



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

"Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven'" (Acts 1:9-11).

We solemnly gathered on Good Friday to remember the suffering, crucifixion, death and burial of the Lord Jesus Christ, but on Easter Sunday we joyously celebrated His glorious resurrection from the dead. Like the early disciples, we not only still marvel over the angels' words that Jesus was no risen (*Luke 24:5-6*) but also continue to wonder at the angels' promise in *Acts 1:11* that Jesus will return! These truths allow the Christian's life to always reflect gratitude, confidence, and hope.

We should live our lives as though Jesus died yesterday, rose today, and is coming back tomorrow. This outlook will see us through joys and sorrows, successes and failures, health and sickness, and life and death. Let us always keep fresh in our minds how Jesus demonstrated His love for us by sacrificing Himself on the cross that we might be reconciled to God. Not only that, Christ arose and is today the living Savior who said, *"And lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age"* (*Matthew 28:20*). When the Father resurrected Christ from the dead, everything the Son taught, did, and promised was validated by His victory over every foe. Jesus makes that same resurrection power available to us to accomplish whatever He purposes for our lives.

He is coming back, and soon. If we live as though Jesus is returning for His own tomorrow, then we should try to, as Paul said, *"...walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him..."* (*Colossians 1:10*). By acquitting ourselves as good and faithful servants of the Kingdom, we can truly join with the Apostle John in eager expectation of the Lord's return, as he said in *Revelation 22:20*, *"...Even so, come, Lord Jesus!"*

God Bless,

Your Pastors



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Upcoming Events

- May 4** Business Meeting
- May 5** National Day of Prayer
- May 7** Church Clean-Up Day
- May 8** Mother's Day
- May 20** Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends
- May 21** Baptist Men's Chicken Dinner, 5:30 pm
- May 30** Memorial Day, Church Office closed



"...I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also" (II Timothy 1:5).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Here where I live in Montgomery Village, MD, it is quite obvious that we have a thriving population of Canadian geese. While the geese's permanent presence always requires you to...plan your footsteps carefully when walking near any local pond, this time of year it is especially important to be cautious when near the geese. Their newly hatched goslings have caused the parents to be extra-territorial; they have started hissing and waving their wings at any passersby. The Canadian geese of my community have made their presence felt, regardless of whether they are currently in sight or not. In some ways Christians are like Canadian geese—hopefully not by honking loudly or blocking traffic by waddling across the street—but in our ability to have a significant effect on the communities in which we live. Fortunately, we can rely on the Bible to create a more favorable impression on the world than my feathered neighbors have.

In *Romans 12-13*, Paul lays out some important teachings on how Christians should relate to several key groups. Starting right away with the hardest group of people to get along with, the apostle instructs us how to deal with enemies—those who don't like us and we have a hard time liking back. Considering the grace and forgiveness we have received from God, we are to demonstrate our everlasting gratitude in the way we interact with those who revile and despise us. We are to forgive those who wrong us and not seek punishment or revenge. We must live in peace and trust that a just God will take care of us. We are to overcome evil not with more evil, but with good. Those who name Christ as Savior should be known for their loving kindness and peacefulness.

Another key group in our world is government: those who are empowered to rule over us, be it a local policeman or the president. Paul instructed us to be obedient and law-abiding citizens of whatever authorities are over us, to pay our taxes and show respect to our leaders to maintain a clear conscience. Christians are not to be known as firebrands or malcontents.

Neighbors are an obvious category of community members, those who live in proximity to us. We are commanded to love one another, thereby not only fulfilling the minimum requirements of God's moral standard by obeying the "thou shalt nots", but to exceed those basic expectations with active care and concern for our neighbors.

Finally, Paul taught us that our Christian testimony before all parts of our community should be characterized by an eager expectation of the Lord's return and a rejection of fleshly indulgence. In this context, loving others and being upright citizens is given a sense of urgency when we consider that we are in the process of growing in sanctification and moving past our former lifestyle of sin. If we follow these principles, our reputations will be better received in our community than the Canadian geese enjoy.

Member of the Month: Marva Cole

- ★ Born: June 4, 1964 in Montego Bay, Jamaica
- ★ How long a BBC member: since March 2004
- ★ How she first came to BBC: "In October 2001 we were looking for a church to get married".
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "Blessed Assurance"
- ★ Favorite Pew: 3rd from the front on the left
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *Psalm 121:1-8*
- ★ Age at baptism: 27 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Sudberry Baptist Church, Jamaica
- ★ Most famous person she's met: Bob Marley
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: 9/11
- ★ Personal claim to fame: "Mother to my three kids Karian, Kristina, and Brandon".
- ★ Farthest place she's been from Barnesville: California
- ★ Story on middle name: "In honor of a family member".
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: cell phone
- ★ Childhood heroes: Princess Diana
- ★ Hobbies: gardening, reading, and traveling



May Birthdays

- 1 Franklin Ennis, Frankie Fowler
- 2 Frank Fowler Jr., Heather Cross,
Eli Watson
- 13 Joseph Ball
- 15 Eddie Fowler
- 17 Leroy Watkins
- 18 Sandy Watkins
- 22 Vicki Crowe
- 24 Nicholas Cole, Wade Williams
- 25 Elsie Allnut
- 28 Paul Foster
- 30 Sandy Gilliam



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in April:

- The Church approved the membership application of Tyler Babyak, who was baptized on Mar. 20, by profession of faith.
- The Church approved the membership application of David Buchanan, who was baptized on Mar. 20, by profession of faith.
- The Church approved the membership application of John Beach by profession of faith pending baptism on May 8.

Expected at the May Business Meeting:

- The Deacons will offer a motion to approve the membership application of Lynn Eplee, by statement.

Prayer Concerns

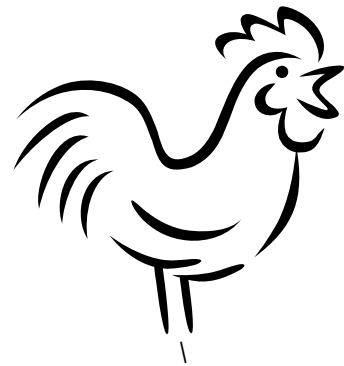
Junior & Arlene Luhn
Bilyie Luhn
June Luhn
Jane Fowler
Suzanne Neal
Josh Lakes, friend of David Gilliam
Megan Malik, medical school exams
Jamie Thomas' "Grandpa Ron"
the family of Eileen Stull at her passing
Dominic Latch
Neal Gravel, stationed in Afghanistan
Carolyn Miller, Janna Williams' mother
Tabitha Runkles
Gavin Byrnes
Melanie Baumbaugh
Kitty Cooley
Janice Cole
Linda Cain
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Cancer patients: Bill Caudell, Doug Swank, Christine Carlin,
Mike Geiser, Stan Fisher, Billy Broschart, John Moore, Lyndsay
O'Malley, Dee Baker, Kathleen James
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).*

Chicken Dinner Announcement

*The Baptist Men invite the Church family to a
Chicken Dinner*



*Saturday, May 21 in the Fellowship Hall
Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm
Bring a side dish to share*

*Enter a strawberry-based dessert (pie, cake, ice cream,
tarts, etc.) into the Strawberry Dessert Contest!*

News You Can Use

Easter activity report. We are proud to report that BBC has collected \$3,665 for the 2011 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, more than double the goal of \$1,760 we sought to support the missionaries of the North American Mission Board (NAMB) who spread the Gospel to people across the

United States and Canada. Many of our state convention and local association leaders receive support through the NAMB, so this offering truly makes a difference in our local communities. Thank you for your prayerful generosity in support of God's Kingdom.



The Choir presenting The King is Coming Cantata on Easter Sunday

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Clean-up day rescheduled for May 7. As rain washed out the planned clean-up day on Apr. 17, mark your calendars for Saturday, May 7 at 9:00 am to join the Groundsmen, the Baptist Men, and the rest of your Church family to clean up the church building and grounds. Contact Ralph Cooley for more information on jobs and tools needed.

WMU collecting health kit supplies. Please join the WMU and the BCM/D in their outreach ministry to wounded veterans, migrant workers, prison inmates, homeless people, and seamen. Items for a health kit include a new, large bath towel and washcloth, an adult toothbrush, toothpaste, a large comb (not a rattail comb), a full-sized shampoo bottle and bar of soap, and deodorant. If you would like to contribute items for the health kits, please bring them to church no later than Sunday, May 8.

BBC recognized by BCM/D. Barnesville was awarded a certificate of recognition by the state convention for our congregation's commitment to missions. BBC was one of the top 50 churches supporting the Cooperative Program in 2010, which was described by the BCM/D as "an accomplishment of significance". Congratulations BBC.

New youth page coming in June. Our middle and high school students are invited to contribute original material to a youth page to be published in the *Lantern*. Please submit stories about interesting experiences, artwork, questions for the pastors, prayer requests, plans for youth activities, or other items that would interest *Lantern* readers. See Pastor Randy or Lee Michael if you want to get involved in creating this youth page.

SBC church planter to speak May 15. We are pleased to have Earl Wentzel and his wife Maria speak to us on the 15th. Earl is a pastor and special education teacher who is planting Crosstrek Community Church in nearby Urbana. Crosstrek will be a church that ministers to families with special needs.

Easter lilies. Flowers to decorate the sanctuary were donated by the following people: Pastor Joe & June Ivey: in memory of Paul & Eileen Stull, Jaron Ivey, and Bud Baumbaugh; Flora Gilliam: in memory of Rufus Gilliam, June & Jack Schaum, and Mary Crouse; Jack & Kitty Cooley: in memory of Dorothy & Carson Ward and Nellie & Jack Cooley; the Kingsbury Family: in memory of Roland Kingsbury; Tod & June Luhn: in memory of Helen Jeffers Lewis and Mary & Donnie Barr; Bob Lillard and Jan & Gary Burdette: in memory of Margery Lillard; Jerry & Suzanne Neal: in memory of Jack & Julia Safford, Paul Safford, John Safford, and Cliff Neal, and in honor of Vivian Neal; Pastor Randy & Sandy Gilliam: in memory of Rufus Gilliam and Dave & Pearl Fowler; Jo Blalock: in honor of David & Ann Bennett; Matthew & Janice Cole: in memory of Matthew L. Cole, Jr.; Janice Cole and Sherri Marsh: in memory of Mae & Howard King; David & Ann Bennett: in memory of Laura Bennett and Jean Noland; Gary & Jan Burdette: in memory of Lloyd Burdette; and Ollie Baumbaugh, Buddy Baumbaugh, and Holly Hammarlund: in memory of Bud Baumbaugh.

COTCD Cartoon

