



The Barnesville Lantern

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June 2008, Volume 7, No. 1

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

The Pastors' Spotlight

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

June never disappoints. It always brings warmer temperatures, blooming plants everywhere, a lush green backdrop to scenery here in mid-Maryland, smiles and happy times for students anticipating vacations, graduations, new beginnings, and family trips, as well as constant reminders that God has blessed us enormously through His creation. Whatever our circumstances, it is always appropriate to express our deep gratitude to God for His goodness. Take some time this month to be outside and experience the exhilaration of praising God OUT LOUD as you soak in the blessings of His nearness to you.

Whatever your plans this summer or whatever changes you see coming in your life (e.g. a new school, a new job, a new home, or a relocation), the principle expressed so clearly by the writer of *Proverbs* is reason to be confident that God will faithfully direct your decisions in your best interests according to His will. When you trust God with all your heart you place your hope and confidence in His goodness. You can be secure in Him because of His holy character. If we learn to trust Him and to acknowledge Him in every area of our lives, He will make "...all things work together for good..." (*Romans 8:28*).

How do we demonstrate trust in God? The very best way is by practicing prayer. We pray in faith expressing our trust in Him. As we learn to pray, our trust increases because we come to know God better. Our prayer of faith delights God and brings us into deeper fellowship with Him.

As you face the joys and challenges and changes of the coming summer and fall months, follow the Apostle Paul's admonition as you learn to trust God: "*Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus*" (*I Thessalonians 5:16-18*).

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Upcoming Events

- June 4** Business Meeting
- June 7** VBS Planning Meeting
- June 14** Flag Day
- June 15** Father's Day
- June 21** Baptist Men's Fishing Trip
- June 29** Discipleship Training, 4:30 pm



God Bless,

Your Pastors



"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*).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Have you ever considered that forgiving someone is an act of faith? I have heard that holding someone in unforgiveness is like being the warden of a jail—you must report to work each day to watch over your prisoner. When you release someone from your anger and demand for retribution, you also free yourself from the heavy burden of holding your captive. That is where faith comes in—you release those who wrong you into God's custody, trusting that in His own time and way, the Lord will rectify the situation and heal your spirit.

It is so natural for us, when we have been wronged, to demand an apology and restitution from those who hurt us. Instead, God commands His children to do the opposite. As He said through Moses, *"You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD" (Leviticus 19:18)*. What!? We are not only supposed to sit there and take abuse from people, but we must also show love to our enemies? The answer, "yes", makes no sense in the flesh. Indeed, our fleshly nature urges and even begs us to retaliate and take matters into our own hands. Yet when we engage in such patterns of behavior, we testify through our deeds that we do not want God's help or trust in His guidance; we act as if God's will for our lives is not really so good and perfect after all. However, the Apostle Paul gave us no escape from God's instruction to forgive: *"Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,' says the Lord" (Romans 12:19)*. Paul further called us to forgive unconditionally in *Ephesians 4:32*, writing, *"...Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you"*. Paul repeated this command in *Colossians 3:13*, emphasizing that just as Christ forgave us, we must also do the same. It is not an optional request or suggestion; we are required to bear with one another and forgive one another.

Jesus especially focused on the necessity to forgive others as He taught. In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus linked our forgiveness of others with God's forgiveness toward us (*Matthew 6:12, 14-15*). Jesus also taught His disciples, *"If your brother...sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him" (Luke 17:3-4)*. The apostles responded in *verse 5* by saying, *"Increase our faith"*, finding Jesus' standard to make it a life habit to forgive and not seek revenge for wrongs a very high bar, one they could not accomplish in their own strength. Yet Jesus told His disciples that when they forgave others, they would not have done something noteworthy or deserving of praise, they would, *"... have done what was [their] duty to do" (Luke 17:10)*. Jesus lived out this high standard He called for when on the cross He forgave, out loud, those who cast lots and divided His garments (*Luke 23:34*).

Just as Jesus forgave the sins of the world by giving up His very life, we who call ourselves His followers are to emulate His greatest act of love in our daily lives. When we forgive, we show forth Christ's love and character to a world that mostly likely will not experience Christ's forgiveness for themselves until they see it exercised between, and receive it from, Christ's followers.

Member of the Month: Tina Yates

- ★ Born: December 2, 1963 in Bethesda, Maryland
- ★ How long a BBC member: since November 1973
- ★ Church offices held: VBS and Nursery worker, Sunday School Teacher
- ★ How she first came to BBC: "My parents first brought me to Barnesville when I was 6 weeks old".
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "The Old Rugged Cross" and "When The Roll is Called Up Yonder"
- ★ Favorite Pew: third from the front on the right
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *Psalm 23* and *John 3:16*
- ★ Age at baptism: 10 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Barnesville Baptist
- ★ Most famous person she's met: "Head Hog for the Redskins George Stark. I shook his hand and got his autograph".
- ★ Personal claim to fame: "Being a single mom raising two boys in today's society".
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: 9/11
- ★ Farthest place she's been from Barnesville: Florida & Niagara Falls, Canada
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: cell phones, digital cameras, computers, the internet
- ★ Childhood hero: "My Dad, who is still my hero".
- ★ Hobbies: "My boys".



June Birthdays

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



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in May:

- The Church approved the membership applications of both Sam Furr and Laura Luhn, both by profession of faith. They were baptized on Apr. 6.
- The Church approved the membership applications of Junior and Arlene Luhn, who both came by statement.

Expected at the June Business Meeting:

- As of press time, there were no motions ready for action by the Church at the July 2008 Business Meeting.

Prayer Concerns

the family of Evelyn Riggs Fowler, who died May 20
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Margie Stream
Spc. David Gilliam, serving in Baghdad
Mary Barr
Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother
Trudy Meissner, recovering from surgery
Stacey Tothill, recovering from knee surgery
Kenny Hurd, Dot Fowler's nephew
Joseph Runkles
Helen Hughes, Dot Fowler's sister
Pastor Danny Moore & Towne Baptist Church
Shirley Streilein, Bud Baumbaugh's sister
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Raymond Money, Rose Grant, Helen Magaha, 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).*

Fishing Trip Announcement

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



Saturday, June 21, 2008
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 "Outrigger Island", which will be held Jul. 28-Aug. 1, 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.

Special speakers for Mother's Day. The worship service on Sunday, May 11 was given over to testimonies and songs about mothers in honor of the holiday.

Those who spoke about their mother's impact on their lives included sisters Sherry Morrison and Judy Wright (pictured above), who led three generations of family to speak about their mother Mary Mossburg. Also giving testimonies were David Bennett (Laura Bennett); Gary Cooley, who sang "You Lift Me Up" (Nancy Cooley); Cris Driver, who sang "Amazing Grace" (Mary Yates); and Jan Burdette (Margery Lillard).



Missions giving recognized. BBC recently received a letter from the North American Mission Board (NAMB) president, who wrote to congratulate Barnesville for our giving to the 2007 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. The NAMB president noted BBC was the top-ranked church in the Montgomery Baptist Association for giving, both by total amount given and per capita. Thank you for your willingness to invest in God's Kingdom and sharing the Gospel with others.

Baptist Men make summer plans. The Baptist Men have planned several events for the next few months. On Jun. 21, they will have a fishing trip and lunch at Cliff Neal's Pond starting at 8:00 am to 12 noon. On Aug. 17, the 7th annual Father-Child banquet will be held at Dutch's Daughter. Look for additional details in the near future.

Missionary to speak. Invite a friend to hear Maryland-based missionary Michael Callahan speak to BBC during the morning worship service on Sunday, Jun. 29. Michael will tell us about Building Hope Ministries, which shares the Gospel through building churches, schools, and orphanages in Andhra Pradesh, India. You can visit the ministry's website at buildhopenow.org to learn more and view pictures.

Fried chicken dinner held. May 17 was a fun time of good food and fellowship for those who attended the Baptist Men-sponsored evening. Seven desserts were entered into the strawberry dessert contest. The judges (Gary Burdette, Sarah Marsh, Eric Noegel, Hollyanne Noegel, and Lucy Tran) awarded first place to Margie Noegel for her strawberry cheese-cake, second place to Sherri Marsh for her strawberry trefoil, while Jan Burdette's strawberry surprise won third place.



Members of the Luhn family enjoying fried chicken

Discipleship training on Jun. 29. Pastor Randy Gilliam will be the teacher for this fourth and last class of the third running of the fifth Sunday classes, which begins at 4:30 pm. The first class of the fourth series will be held in August.

Write to David Gilliam in Baghdad. David and his family covet your prayers as he serves our country. He can be mailed at: Spc. Gilliam, David/HHC 4th BDE, 10th MTN DIV/Unit 41546/FOB Loyalty/APO, AE 09390-1546.

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Oh come on Eli... you're not in church now... let your hair down and relax!"