



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

"It is for freedom that Christ has set you free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery" (Galatians 5:1).

Independence Day, July 4, is always an important day to celebrate the unique freedoms in this great country. The founding fathers and mothers and all those who came before have bequeathed to us personal, political, and economic freedom unknown to most of the population that ever lived on this special planet. Certainly on this and every day we thank God for His gracious blessings and we pray that God will continue to bless America.

Those who have considered and accepted the gospel of Jesus Christ have been given another kind of freedom. It is a spiritual and moral freedom that allows us, by the power of God's presence in us, to be liberated from the power of evil and sin in the world. We are free to live lives that honor and glorify the Creator God. We are free to love our neighbors rather than hate those different from us. We are free to give to those in need rather than to steal, free to protect and respect life rather than to kill, free to live morally pure and avoid adulterous or immoral behavior, free to be truthful with all and not to lie, free to be content with what the Lord has blessed us with and not to covet the possessions or positions of others, free to worship God as we please and not to be bound to idols or legalism, and free to allow others to be free. You can choose to live free. Jesus taught in *John 8:36*, "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed".

Oswald Chambers, the author of *My Utmost for His Highest*, explained this remarkable freedom in this way: "There is only one liberty, the liberty of Jesus at work in our conscience enabling us to do what is right".

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Upcoming Events

July 2 Business Meeting
July 4 Independence Day, Church office closed
July 19 Baptist Men's Meeting, 7:30 am
July 28-Aug. 1 Vacation Bible School



"I will walk about in freedom for I have sought out Your precepts" (Psalm 119:45).

God Bless,

Your Pastors



The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

In September 1774, 55 delegates from 12 of the 13 colonies (all but Georgia) met in Carpenters' Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The First Continental Congress was called in response to the mounting difficulties the American colonies faced from an increasingly angry British Parliament. After the Boston Tea Party in 1773, Parliament, among other things, closed the port of Boston to all ships and voided Massachusetts' charter, bringing the colony's government more directly under royal control. The other 12 colonies, facing their own difficulties with the British and fearing that Boston's fate would soon become their future, rallied around the town and decried the punitive laws afflicting Massachusetts known as the Intolerable or the Coercive Acts.

The First Continental Congress was called for all the colonies to develop a common response to the British actions. Among the first motions offered was that the Congress open in prayer, so on Sept. 7, 1774, local Anglican preacher Rev. Jacob Duché opened the session with Scripture reading and prayer. The day before, Congress was disturbed to hear that Boston was being bombarded by British cannon (Boston was not bombed, but rather the British confiscated some gunpowder). Thus, the members were especially inspired by Duché's reading of *Psalm 35*, which begins, "*Plead my cause, O LORD, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me. Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for mine help*". The Congress considered the pre-set liturgical reading a providentially-inspired coincidence in light of the reports about Boston. Rev. Duché then offered up the first prayer in Congress, which produced, as John Adams described it, an "excellent effect". Duché beseeched the Lord to, "...look down in mercy ... on these our American States, who have fled to thee from the rod of the oppressor and thrown themselves on Thy gracious protection...", and also to, "...direct the councils of this honorable assembly; enable them to settle things on the best and surest foundation". Continuing, Duché asked the Lord to, "...shower down on them and the millions they here represent, such temporal blessings as Thou seest expedient for them in this world...", and ended by calling on, "...the name...of Jesus Christ, Thy Son and our Savior. Amen".

The First Continental Congress went on to counter the heavy-handed actions of Parliament, calling for a boycott of British goods and drafting a petition sent to King George III setting forth the colonies' grievances. Rev. Duché continued to open every session of Congress with prayer until he was arrested by the British in 1777. The First Continental Congress adjourned in late October 1774, promising to meet again in May 1775 if the British did not ease up on their oppressive behavior. The British did not relent, and the second Congress in July 1776 declared the colonies' independence after mounting British abuses and the outbreak of armed conflict compelled the colonists to break free.

The Revolution lasted until 1783, during which many American prayers were offered up for God's protection and guidance in troubled times. We thank the Lord for His mercies and providential hand that birthed a nation blessed with liberty, and for guiding those 13 "united Colonies" into becoming today's 50 "Free and Independent States".

Member of the Month: Leslie Foster

- ★ Born: January 22, 19?? in Ohio
- ★ How long a BBC member: since January 2002
- ★ Church offices held: Choir, Worship Cmte. member
- ★ How she first came to BBC: "Emily Thorne needed more singers in the choir".
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "In My Heart There Rings A Melody"
- ★ Favorite Pew: the choir loft
- ★ Favorite Bible verse: *Genesis 1:1*
- ★ Age at baptism: 33 years old
- ★ Childhood church: The Chapel of Peace
- ★ Most famous person she's met: Brooks Robinson
- ★ Personal claim to fame: being married to a wonderful guy and having two great sons
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: Secretariat winning the Triple Crown in 1973
- ★ Farthest place she's been from Barnesville: Israel
- ★ Story on first name: "I was #6 and Leslie was a suitable name for a boy or girl".
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: vaccinations for childhood diseases
- ★ Childhood hero: Roy Rogers
- ★ Hobbies: horses, reading, cooking, sewing, knitting, and raising chickens



July Birthdays

8 Nancy Cooley
9 Fred Bird, Hollyanne Noegel
14 Penny Barton
18 Laura Musser
19 Brandon Cole
20 Joshua Madison
22 Douglas Cooley
23 Mary Yates, Emily Crowe
26 Virginia Magaha, Roy Musser,
Joe Yates
28 Jackie Cole
30 Sherri Marsh



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in June:

- The June Business Meeting was not held due to severe weather and loss of power; there were no items ready for action for the June meeting.

Expected at the July Business Meeting:

- A motion will be made to call for the Standing Committees to authorize Church officer and committee positions for the 2008-2010 term.
- Motions to establish and fund a Director of Youth position will be presented to the Church.
- The Pastor will announce that the following members will serve on the Nominating Committee to select 2008-2010 officers: Randy Gilliam, Nancy Cooley, Ann Bennett, Lee Michael, and himself.

Prayer Concerns

the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.

Margie Stream

Spc. David Gilliam, serving in Baghdad

Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother

Joseph Runkles

Helen Hughes, Dot Fowler's sister

Pastor Danny Moore & Towne Baptist Church

Shirley Streilein, Bud Baumbaugh's sister

Lindsey Baumbaugh, recovering from surgery

Randy Wells, recovering from surgery

Rev. Jack Grant, recovering from heart surgery

Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Raymond Money, Rose

Grant, Helen Magaha, Jim Cole, Connie Ewin, Nancy

Gallo, Rita Gallagher, Jasmine Budderball, Jim Wiley

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



"I told Bro. Eli I went fishing last Sunday. He said I shouldn't give in to 'PIER' pressure."

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. If you know anyone who needs transportation in order to come to VBS, please leave a message at the church office so we can make arrangements.



Health kits distributed. The WMU wishes to thank those who contributed enough supplies to make 25 health kits for migrant workers, prison inmates, homeless people, and seamen. The Barnesville WMU sent these kits to the state convention headquarters in Columbia, from where the kits were sent out to those in need.

Bell Choir news. The BBC Bell choir has completed its first season and has a repertoire of about ten songs. Ann Bennett, the director, is elated with the progress the beginning ringers have made since Sept. 2007. The choir will not practice in July. Regular practice on Thursday evenings at 7:00 will resume in August. The choir needs more ringers. If you are interested in learning bell music and can attend

Thursday rehearsals, please know you are invited. This invitation is open to anyone 12 years and older. However, a younger ringer will be considered by audition.

Baptist Men's upcoming events. Don't forget--on Sunday, Aug. 17, those fathers and children who have RSVP-ed will join the Baptist Men for a special time of fellowship at Dutch's Daughter Restaurant in Frederick from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Fathers, please sign up on the bulletin board and make your checks payable to BBC no later than Aug. 3. Also, this year's Pig Pickin' will be held on Saturday, Sept. 20.

Special speakers for Father's Day. The worship service on Sunday, Jun. 15 was given over to testimonies and songs about fathers in honor of the holiday. Those who spoke about their father's impact on their lives included Laura Luhn, Ellen Williams, and Megan Turner, who spoke about their father and grandfather Junior Luhn. Also giving testimonies were Pastor Joe (Baxter Ivey); June Ivey (Paul Stull); and Bill Morrison, who sang "That Silver-Haired Daddy of Mine".



Bill Morrison on the guitar

Special speakers scheduled for July. The pastors have invited several guest speakers to share special messages with BBC in the upcoming weeks. On Jul. 6, Lee Michael will give an Independence Day message. On Jul. 13, Chaplain Keith Rivers of the Frederick County Detention Center will describe his ministry efforts at the jail, which BBC supports through our mission giving. On Jul. 20, Larry Michael will report on his May mission trip to New Orleans where he, as a part of a missionary team from Redland Baptist, helped in Hurricane Katrina-related reconstruction efforts.

Congratulations to 2008 graduates. BBC extends best wishes to the following individuals for their academic achievements: Stephanie Runkles graduated *cum laude* in May from the Liberty University School of Religion in Lynchburg, VA. Sarah Nicole



Sarah Marsh

Marsh graduated from Northwest High School in Germantown on

Jun. 11. Sarah intends to attend Montgomery College in the fall. Justin Tothill graduated on Jun. 9 from Os-



Justin Tothill

bourne High School in Manassas, VA. Justin hopes to pursue a career in computers.

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.