



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, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ..."
(II Corinthians 5:17-18).*

A most exhilarating truth about the Gospel of Jesus Christ is that it has the power to transform one's life completely! We see this truth in Biblical characters, e.g. the Apostle Paul, from zealous persecutor of the Church to zealous preacher of the Gospel; Zacchaeus, from tax collector and cheat to generous philanthropist; the Samaritan woman, from shame-filled adulteress to witness for the Messiah's work; the Philippian jailer, from pagan soldier to compassionate Christian whose change brought his entire family to faith. We also see Christ-transformed lives across the centuries, e.g. the 18th century's John Newton, from libertine slave trader to dynamic preacher and poet ("Amazing Grace"); or the 20th century's Charles Colson, from President Nixon's so-called "hatchet man" to preacher, writer, and founder of the worldwide Prison Fellowship ministry. Whenever anyone decides to repent of sinful, ungodly life practices and humble himself before the cross of Christ and receive His forgiveness, God changes everything! We recently had the privilege of corresponding with Mary Lu Tyndall. Ms. Tyndall is a successful author of historically-based "adventure romances". Before her submission to the lordship of Christ, she had pursued what the world offered as a full and exciting life. What she found was neither fulfilling nor exciting. Ms. Tyndall was miserable, her marriage failed, and her family suffered. She turned to Christ in humility and gave her heart to Him completely. She then discovered that God was real, that He really loved her, and that He had a purpose for her life. Ms. Tyndall now uses her gift of writing to "encourage the children of God as they journey the path of life toward eternity". Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10). Seek Him first and let Him give you a full, purposeful life. It is not just a new leaf, it is a new life! Trust Him.

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Upcoming Events

February 2 Business Meeting
February 12 Valentine's Day Dinner
February 18 Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends
February 19 Baptist Men's Meeting, 7:30 am
February 21 Presidents' Day
February 27 Baptist Men's Day



"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor" (Exodus 20:16).

God Bless,



Your Pastors

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

One of the key themes of the Bible is that *“the just shall live by faith”*. First written in *Habakkuk 2:4*, the Apostle Paul cited it to the Gentile Christians in *Romans 1:17* and *Galatians 3:11*; it was also featured in *Hebrews 10:38* which leads up to the famous “faith chapter” of *Hebrews 11*. Faith was defined there as, *“...the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen”*. “Substance” means the essence or assurance of an actual, future truth. The term “evidence” means the conviction of such a truth that leads to a life commitment. The substance of faith is demonstrated when childless, elderly Abraham accepted in his heart God’s promise that he and Sarah would be parents, but Abraham raising a knife to sacrifice Isaac is the evidence of faith.

Hebrews 11 catalogs many examples of faithful Old Testament men and women, especially in *Genesis*, who lived lives of integrity and steadfastness before the Lord in the midst of a hostile, wicked world. Four of the most interesting testimonies take no more than a few verses, but these few words speak volumes and teach us a great deal.

In *verse 4*, Abel is held up as someone who worshipped by faith. His brief life cut off by his own brother Cain, Abel is a hero of faith because his life example teaches us some important lessons. First, we learn that Abel offered a more excellent sacrifice because of his obedience to God’s previously provided revelation. Second, Abel obtained righteousness by trusting in God’s word. Even through his death, Abel teaches that men come to God by faith, not works; men must abide by God’s standard and obey it; and men’s sins are severely punished.

Enoch also had but a brief mention in the Bible. However, in *Hebrews 11:5-6* he teaches us to walk by faith. Enoch pleased God by believing God is and seeking His reward, by walking with God, and by preaching for God. Enoch’s faithful walk led to him entering God’s presence directly from this life.

We see the life of Noah is a testimony in *Hebrews 11:7* that we are to work by faith. Noah not only believed God’s improbable weather forecast but quickly obeyed God’s command to build an ark. Noah rebuked the sinful world that laughed at him for building a giant boat under a sunny sky. However, when the heavens split open and the fountains of the deep broke up, Noah and his family received God’s salvation from certain destruction and death.

Moses made monumental decisions of faith that determined not just the course of his life but the history of nations. In *Hebrews 11:23-29*, Moses’ faith caused him to reject certain choices but accept others. Moses rejected his royal position and endured the pharaoh’s wrath. Making faith-based decisions blessed Moses’ life even before he was aware of faith. Moses’ parents hid him for three months despite the pharaoh’s decree to kill newborn Hebrew boys. As a man Moses accepted the Lord’s provision and taught the Hebrews how to receive the Passover deliverance that would break their chains of slavery. Just as dramatically, Moses accepted the Lord’s promise and walked Israel through the Red Sea that offered a permanent path of escape from the only life they had known. What an amazing encouragement from the Lord to know that we too can live worthy, meaningful lives before Him when we step out in faith day by day.

Member of the Month: Rhonda Burriss

- ★ Born: March 31, 1960 in Olney, Maryland
- ★ How long a BBC member: since May 2010
- ★ Church offices held: VBS teacher
- ★ How she first came to BBC: “I was invited by my sister Resha Martin”.
- ★ Favorite Hymn: “In My Robe of White”
- ★ Favorite Pew: second row on the right
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *Matthew 5:1-12*
- ★ Age at baptism: 11 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Clarksburg Baptist Church
- ★ Most famous person she’s met: sportscaster George Michael
- ★ Personal claim to fame: motherhood
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: the end of the Vietnam War
- ★ Farthest place she’s been from Barnesville: Florida
- ★ Story on first name: named after movie actress Rhonda Fleming
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: Skype
- ★ Childhood hero: “Bertha Bryte Bartee, my grandmother”.
- ★ Hobbies: baking and home remodeling



February Birthdays

- 3 Gary Cooley, Linda Roberts
- 5 Kase Watson
- 7 Michelle Vasko, Charles Watson
- 8 Jeddie DeFries
- 9 Trudy Meissner
- 10 Carole Shreve
- 11 Sam Furr
- 12 Luke Fedders
- 13 Bill Pleasants
- 20 Janet Magruder
- 21 David Gilliam
- 22 Bradley Keriakos, Joshua Holcomb



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in January:

- The Treasurer submitted his Annual Report on the 2010 fiscal year.
- The Pastor appointed the Deacons to serve on the Select Committee on Auditing, which will review the 2010 finances and report at the March Business Meeting.

Expected at the February Business Meeting:

- As of press time, there were no motions ready for action by the Church at the February 2011 Business Meeting.

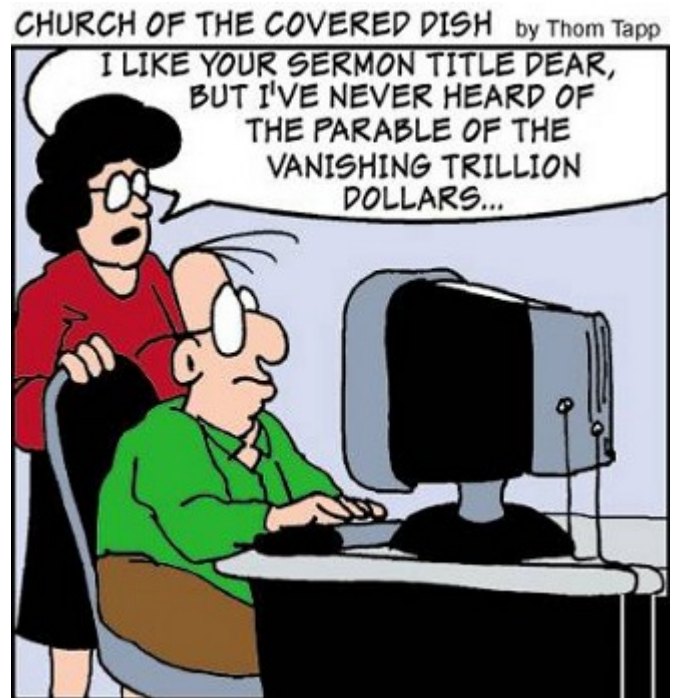
Prayer Concerns

Junior & Arlene Luhn
Bilyie Luhn
June Luhn
Dominic Latch
Sarah Stull
Virginia Thomas, Dave Thomas' mother
Neal Gravel, stationed in Afghanistan
Carolyn Miller, Janna Williams' mother
Tabitha Runkles
Roberta Richards, Jamie Thomas' mother
Rev. Jack Grant
Gavin Byrnes
Linda Gilliam, recovering from back surgery
Teresa Tuttle
Melanie Baumbaugh
Patty Ramsey, Melanie Baumbaugh's mother
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
the family of Pete Menke at his passing on Jan. 17
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Christine Carlin, Dee Baker,
Billy Broschart, William Tuttle
Our missionary friends: Manuel & Cindy Batres (Guatemala),
Steve & Emily Ruffner (Campus Crusade), David & Cheryl
Shive (Faith Home Ministries), Matt & 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).*

COTCD Cartoon



News You Can Use

Randy Gilliam

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 or not 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.



*BBC snowfall on
January 27*

VBS 2011 dates set. Believe it or not, Barnesville Baptist is already preparing for this year's Vacation Bible School. The New York City-focused theme for 2011 is "Big Apple Adventure: Where Faith and Life Connect". Based on *Romans 10:17*, the kids will explore the big city, learning how to step out in faith and connect with Jesus--sharing the message of Christ with their world. Keep the evenings of Jul. 11-15 open on your calendar. These dates are a change from our previous tradition of holding VBS during the last week of July. Please begin praying even now for this most important outreach event of the year and consider how you can help make this year's VBS the best ever.



Valentine's Day dinner. Barnesville Baptist will celebrate Valentine's Day with a dinner for the entire church family on Saturday, Feb. 12 at 5:00 pm. BBC will provide fried chicken and drinks. Please bring a dish to share for dinner, and a red dessert in honor of the holiday.

Third Women's Rally coming in March. Gayla Parker is coming back to BBC for a third Women's Rally Mar. 25-27. She is the WMU President for the BCM/D. Gayla will speak three times, twice at 7:00 to 8:30 pm on Friday, Mar. 25 and Saturday, Mar. 26 and also during the Sunday morning worship service on the 27th. Gayla speaks with the heart of a missionary and with passion for the Gospel and for people.

Baptist Men's Day scheduled. If the snow doesn't stop us as in previous years, the Baptist Men will cook breakfast for the church on Sunday, Feb. 27. Join the men at 8:30 am for a breakfast buffet of pancakes, eggs, and other good food, and then get ready for the annual singing performance of the MOB: Men of Barnesville choir. The MOB's feature performance will be "Fishers of Men" by Rhonda Vincent. The men of the church will lead the morning service. Our guest speaker will again be Steve Honeycutt, an instructor at Our House, a residential program for at-risk teen boys.

Mail call. There are a variety of items awaiting delivery to those who may have not been to church in a few weeks. Please be sure to check whether any of the following are being held in the Church office for you and your family: updates to the church directory from October and April 2010, 2010 giving statements for the IRS, 2011 tithe & offering envelopes, and even Christmas cards from Dec. 2010!

Mission trip to the Dominican Republic. BBC has sent prayers, funding, and our own Larry Michael on a 27-member mission trip with fellow Christians from Redland Baptist to the town of Hato Mayor in the Dominican Republic from Jan. 22-29. We have received word that the construction team is well on its way to completing a new church building, the VBS team has already worked with several groups of local children, and the medical team first treated 230 people on one day, and the next traveled to a nearby prison to treat 22 men for scabies. After the medical team preached the Gospel to more than 100 prisoners, more than 30 of these men asked Christ to be their Lord and Savior. We rejoice with the missionary team that the Lord is using their time and talents to share the Gospel with everyone they meet, and look forward to hearing even more about this impactful week when these 27 come home.

Christian-friendly fiction. Through a very interesting set of circumstances involving a falcon and a sparrow, we have come to appreciate the Christian testimony and writings of Mary Lu Tyndall. Ms. Tyndall donated two autographed books to the BBC library, *The Falcon and the Sparrow* and *Surrender the Heart*. Never having read a romance novel before, this humble critic was spellbound while reading *The Falcon and the Sparrow*. This is an extremely well-told and remarkable story about a young timid girl whose faith in God gave her the courage and strength to complete a dangerous mission forced upon her by a powerful enemy. If this is the type of fiction that appeals to you, these are two good titles to read. You may find out more about Ms. Tyndall at her website, www.mltyndall.com. She also posts comments, Christian perspectives, a daily Bible verse and other Christian links on her blog, "The Cross and the Cutlass".