or to sign up to attend, contact Joyce Dunn.

Discipleship training on Mar. 30. Pastor Randy Gilliam will be the third teacher in the third running of the fifth Sunday classes, which begins at 4:30 pm. A pizza dinner will follow the lesson at 6:00 pm. The fourth and final class of the series will be held in June.