



# 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

*"I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For He has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness...For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations" (Isaiah 61:10-11).*

Bad news seems to gush out of the TV and flood off the pages of newspapers and magazines. Surely some of you have been discouraged with the overwhelming problems facing this country and world. At such times it is good to remember who God is and whose we are. There are no situations unknown to God and over which He is not sovereign. Christians can be confident in knowing Jesus said: *"...All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth" (Matthew 28:18).*

*Isaiah 61* prophesies that Israel, which suffered under military conquerors, will rejoice because of God's faithfulness in bringing salvation and righteousness again. A natural outgrowth of these "garments" will be praise noticed by all nations. It is impossible to separate *Isaiah 61* from Jesus' ministry. Jesus quotes most of vv. 1-2 in *Luke 4:18-19*: *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me..."*. Jesus offered salvation and membership in God's family to all who repent of sin and trust Him. This new standing makes cares and troubles secondary. *"If God is for us who can be against us" (Romans 8:31)*? It is impossible to despair if we recall that our Helper is omnipotent. Whatever happens, we have a Father who knows what we need before we even ask (*Matthew 6:8*). Salvation was one "garment" and righteousness the other. For the Christian, Jesus' righteousness covers us. *"Put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness" (Ephesians 4:24)*. When Christians, even in the midst of trouble, practice righteousness received by saving faith, people notice and God is glorified. This will happen just as surely as the seeds planted this spring will deliver a harvest. The Christian will then "delight in the Lord and his soul rejoice in God".

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## Upcoming Events

- March 2** Business Meeting
- March 18** Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends
- March 19** Baptist Men's Meeting, 7:30 am
- March 25-27** Women's Rally Services



*"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's" (Exodus 20:17).*

God Bless,



Your Pastors

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

As we celebrate Baptist Men's Day, it occurs to me that the Bible has several things to say about men and their sonship with their Heavenly Father. In *Galatians 4:1-11*, the Apostle Paul compared the customs regulating the relationship between fathers and their sons observed by the Romans with the relationship between God and men. Just as human cultures recognized a distinction between young boys and adult sons, Paul identified five key stages to men's standing before the Lord: preparation, realization, confirmation, consummation, and obligation.

The first stage discussed by Paul was the time of preparation. For the Romans, male heirs were bound to tutors and curators who were charged with boys' upbringing and education (vv. 1-2). Paul linked this practice to the tutorship of the Old Testament Law which taught the elementary first principles of human religion before Jesus Christ came to offer the Gospel to the world (v. 3).

After the age of preparation was complete, Roman sons would be recognized by their fathers, finally realizing the rank and status to which they were born but had not been able to realize until they came of age. The stage of realization for Christians was also determined not by our will but on God's timetable. The Old Testament Law, which taught God's immutable standards of righteousness, could not offer salvation. Yet it remained until the "fullness of time" described in *Galatians 4:4* arrived, when Jesus Christ, born of a woman and thus fully man and fully God, came to perfectly fulfill the Law, redeem us from sin, and permit us to be adopted through faith as sons of God and no longer His enemies.

Following the preparation for and realization of our sonship, we receive confirmation of that truth from the Holy Spirit. He gives us the confidence in our hearts to know that we are truly part of God's family by evidencing and validating our sonship (v. 6).

The fourth stage is that of consummation. Sonship means we have been grafted into our Savior like the wild olive branches described in *Romans 11*. Our sonship is made perfect when we are given the status of Abraham's descendants and guaranteed the blessings promised to the patriarchs and fulfilled in Jesus Christ (v. 7).

The fifth and final stage described by Paul is obligation. Our sonship was free but it was also costly, and the great effort God went to in order to redeem us from sin and death deserves an eternal debt of gratitude and love. Because we are God's sons, we are obliged never to turn back again into either ignorance of God's love and holiness or bondage to sin and wickedness (vv. 8-11).

This time of the year in which BBC recognizes the men of the church is a good occasion to remember what it means to be God's sons and to recall the lyrics based on *1 John 3:1*, "Behold what manner of love the Father has given unto us, that we should be called the sons of God".

## Member of the Month: Janna Williams

- ★ Born: September 9, 1965 in Cumberland, Maryland
- ★ How long a BBC member: since April 2009
- ★ How she first came to BBC: "The Buffington and Morrison families invited us".
- ★ Favorite Hymns: "Amazing Grace", "How Sweet the Sound", and "Just As I Am" (my grandmother introduced me to that song)".
- ★ Favorite Pew: sixth row back on the left side
- ★ Favorite Bible verse: *John 14:1*
- ★ Age at baptism: 10 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Frostburg United Methodist Church, Frostburg, Maryland
- ★ Personal claim to fame: "Becoming a mom and getting a B.S. Degree in Business Management".
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: 9/11
- ★ Farthest place she's been from Barnesville: "Hawaii for my honeymoon".
- ★ Story on first name: "My Grandmother Tiny chose it because it's mentioned in the Bible and it's after my Grandma Anna".
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: cell phone
- ★ Childhood hero: "My Mom, Dad and Grandmother Tiny".
- ★ Hobbies: "Spending time with Billy, my kids and family, going to all the kids' activities, exercising, reading, cross stitching, and going to Deep Creek Lake".



## March Birthdays

3 Kirk Williams  
5 Stape Shields  
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, Rhonda Burriss,  
Robert Shreve, Jessica Thomas



## Business Meeting Briefs

*Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in February:*

- There was no Old Business pending before the Church.

*Expected at the March Business Meeting:*

- The Select Committee on Auditing will present its report on the 2010 finances.

## 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.  
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).*

## Annie Armstrong Easter Offering



The 2011 Week of Prayer for North American Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is scheduled for Mar. 6-13 to focus Southern Baptists on the importance of missions to spread the Gospel in the upcoming Easter season. The Annie Armstrong Offering is used to support the 5,000+ missionaries serving under the North American Mission Board. The offering is named in honor of Baltimore, MD native Annie Armstrong, the 19<sup>th</sup>-century founder of the Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) who in 1893 alone wrote almost 18,000 letters in support of missions. The BBC's WMU has set a 2011 goal of \$1,760 for our congregation; the SBC-wide goal is \$70 million. All receipts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering will directly support the following mission endeavors: Missionary Support, 71%; Church Planting Support, 17%; Evangelism Support, 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.



## News You Can Use

**Snow policy.** As we head into the final weeks of winter and look forward to springtime, 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.

**Valentine's Day celebrated with chicken dinner.** Thanks to the ladies of the church who organized the Valentine's Day



*Randy Gilliam, Flora Gilliam, Ellen Williams, Jan Burdette, and Gary Burdette looking over the dessert table*

dinner on Saturday, Feb. 12. The Fellowship Hall was festively decorated in red hearts, cupids, and bunting to set the mood for the holiday. A large crowd enjoyed the

potluck fried chicken dinner.

**Special courses being held at BBC.** Rev. Gayle Clifton, pastor of Upper Seneca Baptist Church, will teach the course "The Old Testament Made Simple" on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm on the following dates: Mar. 9, 16, 23, 30, Apr. 13, and 20. Because Wednesdays are normally prayer meeting nights, those attending the Old Testament study are invited to come early for a time of quiet prayer. Dinners and business meetings will continue to be held on the first Wednesday of each month. A "Power Thoughts" seminar led by Lynn Eplee will be held on eight Thursday mornings beginning Mar. 17 from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon at Barnesville Baptist. This seminar is a 12-step program based on Joyce Meyer's book "Power Thoughts" to help readers understand how our thoughts lead us, charting the course for our lives and pointing us in certain directions that ultimately determine our destinations in life.

**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 from 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. Rehearsal for the rally will be held on Sunday, Mar. 4 at 4:00 pm.

**Baptist Men's Day plans.** The 2011 celebration of Baptist Men's Day will be held on Feb. 27, starting with a church-wide breakfast starting at 8:30 am. The worship service will begin with the welcome and responsive reading by Lee Michael, followed by the morning prayer from Ed Williams, the offering by Ralph Cooley and ushers Eddie Fowler and Frank Fowler, children's story by Joe Yates, introduction of our guest speaker Steve Honeycutt by Larry Michael, and the benediction by David Bennett. The Men of Barnesville (MOB) Choir will open the service with "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship". The congregation will join in the hymns "Victory in Jesus" and "Rise Up, O Men of God". The MOB special will be "Fishers of Men" featuring bass soloists Pastor Joe Ivey and Bob Runkles.

**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!

**Daylight Savings Time begins Mar. 13.** Remember to set your watches and clocks forward one hour (and lose an hour of sleep) before you go to bed on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

## COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"It was just a nightmare Eli... and besides that, business meetings aren't THAT bad..."