



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

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes: Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they" (Matthew 6:25-26)?

Don't worry! How many times have we said those words to others when times were tough and circumstances seemed to be getting worse? It is easy to say "don't worry", but it requires real faith and trust to live worry-free lives. It is no secret that God loves you. It would follow then that God has a plan to care for you. We know this because Jesus is Truth and He taught it. So, how do we access God's care when life's circumstances seem to require us to worry? Jesus was really very clear about that, *"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33)*. Being worry-free is essentially a matter of priorities. When our life focus (worldview) begins with God and we worship Him with reverential fear, praise Him for His holiness and goodness, thank Him for His mercy and blessings, then all other life issues are entrusted to His care. Remember it was Jesus who said, *"...I am come that they may have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10)*.

The Apostle Paul encouraged believers not to worry. He knew that God's peace was accessible in every situation life brings to us; *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7)*.

God Bless,

Your Pastors



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Upcoming Events

August 5 Business Meeting
August 15 Baptist Men's Father-Child Banquet



"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it" (Matthew 13:45-46).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

If you didn't attend VBS this week, you missed out on some very interesting lessons about the life of the Apostle Peter. On Monday, we found out that Peter didn't start out as a pillar of the early church. Instead, when Jesus first met him, Peter was a Galilean fisherman named Simon who was going about his business. However, Jesus took one look at this extremely ordinary man and his brother, and said, "...Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." (*Matthew 4:19*).

Jesus at this early date gave Simon the name of Peter, meaning "stone" (*John 1:42*). Peter was by no means a rock of stability in the first years he followed Jesus. Throughout the week, we learned how Peter had moments of great faith but also incidents where his big mouth got him in trouble.

On Tuesday, Peter's faith led him to walk on the Sea of Galilee with Jesus, but Peter began to sink when he took his focus off of Christ and became distracted by the winds and waves about him (*Matthew 14:22-33*). From examples like this, Peter understood that this Teacher was no mere religious scholar but the Son of God who was worthy of his worship.

VBS students saw on Wednesday that Peter talked a big game in *Luke 22* about following Jesus and standing firm despite the approaching dangers that arrived on the night of Jesus' arrest. Christ cautioned Peter that he would be tested and would fail, even though Peter claimed that he would be braver and more loyal to Jesus than anyone else. By the end of the night, however, Peter had denied even knowing who Jesus was, and wept bitterly when he realized that he had denied his Lord three times. This episode taught our students how important and challenging it is to confess Christ in a world that is hostile to His gospel.

Thursday was the lesson where we saw Peter boomerang back. Jesus could have been rightfully angry with Peter for his disloyalty and lack of faith during His arrest, trial, and crucifixion. Instead, Jesus forgave Peter and restored the fellowship between them, confirming three times in *John 21:15-19* that Peter loved Him. With this affirmation of love, Christ charged Peter to "feed My sheep" and to again "Follow Me". God's call on Peter's life to serve His Kingdom remained constant, despite the setbacks and disappointments that occurred. This story helped the students understand that God has a purpose and plan for each person who follows Christ, and that when we fail and tire, God will lift us up and restore us to complete the good works He has planned for our lives.

We saw a changed man in Peter on Friday, our final night. After years of following Christ and learning to become more like Him, the growth and maturity in Peter's life was evident. No longer the impulsive, hotheaded fisherman from Galilee, Peter was a bold proclaimer of the Gospel despite the adversity he faced from the Jewish religious leaders in *Acts 4*. By obeying God's will for his life, Peter was living up to the name Christ gave him when they first met. God literally opened doors for Peter because of his obedience in *Acts 12*, saving him from jail and certain death.

Peter is certainly a great role model for our VBS kids to have learned about this week. By looking at Peter's walk with Jesus Christ, we can know that we too can Follow Him!, Worship Him!, Confess Him!, Serve Him!, and Obey Him!

Member of the Month: Laura Luhn

- ★ Born: November 4, 1961 in Washington, DC
- ★ How long a BBC member: since May 2008
- ★ Church offices held: reads the announcements on Sunday morning
- ★ How she first came to BBC: "My mother asked me to attend one Sunday with her and dad".
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "How Great Thou Art"
- ★ Favorite Pew: Fourth pew from the back on the left.
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *Ecclesiastes 3:11-8, Matthew 28:16-20*
- ★ Age at baptism: 46 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Poolesville United Methodist Church
- ★ Most famous person she's met: Eunice Shriver
- ★ Personal claim to fame: "When I lived in Lincoln, Montana, my former husband and I used to go up in the hills and spy on the Unabomber. Of course we had no idea he was the Unabomber at that time. We just knew him as the 'hermit on the hill'".
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: 9/11
- ★ Farthest place she's been from Barnesville: Germany, Austria, and Alaska
- ★ Story on first name: "My parents named me after my mother's best friend from childhood, Laura Poling".
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: the internet
- ★ Childhood hero: "My parents, Mickey Mantle, and Lassie".
- ★ Hobbies: "Jazzercise, gardening, reading, swimming in the ocean, seashell collecting, and playing with my guinea pig".



August Birthdays

1 John Brennan
3 John Michael Williams
5 Suzanne Neal
7 Matthew Ennis
11 Rick Thomas
12 Madison Marsh
14 Will Pleasants IV
17 Pauline Fowler, Stephanie Runkles
19 Kyle Marsh
20 Bill Williams
21 Edith Fowler, Jamie Thomas
26 Lee Michael, Shayna Campbell
28 Ann Bennett
29 Paul Meissner
30 Matthew Cole
31 Bob Runkles



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in July:

- The Education Committee was tasked to review the Youth Ministry budget line item to account for increased spending in that area as a result of the Youth Rally.

Expected at the August Business Meeting:

- The Pastor will nominate five members (Randy & Sandy Gilliam, Lee Michael, June Ivey, and himself) to serve as messengers to the Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting, being held on Oct. 10 at Seven Locks Baptist Church.

Prayer Concerns

Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother
Bud Baumbaugh
Junior & Arlene Luhn
David Bennett
Spc. Mandie Conway & Airman Jeff Davis, stationed in Iraq
James Meekin, recovering from an auto accident
Carolyn Miller, Janna Williams' mother
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Raymond Money, Vaughn Simmons, Roxy, Bud Baumbaugh's niece, Terri Winn, Virginia Thomas, Dave Thomas' mother
Our missionary friends: Manuel & Cindy Batres (Guatemala), Steve & Emily Ruffner (Campus Crusade), David & Cheryl Shive (Faith Home Ministries)
Our nation and its leaders
All of our military men and women

VBS 2010 Sneak Peek



*"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).*

"Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives to all generously and without criticizing, and it will be given to him" (James 1:5).

News You Can Use

Vacation Bible School a great success!

Thank you to everyone who helped make Vacation Bible School 2009 (Boomerang Express: It All Comes Back to Jesus) a success, especially to those in the classroom, crafts, recreation, snack, and behind the scenes. Your



Singing "Boomerang Express" with the hand movements was a hit with the kids



service in building God's Kingdom and sharing His Gospel is appreciated.

The Lord certainly blessed us with good weather this weather, the rain either coming before or after our evening activities. The total enrollment

this year was 72, and a missions offering of \$1070 was collected and will be sent to support David and Cheryl Shive's (pictured above left) work with local area foster children at Faith Home Ministries.

Fall activities to start up soon. September is coming sooner than you think. Activities that will resume from their summer hiatus include the Friday Night movie, bell choir practices on Thursdays and the lunches with Watkins Cabinet. Watch for details in next month's *Lantern*.

July 19 baptism held. The baptismal waters were stirred on the third Sunday of July. Following Jesus' example, Linda Roberts was baptized and received church membership. We are so pleased to have Linda join our church family!



Gospel Travelers in concert. Invite your friends and family to enjoy the Southern gospel stylings of the Gospel Travelers, an eight-member, Frederick-based group who will be singing at BBC on Sunday, Sept. 13 at 6:00 pm. A love offering will be taken after the performance.

Chosen People missionary to speak. Barnesville will be privileged to have Rabbi Neal Surasky, a missionary for Chosen People Ministries, speak in the morning worship service on Sept. 20. We have certainly enjoyed having speakers from Chosen People educate us about their efforts to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with their Jewish brethren, and Rabbi Surasky's message will be no less illuminating.

Missions giving recognized. For the second year in a row, BBC was recognized by the North American Mission Board for our giving to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. In 2008, as in 2007, Barnesville Baptist 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's upcoming events. Don't forget--on Saturday, Aug. 15, those fathers and children who have RSVP-ed for the 7th Annual Father-Child Banquet will join the Baptist Men for a special time of fellowship at Red Horse 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 Sunday, Aug. 2. Also, this year's Pig Pickin' will be held on Saturday, Sept. 19.

Library news. Living in these stressful times can make any of us feel anxious and fearful. Joyce Myers addresses this in her book *Be Anxious for Nothing*, explaining how to draw on the peace of God in the midst of negative circumstances instead of responding with restlessness, fear or apprehension. This remarkable book will help you develop a deeper, more meaningful relationship with your heavenly Father as you understand how He cares for you. For the middle reader, Eleanor Clark's books entitled *Mary Elizabeth: Welcome to America* and *Victoria Grace: Courageous Patriot* are historical fiction based on the true-life family history of Mrs. Clark. These heart-warming, character-building stories highlight the nation's Christian heritage of faith.

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp

