



# 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

*But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Matthew 19:13).*

The pastors and the *Lantern* staff wish all the members and friends of Barnesville Baptist Church a blessed and fulfilling new year as we enter 2009. May this be a year in which the Lord grants you the desires of your heart as you intentionally, with prayer and service, seek an intimate relationship with Him.

The *Lantern's* primary mission continues to be to inform you about the activities and events in and about BBC, and to minister, in some small way, to your spiritual growth in the Lord. When Jesus ministered to the people, He also paid attention to the children. He encouraged them to come and learn about Him. In this coming year the *Lantern* will include an insert with Bible stories, activities, puzzles, and features of special interest to children. This issue of the *Lantern* features an activity appropriate for children ages 3-6 and one for children ages 7-12, based on the Children's Worship Bulletins produced by Communication Resources, Inc. of Beaufort, South Carolina. The *Lantern* staff will maintain a file of many other activities for these age groups. If these aids are useful to you as you teach your children about the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, please contact one of the pastors or the *Lantern* staff for copies of the additional activities.

We would welcome submissions of age-appropriate narratives, stories, or Bible-based activities for inclusion in the children's page. We would also appreciate any comments or suggestions to improve the *Lantern's* usefulness to you.

*"Delight yourself also in the Lord,  
And He shall give you the desires of your heart"  
(Psalm 37:4).*

God Bless,

Your Pastors



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## Upcoming Events

**January 1** New Year's Day  
**January 7** Business Meeting  
**January 16-17** Men's Rally Services, 7:00 pm  
**January 16** Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends  
**January 17** Baptist Men's Meeting  
**January 18** Baptist Men's Day: Breakfast & Service



*"And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart"  
(Galatians 6:9).*

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

It seems like I just wrote a year-in-review column for 2007, and now the year 2008 has already gone on its way. Time flies when we are having fun and when we are serving our Lord (or is that the same thing?). Here are some of the more interesting and important Church news headlines from the past 12 months:

January: NASCAR came to Barnesville, Baptist Men's Day service with testimonies by wives held despite the ice and snow

February: *Dominion 4* sang at Valentine's Day Dinner

March: Parenting Teens seminar sponsored by Family Ministry, "In Christ Alone" cantata performed

April: Six baptisms held, *Dan Keeton Quartet* sang, spring workday held to clean church, financial planning seminar held

May: testimonies given for Mother's Day service, fried chicken dinner hosted by Baptist Men

June: Missionary Michael Callahan spoke about India, BBC received NAMB commendation for 2007 Annie Armstrong giving, testimonies given for Father's Day service

July: Outrigger Island VBS, offering sent to Manuel & Cindy Batres

August: Operation Mattress Pad sent 110 pads to Baghdad for troops in David Gilliam's unit

September: new Director of Youth position filled by Eric Noegel, Pig Pickin' held

October: BBC hosted MBA meeting for first time, Church officer elections held, Sight & Sound Theatre trip to Lancaster, PA, another oak tree cut down, state missions goal exceeded

November: two baptisms held, turkey potluck dinner enjoyed, Basic Doctrine Sunday School class begun

December: Lottie Moon goal exceeded, "Hope Has Hands" cantata performed, annual Christmas dinner held at Cozy

God has certainly blessed BBC in the past year with many opportunities to engage in discipleship, evangelism, fellowship, ministry, and worship. As we look forward to 2009, with events like the men's, women's, and youth rallies scheduled for the upcoming months, it is exciting to imagine the possibilities the Lord has in store for us as we seek to serve Him in this new year.

*"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works..." (Hebrews 10:24).*

## Member of the Month: Gary Cooley

- ★ Born: February 3, 1969 in Washington, D.C.
- ★ How long a BBC member: since June 1979
- ★ Church offices held: Choir member, Pastoral Search Committee member
- ★ How he first came to BBC: "My parents brought me when I was six months old".
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "Just a Closer Walk With Thee"
- ★ Favorite Pew: "Back pew to the left of the pulpit".
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *Isaiah 40:28-31, Matthew 22:37-40*
- ★ Age at baptism: 10 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Barnesville Baptist
- ★ Most famous person he's met: "Linda Carter- "Wonder Woman"-I was a cameraman for a local studio production at Channel 9 that she was in".
- ★ Most important historical event in his life: election of Barack Obama
- ★ Farthest place he's been from Barnesville: Jerusalem, Israel
- ★ Most important technology invented in his lifetime: Internet, fiber optics
- ★ Childhood heroes: his parents
- ★ Hobbies: singing, playing the trombone, biking, hiking



## January Birthdays

- 1 Jack Cooley
- 2 Manuel Batres, Ruth Bullock
- 4 Bob Lillard
- 5 Dave Thomas
- 8 Flora Gilliam, Scott Foster,  
Dan Yates
- 9 Pat Elam
- 10 Lois Hogue, Rebecca Thomas
- 11 Jesse Yates
- 15 Sara Oden
- 18 James Thomas
- 19 Nikki Holcomb
- 20 Julia Cole
- 21 Robert Fowler
- 22 Leslie Foster
- 23 Isaac Madison
- 26 TJ Marsh, Stacey Tothill



## Business Meeting Briefs

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

- The Church accepted the Finance Committee's motion to approve its 2009 Budget proposal.
- A bypass motion to install new carpeting in the sanctuary and balcony Petersen's Carpet & Flooring of Frederick, MD and contract the Church Furniture Store of Rocky Mount, VA to re-upholster the pews was approved.
- The Church approved a motion to replace the Nursery carpeting with a hardwood-toned covering from Petersen's Carpet & Flooring.

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

- The Treasurer will submit his Annual Report on the 2008 fiscal year.
- The Pastor will appoint the Deacons to serve as the Select Committee on Auditing, which will review the 2008 finances and report at the March Business Meeting.

## Prayer Concerns

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

Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother

Bud Baumbaugh

Suzanne Neal

Pat Elam

Bobbie Burris

Rev. Michael Carmin

Jo Clingan

Mary Rice

Cpl. Seth Rogers, Jo Blalock's grandson

Arlene Luhn

David Barton

Randy Lease

Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Raymond Money, Helen Magaha, Jim Cole, Jasmine Budderball, Vaughn Simmons, Edwin Dudley

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



**Preacher aerobics**



## News You Can Use

*Two baptisms in November.* Barnesville Baptist recently welcomed four people into our Church family: On Nov. 30, Michael Oden and Ray Randall followed Jesus' example and were baptized



*Ray Randall and Pastor Joe*



*Pastor Joe and Michael Oden*

by Pastors Joe & Randy, the water courtesy of the UMCVFD. Earlier in the month, Dick and Nancy Wells transferred their letters from Tricounty Baptist and were received into membership. We are so pleased to have so many people make decisions to follow the Lord and unite with our congregation!

*Snow policy.* As we enter the winter months, we would like to let all our members and visitors know that BBC will be open on Sunday mornings as Pastor Randy is only a sidewalk away, and will hold services for anyone who can walk or safely travel during inclement weather. A BBC local weather/road condition message will be posted on the answering machine. We urge everyone to exercise caution and good judgment in deciding whether or not it is safe for your family to travel on a given Sunday. We ask that Sunday School teachers or other leaders call in their absence to the Church office at their earliest convenience.

*"Hope Has Hands" Cantata performed.* Thanks to Paul Foster and the Adult Choir for their excellent musical presentation on Dec. 21. The cantata presented a joyous Christmas message, explaining how Jesus was sent to us over 2000 years ago, and how it is our joy and privilege to share this good news with the whole world. Scott Foster, Leslie Foster, and Penny Barton sang solos, while Lee Michael and Margie Noegel



*Cantata narrators "Simeon" and "Anna"*

narrated as the prophets Simeon and Anna. The Choir also performed the cantata at the Sunrise Center Service on Dec. 14. Both audiences appreciated the music. If you like to sing, please consider joining the choir and making a joyful noise unto the Lord on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm.

*Call for submissions.* As the *Lantern* begins its eighth calendar year, the Editor would like to remind the readership that we accept original poems, song lyrics and other appropriate materials for publication. Please contact the Editor with questions and for more specific guidelines.

*Baptist Men's Day to cap three-day Men's Rally.* Join the men of BBC in a three-day series of rallies focusing on men's spirituality from Jan. 16-18. The theme of this event is "Where Are the Men"? Speakers at the Friday and Saturday 7:00 pm services include Pastor Danny Moore of Towne Baptist Church and Pastor Ellis Moore of Georgia Avenue Baptist Church. On Jan. 18, the Baptist Men will cook breakfast for the Church to start off our annual Baptist Men's Day celebration. Join the men at 8:30 am for a buffet of pancakes, eggs, and other good food, and then get ready for a singing performance from the *MOB: Men of Barnesville* choir. The highlight of the Sunday service will be a message from Ian Godwin, a well-known Christian businessman, sportsman, and motivational speaker. Please pray for this event and invite your friends and family to join us.

*Lottie Moon goal exceeded.* Thank you for your prayerful, sacrificial giving towards foreign missions. Offerings toward BBC's \$1760 goal have now exceeded the \$2300 mark. According to the SBC, every penny given to Lottie Moon is used to support Southern Baptist missionaries as they share the Gospel overseas. The offering represents 50 percent of the International Mission Board's total annual income. Won't you consider how you can contribute to building God's Kingdom throughout the coming year?

*Men's and Women's groups celebrate Christmas.* The Baptist Men assembled 30 gift bags for the children of the Church at their December meeting and distributed them during the Dec. 21 morning worship service. The WMU assembled 15 Christmas baskets for shut-ins. Consider joining the men's or women's group this coming year. The WMU gathers on the second Monday morning of each month, and the Baptist Men normally meet on the third Saturday of the month for breakfast.



*WMU members Flora Gilliam and Virginia Magaha preparing Christmas baskets*

*Birthday updates requested.* The *Lantern* enjoys sharing members' and friends' birthdays with the Church family. Please help us keep our records current by contacting the Church office with any names and dates we may lack, especially if you started attending within the last year.

*Troops in Iraq say "thank you".* To show their appreciation for foam mattress pads sent to them by Barnesville Baptist Church, the officers and soldiers of the 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Infantry Division sent BBC an American flag which flew over Forward Operating Base Loyalty, Baghdad, Iraq on Oct. 27, 2008; a certificate of authenticity for the flag; and a colorful picture of the unit that received the pads with personal notes of gratitude written on it. These items will be framed and displayed at BBC. Thanks be to God for His protection of these soldiers during their deployment to Iraq.