



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

May 2009, Volume 7, No. 12

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

The Pastors' Spotlight

"But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel" (Acts 9:15).

In *Acts 9:15*, the Lord instructed Ananias to help Saul soon after his conversion experience on the road to Damascus. And, as they say, "the rest is history". Saul became the great Apostle Paul who carried the gospel of the risen Christ through Asia, into Europe, and finally to Rome, the city of emperors. He left huge footprints as he ministered and planted churches. At least 13 New Testament books were letters, or epistles, penned by Paul.

In April, longtime BBC member Flora Gilliam embarked on a "Footsteps of Paul" tour. Flora loves the Scriptures and has at one time or another studied all of Paul's writings. So, when the opportunity arose to visit the actual sites of Paul's ministry, she and a friend, Marge, joined Lon Solomon's "In The Footsteps of St. Paul Tour" in Newark, NJ on Apr. 19, beginning an 11-day exciting, strenuous, and exhilarating trip crossing thousands of miles and spanning 2000 years of time. Their first stop was in Philippi (*Acts 16:12*) where Paul led Lydia to Christ and where he and Silas were thrown into jail (*Acts 16:22-34*). Flora said the jail was awful, small and dark and rocky. Next they visited sites in Thessalonica and Berea (*Acts 17:1-15*). In Berea, Flora stood on the same marble synagogue steps where Paul preached. If rocks could talk! Next stop was the ancient city of Corinth where Paul spent 1.5 years in ministry (*Acts 18:11*). They sailed to the island of Rhodes (*Acts 21:1*), to the ancient city of Ephesus (*Acts 19:1-41*), and then to Athens where Paul addressed the philosophers at the Aeropagus (*Acts 17:19*). The final leg of the trip took them to Rome. They visited the Colosseum where thousands of Christians were martyred for their faith even 300 years after Jesus' resurrection. They also visited St. Paul's Outside the Walls, the great church built over the traditional burial place of the Apostle Paul. Flora returned home to Boyds on Apr. 30, tired, reflective, and appreciative of what God accomplished through His humble servant Paul.

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
- May Birthdays, Page 3
- Prayer Concerns, Page 3
- Business Meeting Briefs, Page 3
- Chicken Dinner Announcement, Page 3
- News You Can Use, Page 4
- COTCD Cartoon, Page 4
- May 2009 Calendar, Page 5

Upcoming Events

- May 6** Business Meeting
- May 10** Mother's Day
- May 15** Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends
- May 16** Baptist Men's Chicken Dinner
- May 25** Memorial Day, Church Office closed



"...The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches" (Matthew 13:31-32).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

I can tell what season it is by looking at my car. In winter, it is frosted white, covered with road salt. Now that my hood is a lima bean green hue--thanks to the pollen--I know that it is springtime again. (I have heard rumors that my car is actually painted blue). With the natural world just starting up again after months of slumber, it seems too early to begin thinking that this fresh cycle of growth and renewal will conclude in six months. Yet to reap the future harvest, now is the time to sow. This law of the harvest is found throughout Scripture and applies to all sorts of situations, from agriculture to learning how to walk closer with God, from managing your finances to mapping out career goals.

There are four principles in the law of the harvest: you reap *if* you sow, you reap *what* you sow, you reap *after* you sow, and you reap *more* than you sow. God works in our lives according to these principles in most situations most of the time. Although He can always suddenly and miraculously intervene in our lives, we do not normally see God work that way, so it is important to understand the law of the harvest.

First, you reap if you sow. Rewards and blessings are the result of investing your time, energy, and resources towards a goal. Those who do not put forth the required work, sacrifice, and discipline will not receive what they seek. The Psalmist explained that those who are hungry were to, "...sow fields and plant vineyards, that they may yield a fruitful harvest" (Psalm 107:37). In contrast, the Proverbs warn that, "*The lazy man will not plow because of winter; He will beg during harvest and have nothing*" (Proverbs 20:4).

Second, you reap what you sow. There are many popular sayings that restate this principle: What goes around comes around, what's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander, garbage in/garbage out. The Apostle Paul cautioned the Galatian Christians, "*Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap*" (Galatians 6:7). Those who spend their energy blessing others and showing forth love will receive the same in return, while those who are selfish and bitter should not be surprised that they do not experience peace and joy in their lives.

Third, you reap after you sow. Although we often expect immediate results, gratification is not instant--all good things come to those who wait. Again, Paul encouraged the Galatians to persevere despite difficulty. "*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).

Lastly, you reap more than you sow. No one can outgive or out bless like God, who is, "...a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6). Just as for every seed planted a much larger crop is returned, as a result of our faith-driven investment of good works and service to God's Kingdom, we will receive an overflowing return. "...*He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully*" (II Corinthians 9:6).

Every Christian who seeks to follow God should strive to live out the law of the harvest. It will only be after a lifetime of Spirit-empowered effort and discipline that we can look back and see how we have grown in Christ-likeness and prospered in the plans and purposes God has set forth for our lives.

Member of the Month: Rebecca Umstead

Editor's note: Rebecca is our most senior member with three-quarters of a century of tenure and counting

- ★ Born: April 2, 1922 in Sellman, Maryland
- ★ How long a BBC member: since about 1933
- ★ Church offices held: Cards Ministry
- ★ How she first came to BBC: "My mother sent me".
- ★ Favorite Hymns: "The Old Rugged Cross"
- ★ Favorite Pew: left side, third row from the back
- ★ Favorite Bible verse: *Matthew 7:12*
- ★ Age at baptism: about 10 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Barnesville Baptist
- ★ Most famous person she's met: Arturo Toscanini, Italian conductor
- ★ Personal claim to fame: she is proud of her two children
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor
- ★ Farthest place she's been from Barnesville: Cuba
- ★ Story on first name: named after an aunt who died in childbirth
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: computers
- ★ Childhood hero: Franklin D. Roosevelt
- ★ Hobbies: reading, quilting, jigsaw puzzles



May Birthdays

- 1 Franklin Ennis, Frankie Fowler
- 2 Frank Fowler Jr., Heather Cross, Eli Watson
- 12 Nathaniel Madison
- 13 Bud Baumbaugh, Joseph Ball
- 15 Eddie Fowler
- 17 Leroy Watkins
- 18 Sandy Watkins
- 22 Vicki Crowe
- 24 Nicholas Cole, Wade Williams
- 25 Elsie Allnut
- 28 Paul Foster
- 29 Quipsa Mayorga
- 30 Sandy Gilliam



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in April:

- The Church accepted the membership applications of Paul Keriakos, Vicki Keriakos, and Ashley Babyak, each by profession of faith pending baptism on April 19.
- The Church approved the membership applications of Bill Williams and Janna Williams, both coming by statement.
- The Worship Committee was tasked to review the Pulpit Supply budget line item to account for increased spending in that area.

Expected at the May Business Meeting:

- The Worship Committee will offer a motion to redesignate \$900 of spending accounted to Pulpit Supply budget line item to the Missions Support budget line item.

Prayer Concerns

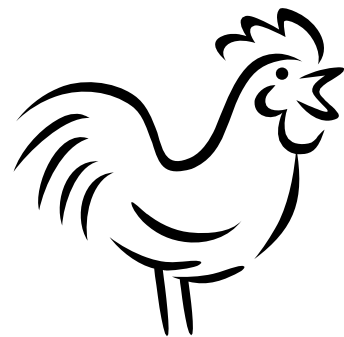
Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother
Bud Baumbaugh
Bobbie Burris
Tom Dillingham
Junior & Arlene Luhn
Randy Lease
Lindsay Baumbaugh
David Bennett
Spc. Mandie Conway, stationed in Iraq
Junior Collins, Janice & Sherri's uncle
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Raymond Money,
Jasmine Budderball, Vaughn Simmons, Edwin Dudley,
Deborah Corbishley, sister of Vicki Keriakos, Roxy, Bud
Baumbaugh's niece, Terri Winn
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).*

Chicken Dinner Announcement

*The Baptist Men invite the Church family to a
Chicken Dinner*



*Saturday, May 16 in the Fellowship Hall
Dinner will be served at 5:00 pm
Bring a side dish to share*

*Enter a strawberry-based dessert (pie, cake, ice cream,
tarts, etc.) into the Strawberry Dessert Contest!*

News You Can Use

Easter activity report. As of press time, Barnesville's plan to contribute \$1600 toward its 2009 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal was surpassed--\$1780 were collected to support the missionaries of the North American Mission Board (NAMB) who spread the good news of the gospel to people across the United States and Canada. Many of our state convention and local association leaders receive support through the NAMB, so this offering truly makes a difference in our local communities. In addition, the WMU much appreciated the contributions that helped them fill 13 overflowing Easter baskets for area shut-ins. Thank you for your prayerful generosity as you supported God's Kingdom in these many ways this Easter season.

Workday leaves a streak-free shine. Thanks so much to the Baptist Men and other BBC members who helped take care of the church grounds and interior on Apr. 18. Due to everyone's cooperation, we now have a church with windows washed inside and out, the lawn raked free of leaves and branches, and flowerbeds and playground weed-free, and dead branches and tree limbs cleaned up.

VBS 2009 dates set. Believe it or not, Barnesville Baptist is already preparing for this year's Vacation Bible School. Please attend the VBS planning meeting scheduled for May 18 at 7:00 pm if you would like to participate by serving in a classroom, or in music, crafts, recreation, or snack. Keep the evenings of



Jul. 27-31 open on your calendar and begin praying for this most important outreach event.

Women's Rally report. BBC was pleased to sponsor a Women's Rally on Apr. 3-5. Our keynote speaker Gayla Parker, WMU Director of the BCM/D, is an energetic and passionate speaker who discussed the biblical legacy of women and referenced Esther, Huldah and the



N.O.B.L.E. woman of *Proverbs 31*. Gayla shared her testimony and life experiences, which include 10 years as a pastor's wife in Arkansas and 14 years as a missionary to the Philippines. Flora Gilliam and Ollie Baumbaugh also shared their personal testimonies about God's faithfulness in their lives. Cris Driver and Iris Rogers provided special music and many other BBC women volunteered to make this a very successful worship time. Joyce Dunn, the BBC leader of the Family Ministry, wants to express her appreciation to all who worked during the rally and to those who shared family pictures and memorabilia.

Three baptisms occurred on Apr. 19. The baptismal waters were thrice stirred on the third Sunday of April. After celebrating the Lord's Supper, Paul Keriakos, Vicki Keriakos, and Ashley Babyak were baptized and received church membership. We are so pleased to have so many people make decisions for the Lord and join our church family!



WMU collecting health kit supplies. Please join the WMU and the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware in their outreach ministry to migrant workers, prison inmates, homeless people, and seamen. The WMU is preparing health kits that consist of a new, large bath towel and washcloth, an adult toothbrush, toothpaste, a large comb (not a rattail comb), a full-sized shampoo bottle and bar of soap, and deodorant. If you would like to contribute items for the health kits, please bring them to church no later than Sunday, May 10.

Youth Rally coming. Join the youth of BBC for a day of excitement on Saturday, Jun. 13. Starting at noon until 7:00 pm, there will be live music, food, speakers, and games for the youth to enjoy. Please pray for this event and invite the young people you know to participate.

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Due to the current economic condition of our church, we are now providing 'first class' seating for all tithers."