



# 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

August 2010, Volume 9, No. 3

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

## The Pastors' Spotlight

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

You would think that all of us would have enough common sense to ask God for help when questions arise, decisions are to be made, or when circumstances have us utterly confused about life. However, it is likely that most of us try to answer questions and solve problems without consulting God. Afterwards, we tend to go to God and ask Him to bless the mess we have made. Some recent incidents illustrate how prone we are to do things without God's guidance. In a conversation with a young father, he was asked if he and his wife were involved with or attending a church. He answered, "No, with the children so busy, we thought we would wait for them to grow up and then we would find a church". We can't imagine that this decision was made with God's input. Similarly, we heard the story of a man who lost a lot of money in an investment. He later said, "I should have prayed about that first". In *Proverbs 2:9-11* we find the benefits of godly wisdom: *"Then you will understand what is right and just and fair--every good path. For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul. Discretion will protect you, and understanding will guard you."*

In our lives we go through times when we don't want to be told what to do, how to do it, or when to do it, yet we come to realize that parents and more experienced folks were right all along and could have been a big help to us. So also in our spiritual lives, we become passionate about issues that concern us and later with more knowledge of God and reliance on His wisdom we slowly learn what is important to Him. Once we understand this, God will bless us because we have sought His will. In your prayers, ask for wisdom and direction, and then trust God for His wisdom and guidance. *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight" (Proverbs 3:5-6).*

## In This Edition:

The Pastors' Spotlight, Page 1  
Upcoming Events, Page 1  
The Pew Perspective, Page 2  
Member of the Month, Page 2  
August Birthdays, Page 3  
Prayer Concerns, Page 3  
Business Meeting Briefs, Page 3  
VBS 2011 Sneak Peek, Page 3  
News You Can Use, Page 4  
COTCD Cartoon, Page 4  
August 2010 Calendar, Page 5

## Upcoming Events

**August 4** Business Meeting  
**August 21** Baptist Men's Father-Child Banquet



*"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8).*

God Bless,

Your Pastors



## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

This year's Vacation Bible School certainly answered a lot of questions that many people have about God and how we relate to Him. As discussed in the Pastors' Spotlight on page 1, *James 1:5* should give us the confidence to seek out our Heavenly Father's input on a daily basis in the way we live and make choices. Consider the promise of *I Corinthians 2:9*: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him". The VBS teachers appreciated the opportunity to share just a small fraction of God's love and wisdom from the Bible with the students we had. Every evening, the classes discussed a key question and found an answer in the Scriptures.

On Monday, we asked, "who am I"? From reading about the creation of Adam and Eve in *Genesis 2:4-24*, we learned that out of all the things God made in this universe, from the stars to the oceans, to the plants and animals, God considered us His crowning achievement. God created us in His image for His glory and to show us His love.

Tuesday's question was, "does God care about me"? The life story of Joseph, highlighted in *Genesis 45:1-14*, shows that the God who created us will never forget us or lose sight of His plan for our lives. Joseph, who was sold into slavery in a foreign land at an early age and endured prison time for a crime he didn't commit, was used by God to save his family and an entire country from famine. This story shows us plainly that we can trust God with our lives because He cares for us, even when we can't see the path forward.

Day three's focus was "what is God's plan for me"? The account of Zacchaeus meeting Jesus in Jericho found in *Luke 19:1-10* explained how Jesus is willing to offer anyone the gift of salvation if we will turn from our sins and follow Him in faith.

Thursday centered on the question, "how can I be like Jesus"? By reading selections from the Gospels (*Luke 5:16; Luke 4:14-16; Mark 6:30-46*), we learned that Jesus dedicated time to praying, worshipping and teaching in the synagogues, and providing for the needs of others. As disciples of Jesus, Christians can follow Jesus' teachings by praying to God, attending church and Bible study, and showing God's love to others through their deeds.

Our final night gave us a chance to ponder, "what do I do now"? For those who have accepted God's offer of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, we can lead lives that honor God. According to *Philippians 4:4-9*, God's strength and guidance will help us make good decisions and life choices.

It is a comfort to know that when we have questions, God is prepared with an answer that will meet our needs and often exceed our expectations. However, VBS comes only once a year. The doors of BBC are open every Sunday and more to share answers from God's Word to the questions and challenges we face.

## Member of the Month: Todd Marsh

- ★ Born: March 28, 1971 in Bethesda, Maryland
- ★ How long a BBC member: since July 2003
- ★ Church offices held: usher
- ★ How he first came to BBC: Pat Elam introduced his family to the pastors at the hospital during his mother-in-law's final illness.
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "all of them"
- ★ Favorite Pew: third row on the left side
- ★ Favorite Bible verse: *John 3:16*
- ★ Age at baptism: 32 years old
- ★ Most famous people he's met: Linda Carter and basketball player Alonzo Mourning
- ★ Personal claim to fame: being a dad and playing with his kids
- ★ Most important historical event in his life: 9/11
- ★ Farthest place he's been from Barnesville: Florida
- ★ Story on first name: named after his uncle
- ★ Most important technology invented in his lifetime: cell phone
- ★ Hobbies: watching football, fishing



## 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  
16 Stephanie Runkles  
17 Pauline Fowler  
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:

- A motion was made to call for the Standing Committees to authorize Church officer and committee positions for the 2010-2012 term.
- The Pastor announced that the following members will serve on the Nominating Committee to select 2010-2012 officers: Randy Gilliam, Nancy Cooley, Ellen Williams, Lee Michael, and himself (Nancy Wells alternate).
- The Church approved the membership application of Matthew Burriss II, who was baptized on Jun. 6, by profession of faith.
- The Church approved the membership application of Kaitlyn Cole by profession of faith pending baptism.

### Expected at the August Business Meeting:

- The Standing Committees will report on Church officer authorizations for the 2010-2012 term.
- The Pastor will nominate five members (Randy & Sandy Gilliam, Lee Michael, June Ivey, and himself) to serve as messengers to the 75<sup>th</sup> Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting, being held on Oct. 9 at the Philippine International Bible Church in Laytonsville.
- The Deacons will offer a motion to approve the membership application of Jessica Thomas by profession of faith pending baptism on Aug. 22.

## VBS 2011 Sneak Peek



*"So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the message about Christ"  
(Romans 10:17).*

## Prayer Concerns

Junior & Arlene Luhn  
June Luhn  
Bilyie Luhn, recovering from a stroke  
Dominic Latch  
Chelsea Mossburg and Sarah Stull, recovering from auto accidents  
Sgt. Seth Rogers, stationed in Afghanistan  
Carolyn Miller, Janna Williams' mother  
Tabitha Runkles  
Tim Miller  
Barbara Bell, Todd Marsh's mother  
Gus Keriakos, Paul's father  
Gavin Brynes  
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.  
medical caregivers; doctors and nurses  
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Raymond Money, Rod Maggard, Pete Menke, Debbie Ricketts  
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



*"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

**Vacation Bible School a great success!** In the last week of July, we certainly learned that if you “need answers” you should “ask God”, according to our VBS motto and *James 1:5*. Thank you to everyone



who helped make Vacation Bible School 2010 (Saddle Ridge Ranch: Roundin' Up Questions, Drivin' Home Answers) a success, especially to those in the classroom, crafts, recreation, snack, and behind the scenes. Your service in building God's Kingdom and sharing His Gospel is appreciated. The total enrollment this year was 65.



**VBS mission offering goes to cowboy church plant.** Deane Graves ministers in Green River, Wyoming, serving as the youth pastor at Hilltop Baptist Church, a campus minister at the local community college, and a NAMB Cowboy Church planter. Deane is being used by the Lord to start the Circle C Cowboy Church. This year's VBS missions offering of \$575.08 will help Deane with outreach events like teen roping contests, organized trail rides, wild horse breaking, and food events in order to present the Gospel message to anyone who will listen. BBC will now have a small part in helping to build this church where there is such need.

**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, monthly WMU meetings, bell choir practices on Thursdays, and the lunches with Watkins Cabinet.

**Congratulations to the bride and groom.** Special congratulations go out from the BBC family to Megan Turner and Dr. Atif Malik, who were wed on Jun. 12. Both of these young people have a keen interest in medicine and share a deep compassion for using their training to help others. A wedding shower for Megan is planned for Saturday, Aug. 7 at BBC. (Please RSVP to Nancy Wells or June Ivey.)



**Best wishes to new parents.** Barnesville Baptist was most pleased to hear that Adam & Rachel Wright welcomed their first child, Wilson, into the world on Jul. 11. Please keep this young couple and their son in your prayers.

**Father-child banquet.** On Saturday, Aug. 21, the Baptist Men will hold their 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Father-Child Banquet, a special time of fellowship at Dutch's Daughter 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. 15. (The total per person cost this year is \$20.00 per person. This includes meal, tax, and tip.)

**World premiere of "I AM" coming to BBC.** This timely Christian movie about the nature of God is premiering in churches. The movie is highly recommended. Lee Strobel, a popular Christian writer, made this comment about "I AM": "Through a cleverly woven story, compelling characters, and high production values, "I AM" sends an important message without being preachy: the Ten Commandments are for our own good. Recommended for Christians and spiritual seekers". The first showing at BBC will be scheduled for early October. Watch for additional information in next month's *Lantern*.

**Virginia Carroll earns Ph.D.** BBC applauds Dr. Carroll, daughter of Mrs. Ann Bennett, for earning her microbiology doctorate from the University of Virginia in July, specializing in immunology. Virginia will be returning to Maryland to start a career search.

**Baptism service scheduled.** On Sunday, Aug. 22, a baptism service will be held. Current candidates are Kaitlyn Cole and Jessica Thomas, who recently accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Please pray for these new Christians.

## COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"I will not put goldfish in the baptistry . . .  
I will not put goldfish in the baptistry . . ."