



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

October 2009, Volume 8, No. 5

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

The Pastors' Spotlight

"Show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day" (Psalm 25:4-5).

Many of you have had some experience with a GPS device in your car. This is a most helpful tool for getting correct directions to places you may not have been before. Besides the map of the route, the GPS has a voice that gives instructions, e.g. "turn right in 200 yards". These devices are almost always right and very helpful. When the driver of a car using the GPS deviates from the directions given in the map and by the voice, the voice (terrible Tilly to some of us) becomes agitated and "recalculates" directions. The point being, if you do not follow the directions, you may get lost and find yourself in an unknown and strange place. At any rate you will not arrive at your desired destination.

There is for us, on our journey in this life, a direction-finder much superior to the GPS. The Lord God, our Creator and Redeemer, has given us the Bible, a map so to speak, of how to conduct our lives in this world so that we truly enjoy an abundant life and have fellowship with Him. Since we are created in His image, and are therefore moral creatures, the Scriptures teach us right and wrong and lead us to His plan of redemption in Christ. Besides the written Word, there is for believers the indwelling spoken Word, the Holy Spirit. He teaches and instructs, and helps us make good life decisions.

Self-inflicted troubles and suffering come to us when we rebel against God's plan and authority. More than 10 times in the Scriptures, when people challenged Jesus' teaching or His behavior, Jesus said, "Have you not read..." (Matthew 19:4)? When we make decisions hurtful to ourselves or others, we should hear the Lord asking us, "Have you not read the Scripture..." (Matthew 21:42)? Our response should be, "Lord, lead me in Your truth and teach me..." (Psalm 25:5).

In This Edition:

The Pastors' Spotlight, Page 1
Upcoming Events, Page 1
The Pew Perspective, Page 2
Member of the Month, Page 2
October Birthdays, Page 3
Prayer Concerns, Page 3
Business Meeting Briefs, Page 3
COTCD Cartoon, Page 3
News You Can Use, Page 4
October 2009 Calendar, Page 5

Upcoming Events

October 7 138th Annual Business Meeting
October 10 74th MBA Annual Meeting
October 16 Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends
October 17 Baptist Men's Meeting, 7:30 am
October 31 Halloween



"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard" (Matthew 20:1-2).

God Bless,

Your Pastors



The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Do you know what happens to a corn stalk when it stops growing? The answer is in the fields all around us. The corn is turning brown and dying, having finished its season of growth. All around us the signs of fall are here—shorter days, cooler nights, and hints of autumnal color breaking up the still-dominant green hue of the forest leaves.

For the Christian, we like the corn stalks must also continue to grow, or else face spiritual winter. Throughout the New Testament, the disciples of Jesus Christ are strongly admonished to continue growing and developing in spiritual matters, ever more closely seeking after God. The Apostle Peter wrote in both his letters to continue growing in Christ. In *I Peter 2:2*, new Christians were urged to, “*as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby*”. Peter repeats this admonition for growth in *II Peter 1:5-7*, telling the church to lay hold of God’s promises by diligently, “*...add[ing] to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.*” Peter was challenging the Christians of his day to strain like an athlete at top speed to increase their ability. These elements of growth are to stack on top of one another, building up a Christian in his faith, by which Peter meant a foundational trust and reliance upon Christ for salvation. To be added in an abounding, full, generous, and lavish manner were: *virtue*—the ability to live a morally excellent life of heroic deeds for the Kingdom’s benefit; *knowledge*—diligent study and pursuit of God’s truth in the Scriptures; *self-control*—discipline over one’s flesh, passions, and desires, being the master over them and not their servant; *perseverance*—patience and endurance in doing right despite trial and temptation; *godliness*—living reverently, loyally, and obediently before God; *brotherly kindness*—affection and sacrifice for others; *love*—self-denying concern and effort for some else’s best interests.

Those who fail to grow in this manner Peter warned would be “*barren*” and “*unfruitful*” (*II Peter 1:8*). Jesus Himself first taught the absolute necessity for growth, as He demonstrated in *Matthew 21:18-19*, cursing the roadside fig tree that had no fruit. Jesus spoke to fig tree, “*...Let no fruit grow on you ever again*”, and immediately thereafter the fig tree withered away. Instead of sitting idle in the spiritual winter of complacency, we are blessed, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to continue growing in Christ all our lives. Let us strive to live such that we, like the Thessalonians, can be “*...boast[ed of] among the churches of God...*” because our “*...faith grows exceedingly...*” (*II Thessalonians 1:3*).

Member of the Month: Dick Wells

- ★ Born: January 19, 1945 in Washington, DC
- ★ How long a BBC member: since November 2008
- ★ Church offices held: VBS teacher
- ★ How he first came to BBC: “Nancy and I were looking for a new church home after my mother’s illness. Since Pastors Joe & Randy had been friends to us for a long time, it only seemed natural”.
- ★ Favorite Hymn: “Because He Lives”
- ★ Favorite Pew: third or fourth on the left side
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *Ephesians 2:8-9*
- ★ Age at baptism: 17 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Central Baptist Church (PG County)
- ★ Most famous person he’s met: “I’ve met most of the local, state, and congressional figures at the Frederick Fair”.
- ★ Personal claim to fame: “being a husband, father, and grandfather”.
- ★ Most important historical event in his life: “President Bush standing, with the fireman, on top of the rubble pile after 9/11”.
- ★ Farthest place he’s been from Barnesville: Hawaii
- ★ Most important technology invented in his lifetime: cell phone
- ★ Childhood heroes: cowboy folksinger Pick Temple and Roy Rogers
- ★ Hobbies: golf, working in the yard



October Birthdays

- 1 Ashley Babyak
- 6 Michaela Driver
- 7 Iris Rodgers
- 8 Karian Mitchell
- 10 David Shive
- 11 Zoe Thomas
- 13 Peter Cole, Brooke Ahalt
- 17 Sierra Tothill
- 23 Ray Randall, John Shreve
- 25 Judy Wright
- 30 Samantha Fowler, Amber Ennis



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in September:

- There was no old business pending before the Church.

Expected at the 138th Annual Business Meeting:

- A resolution to begin the annual budget process for 2010 will be offered; the standing committees will report to the Treasurer by Nov. 1.
- A motion will be made to nominate Pastor Randy & Sandy Gilliam, as messengers to the BCM/D Annual Convention, being held Nov. 8-10 in Towson, MD.
- The Outreach Committee will report on a motion to plan a Church Christmas party.
- Note: all outstanding motions not acted on at the October Business Meeting must be re-introduced for any further consideration by the Church.

Prayer Concerns

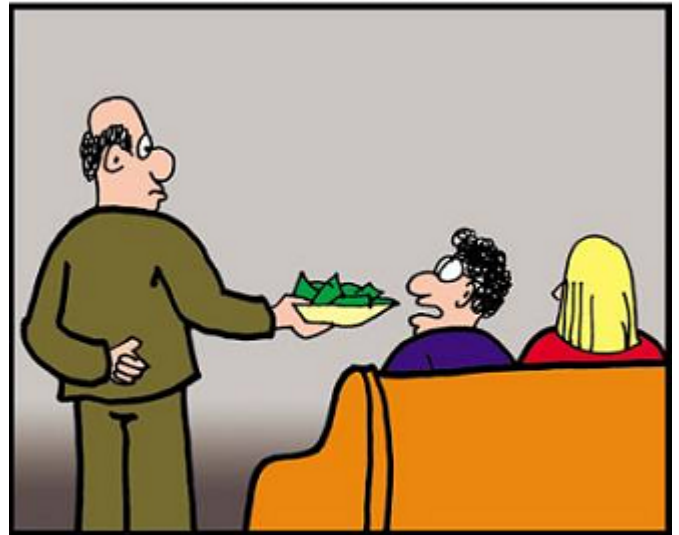
Margie Stream, recovering from surgery
Pastor Joe Ivey
Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother
Junior & Arlene Luhn
Spc. Mandie Conway & Airman Jeff Davis, stationed in Iraq
Capt. Frank Skrypak, Mat Conway, 1 Lt. Shana Kayne-Beach, stationed in Afghanistan
Lindsey Baumbaugh
Megan Turner, medical student at West Virginia University
Terry Bernardo
Mike & JoAnn Griffin, friends of Penny Barton
Dot Rulin
Nko Tachie-Menson and his mother Vanassa, friends of Janice Cole
James Meekin, recovering from an auto accident
Carolyn Miller, Janna Williams' mother
Virginia Thomas, Dave Thomas' mother
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Raymond Money, Vaughn Simmons, Terri Winn, 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



*"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



"Aren't you the pastor of the church next door?"

News You Can Use

Pig Pickin' a great time for all. The Baptist Men sponsored their annual pig roast on Saturday, Sept. 19. About 65 people attended and helped eat our 95 lb.-pound pig, cooked by Randy Gilliam, Frank Fowler, Larry Michael, and Ed Williams. In our apple dessert contest, six people submitted



fellowship.

entries. The first-place winner was Dot Fowler, who baked an Apple Pecan Cheesecake. Second place was awarded to Ellen Williams for her Apple Cake. Thanks to judges Randy Gilliam, Josh Hoffman, Laura Luhn, and TJ Marsh for evaluating each entry. Thanks to the Baptist Men for hosting this time of

Get ready for Operation Christmas Child. Again this year we have the privilege of sharing the love and hope of Jesus Christ with needy children around the world. This wonderful shoebox ministry has been a blessing to needy children and a blessing to those ladies who pack the boxes for the children. The WMU needs your donations no later than Nov. 8. Stayed tuned for additional details.

New church directory planned. Since it has been three years since the current version of the church directory was published, instead of our regular, six-month update, a brand-new edition will be created. Everyone is invited to have new individual and family pictures taken. Anyone with corrections or updates for their entry in the church directory should contact Lee Michael before the end of September. The new directories will be distributed in October.

Library news. Start off the new school year with these titles: *Basics for Believers* by Stephen Olford is a comprehensive guide to the foundation of the Christian faith. It covers the essential truths of what new and old believers alike should believe and why they should believe it. For children, Beverly Lewis' books the *Cul-de-Sac Kids* will send your 7 to 10-year olds on an adventure to Blossom Hill Lane where they will encounter realistic and funny predicaments that point to Jesus as the ultimate mystery-solver.

Book fair coming. Coming in November, BBC will have a book fair featuring a wide assortment of Christian books and materials from Lifeway publishers available for everyone, kids through adults. Purchase a book for yourself or as a gift, donate a book to the library, or nominate a title for the church to purchase.

Committee heads to hold special meeting. The chairmen of the five standing committees will meet promptly after the morning worship on Sunday, Oct. 11 to briefly review the upcoming 2010 budget process. Any interested Church member is welcome to attend.

Supporting missions in Maryland/Delaware. The State Missions offering is a vital part of the ongoing task of building God's Kingdom. This year's theme is "Tell the Story of Hope". The convention-wide goal this year is \$215,000. BBC's 2010 goal is \$1,200. Please prayerfully consider how you can support state missions.

Support for Chosen People ministry appreciated. The BBC congregation continues to be generous to mission efforts that extend the gospel message to everyone. Thank you for your reception of Rabbi Neal Surasky on Sept. 20. A tape of his testimony is available if you have friends curious about Yeshua and how one can be both Jewish and Christian.

American Music Theatre trip set. On Nov. 12, join BBC members and friends for a trip to Lancaster, PA to see American Music Theatre's Christmas Show. Please RSVP to Jane Fowler no later than Nov 8. The \$78 cost includes bus transportation, show admission, and dinner. Please make your check out to BBC.

Luncheon to recognize new members Oct. 18. Plan to participate in this Sunday afternoon luncheon fellowship to welcome and get to know the many new members of BBC. More information will be coming, but try to keep this date open.

Bell Choir news. The Bell Choir is currently working on Thanksgiving and Christmas music. If you have an interest in music (no experience necessary) and would like to join the choir please contact Mrs. Ann Bennett, Director. The Bell Choir has room for more ringers.