



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 good to praise the Lord and make music to Your name, O Most High, to proclaim Your love in the morning and Your faithfulness at night" (Psalm 92:1-2).

If you were to describe the past month, the terms would no doubt include: snow, wind, cold, ice, winter-like. That about covers February 2010. Although, as this is being written, the sun is shining brightly, the sky is a beautiful blue, and melting is happening all around. We could say then that each passing day brings us closer and closer to spring. What a joyful thought that is!

Certainly winter days often bring challenges to our temperament, our safety, and our general sense of well-being. Many people are familiar with the "winter blues", sometimes called seasonal affective disorder (S.A.D.). Circumstances also affect our days in either a positive or negative manner. How do we combat the fluctuations in mood, weather, and circumstances in order to keep a positive, godly outlook on life? The psalmist gives a remarkably easy way to assure each of your days begins and ends in a godly way. Praise God every morning for His mercy and loving kindness, "...proclaim your love in the morning...", and praise and thank Him every evening for His faithfulness to you, "...proclaim your faithfulness at night".

When we take a moment to begin our day remembering how much God loves us and praising Him for His mercy and kindness and blessings to us, that puts everything that makes up that day in the context of God's love. We also understand that whatever happens He is very much with us and our ready help in every situation. Then, at the end of the day, if we take a moment and thank Him for His faithfulness to us throughout the day, we can rest in the assurance that our heavenly Father is ever attentive to our concerns and needs. *"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God..." (1 John 3:1)!*

God Bless,

Your Pastors



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Upcoming Events

- March 3** Business Meeting
- March 19** Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends
- March 20** Baptist Men's Meeting, 7:30 am
- March 28** Palm Sunday
- March 31** Christ in the Passover Service, 7:00 pm
- April 2** Good Friday Service, 7:00 pm
- April 4** Easter Sunday; Easter Cantata



*"You shall have no other gods before Me"
(Exodus 20:3).*

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Does the New Covenant apply to Christians? First mentioned in *Jeremiah 31*, the Lord made the following unconditional promise to the children of Israel: “...I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah...I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more” (vv. 31,33-34). Like many of the important covenants promised by God in the Old Testament, there was no obvious indication in the immediate text that the New Covenant was addressed to anyone but the Jewish nation, God’s chosen people.

In contrast to the covenant announced through Moses that set up the religious and political structure of the ancient Jewish nation, the New Covenant focused more on internal issues of the heart rather than external conformity with religious rules and requirements. Indeed, the Mosaic Covenant, based on the concept of blessings for obedience, had been broken on countless occasions by a Jewish people that went after foreign idols, trusted in their own strength, and too many times offered only lip service to the faithful God they promised to worship and love.

During the Last Supper before Jesus’ arrest, Christ spoke of *Jeremiah 31*’s New Covenant during that Passover meal. After blessing a cup of wine that represented redemption, Jesus offered the cup to His disciples, saying, “For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins” (*Matthew 26:28*). What could Jesus have meant by offering His followers the New Covenant promised to Jews? The New Covenant, it turns out, may have been guaranteed to Israel, but was also made available to everyone else. Even in the Old Testament, there are glimmers of hope offered to the entire world: “I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, and will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, as a light to the Gentiles...” (*Isaiah 42:6*). In *Isaiah 42*, we see that the Messiah was promised to more than just the Jewish people. Similar verses in *Isaiah 49* and *Malachi 1* also prophesied that God’s offer of salvation would be shared with non-Jews.

The New Testament makes it very clear that Jesus Christ, who offered Himself up as a final sacrifice for sin on that first Good Friday and was resurrected from the dead three days later, was able to offer the promises of the New Covenant to all people: “...He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance” (*Hebrews 9:15*). Christians know the New Covenant better by another name—the Gospel, or the good news. Fulfilling both His covenant promise to the Jewish people and showing His love to the entire world, God’s great act of love is certainly the best good news story the world has ever heard. As Easter comes our way, won’t you consider Christ’s New Covenant offer of salvation: “...The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel” (*Mark 1:15*)?

Member of the Month: Arlene Luhn

- ★ Born: March 9, 1933 in Washington, DC
- ★ How long a BBC member: since May 2008
- ★ How she first came to BBC: “I was invited by Todd Luhn, Pastor Joe, and Jane Fowler”.
- ★ Favorite Hymns: “His Eye Is On the Sparrow”, and “I Know He Watches Me”
- ★ Favorite Pew: Fourth pew from the back on the left side
- ★ Favorite Bible verse: *Ruth 1:16*
- ★ Childhood church: Mount Rainier Methodist Church in Mount Rainier, Maryland
- ★ Most famous people she’s met: Eunice and Mark Kennedy Shriver
- ★ Personal claim to fame: volunteering for Hospice of Frederick County
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941
- ★ Farthest places she’s been from Barnesville: Germany and Alaska
- ★ Story on first name: “I was named after the actress Arlene Dahl who was my mother’s cousin”.
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: the atomic bomb
- ★ Childhood heroes: favorite teachers Ruth Fisher and Olivia Green
- ★ Hobbies: reading, being a Civil War buff, going to the theater, baking



March Birthdays

- 3 Kirk Williams
- 5 Stape Shields, Iva Musser
- 9 Arlene Luhn
- 10 Ed Williams
- 11 Jim Gilliam
- 17 Tammy Thomas
- 18 Steven Bennett
- 24 Janice Cole
- 26 Nevada Pleasants
- 28 Jack Hough, Todd Marsh
- 29 Sarah Marsh
- 30 Paul Keriakos
- 31 Tyler Babyak, Robert Shreve,
Jessica Thomas



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in February:

- The Church approved a bypass motion to reallocate \$1000 from the Mission Trip budget line item for a donation to the SBC disaster relief fund for Haitian earthquake relief efforts.

Expected at the March Business Meeting:

- The Select Committee on Auditing will present its report on the 2009 finances.

Prayer Concerns

earthquake victims in Haiti
Margie Stream, recovering from surgery
Eileen Stull, June Ivey's mother
Junior & Arlene Luhn
Capt. Frank Skrypak and 1 Lt. Shana Kayne-Beach,
stationed in Afghanistan
Carolyn Miller, Janna Williams' mother
Faye Shrader, Dot's niece
Linda Gilliam recovering from surgery
Ben Bennett
Bill Wega, Janice Cole's uncle
Virginia Magaha
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Cancer patients: Tim MacCarthy, Jeanette Bini, Betty
Allnutt, Doug Swank, Raymond Money, Vaughn Simmons,
Jasmine Buterbaugh, Terri Winn
Our missionary friends: Manuel & Cindy Batres
(Guatemala), Steve & Emily Ruffner (Campus Crusade),
David & Cheryl Shive (Faith Home Ministries)
Matt and Ellen Zell (Honduras)
Our nation and its leaders
All of our military men and women

COTCD Cartoon

Church of the Covered Dish by Thom Tapp



"Look Howard, I've tried to be sensitive to your fear of water, but sooner or later a baptism gets you wet..."



*"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).*

News You Can Use



Snow policy. As we continue through the winter months, we urge all our members and visitors to exercise caution and good judgment in deciding whether it is safe for your family to travel on a given Sunday. Pastor Randy is only a sidewalk away from the sanctuary, and will hold services for anyone who can safely travel during inclement weather. A BBC local weather/road condition

message will be posted on the answering machine. We ask that Sunday School teachers or other leaders call in their absence to the Church office at their earliest convenience.

Easter services planned. The BBC Choir will present their cantata entitled, "Hallelujah, Praise the Lamb", which celebrates the timeless truth that God Himself became the Lamb whose blood was shed that we might be reconciled to God and have eternal life, on Easter Sunday, Apr. 4, during the morning worship service. Paul Foster will direct and narrate. BBC will also gather for a Good Friday worship service on Apr. 2 at 7:00 pm.

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal set. The WMU has set a 2010 goal of \$1760 for BBC. This offering is used to support the 5,300+ missionaries serving under the North American Mission Board.



The SBC-wide goal is \$70 million, \$5 million more than last year. All receipts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering will directly support the following mission endeavors: Missionary Support, 71%; Church Planting, 17%; Evangelism, 12%. Let's do our part to support the missionaries who are spreading the good news of the Gospel in the United States & Canada. Thank you for your prayerful generosity.

Christ in the Passover service. Rabbi Neal Surasky, the Chosen People Ministries representative whom we first met last September, will be joining us on Wednesday, Mar. 31 at 7:00 pm to speak about the relationship between the Passover and Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. This service will be a great way to start the Easter holiday and learn more about how Jesus was the Passover Lamb for all mankind.

Directory update coming soon. Attention all members: the next update to the church directory will be distributed in April. Anyone with changes to their contact information or regular attendees who would like to have their picture and information included for the first time should promptly submit their data to Lee Michael. After April, the next scheduled directory update is planned for October—don't delay!

Record-breaking snow blankets Barnesville. BBC, along with the rest of the Washington, DC area, endured back-to-back blizzards in the second week of Feb. 2010, which dumped two to three feet of snow and erased snowfall records dating back to 1884. Church officials refused to comment on speculation that holding its annual Baptist Men's Day event actually causes it to snow, even though the celebration is usually delayed from its originally scheduled date due to winter weather.

BBC digs out to hold Baptist Men's Day. Historic levels of winter precipitation delayed the 2010 celebration of Baptist Men's Day until Feb. 14, the weather clearing long enough for



BBC members and friends to gather for a hearty breakfast and service.

The Men of Barnesville (MOB) Choir gave another well-received performance, with Pastor Joe singing the solo for "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot". We were honored to have as our special guest speaker Mr. Steve Honeycutt, an instructor at Our House, a residential program for at-risk teen boys. Steve shared his testimony and explained how his background allowed him to follow God's will for his life and serve as a mentor to the youth with whom he works.



Easter lilies for sale. If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily in honor of/in memory of a loved one, please contact Kitty Cooley at 301-349-5119. The lilies will be used to decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday and throughout the Easter season.

Easter sunrise service on Sugarloaf Mountain. For early risers, this 56th annual mountaintop service beginning at 6:15 am on Easter morning is a wonderful way to begin the celebration of the Lord's resurrection with believers from many local congregations. We all have the Risen Savior in common.

Daylight Savings Time begins Mar. 14. Remember to set your watches and clocks forward one hour (and lose an hour of sleep) before you go to bed on that Saturday night.

2009 Lottie Moon goal exceeded. A last-minute \$100 offering tipped us over our \$1950 goal for 2009 by seven dollars. Thanks again to all who supported this yearly effort to send IMB missionaries overseas to share the Gospel with a lost and dying world.

Write to Margie Stream. Margie is now back home, continuing to recuperate. She can be mailed at 948 Jubal Way, Frederick, MD 21701. Cards of support and encouragement from her church family would be welcomed.