



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

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating... he asked Him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" "The most important one", answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these" (Mark 12:28-31).

Jesus was such a good teacher he tried to keep things simple. The scribes had gleaned over 613 laws or commandments from the Torah that every observant Jew was to obey. By doing this, they expected to be righteous and approved by God. No doubt they debated among themselves which were the "heavy" commandments and which were the "light" ones. Jesus would say many times and in many ways that it wasn't their outer practices that separated people from God but rather what was in their hearts. *"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness" (Matthew 23:27-28).*

If, as followers of Christ, our conduct is motivated by God's love for us, our love for Him and love for others, the laws are fulfilled. Our lives will reflect God's nature: compassion, forgiveness, kindness, and patience. However, if a person does not have a love toward God, the "soap opera" traits will emerge: jealousy, greed, selfishness, anger, unforgiveness, and immorality. Keep it simple: love God, love others. Amen!

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Upcoming Events

June 1 Business Meeting
June 11 Baptist Men's Fishing Trip
June 19 Father's Day



"When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting" (Acts 2:1-2).

God Bless,



Your Pastors

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

I recently had an email exchange with a coworker about how the Bible's teachings on issues of morality were supposedly unclear and contradictory, and couldn't be reliably cited to justify one's beliefs and positions. His charges quickly fell flat after I offered up a few insights on how to read the Bible. I'd venture that 90% of "Bible difficulties" could be cleared up by knowing how to respond to the following issues:

Cherry picking: Selecting isolated Bible verses, or portions of them, is an easy way to make the Bible say anything what you want. Context is always key to appropriately understanding God's Word. What does the whole verse say? How does the verse fit into the surrounding verses, chapter, and book of which it is a part? What does the rest of the Bible say on the topic? The Bible is internally consistent; it doesn't contradict itself. Obscure passages should be read in the light of clearer verses and well-established doctrines.

Updating language: The Bible may not use a specific keyword or address a certain topic by name, but that doesn't mean God's Word doesn't speak about ideas expressed in modern terms or is unable to apply its eternal truths to today's issues. To illustrate, the three-in-one nature of the Godhead has plenty of scriptural support, yet the word "trinity" is not used in the Bible. Similarly, while we have technologically surpassed the world of the Bible, human hearts and our besetting sins have not changed at all. God's moral standards are applicable and relevant to current-day situations even if they didn't exist in Biblical times.

Describing versus prescribing: The Bible records, sometimes without comment, a multitude of sinful actions and attitudes. Murder, rape, incest, lying, cheating, stealing and just about anything else you can think are documented from *Genesis* to *Revelation*. Just because the Bible describes something that happened doesn't mean the Bible approves of it. Sometimes there is an immediate denunciation, and sometimes the sinning is mentioned without comment. For example, many of the patriarchs had multiple wives, yet the Bible didn't rain down "woe unto thee"s upon each polygamist. Instead, the detailed accounts of the bickering and tension that brought lifelong strife into those patriarchs' families are powerful but quiet witnesses to what can happen when God's perfect will is not followed.

Understanding Biblical culture: Using the worldview of a postmodern, liberated, enlightened, carbon-free, 21st-century world citizen to understand the thoughts and actions of Old Testament prophets or Galilean fishermen is not going to get you very far. Knowing what were appropriate manners, fashions, and protocols for interactions between different sexes, social classes, age groups, and ethnicities for the ancient Egyptians, Babylonians, Jews, Greeks, Romans will provide background when Biblical characters do or say things that seem odd to us.

Taking the Bible at its word: The Bible should be read as an accurate account of historical events described in plain language unless the context indicates otherwise. Over-spiritualizing texts and looking for hidden meanings and secret codes can lead us astray. While figures of speech and poetic language are used, and parables can have deeper spiritual meaning, sometimes a sheep is just a sheep.

Member of the Month: Lynn Eplee

- ★ Born: October 13, 1948 in Asheville, North Carolina
- ★ How long a BBC member: since May 2011
- ★ How she first came to BBC: "I had felt that God was calling me to start ministering in my own community so I visited BBC and felt the presence of the Lord in all the people. There was so much love, and I knew several people that went there. I felt very welcome and that this was where the Lord wanted me".
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "Victory in Jesus"
- ★ Favorite Bible verse: *Romans 8:28*
- ★ Age at baptism: "Jesus became the Lord and Savior of my life on June 5, 1977 and I think it was about a year later that I was baptized".
- ★ Personal claim to fame: "The birth of my three children and my grandchildren".
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: 1969 moon landing
- ★ Farthest place she's been from Barnesville: "In 1991, my daughter and I went to Europe together, London, Holland, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, and France. In 2003 I also went on a mission trip to Lima, Peru".
- ★ Story on first name: "I was born second after my sister and my parents wanted a boy and they had planned on the name Lynn Dale after my dad. They just kept the name even though I was a girl, since Lynn can be a boy or girl name. My dad's name was Dale".
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: cell phone
- ★ Hobbies: horseback riding, working in the yard, and reading



June Birthdays

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- 4 Marva Cole
- 7 Stephanie Rice
- 8 Lisa Fedders
- 9 David Bennett, Kaitlyn Cole
- 10 Gary Burdette, Sharon Engle
- 11 Jan Burdette
- 14 Marty Woods
- 16 June Luhn
- 17 Matt Yates, Donna Elgin
- 18 Frank Fowler
- 23 June Ivey
- 27 Sandra Oden, Mark Crowe



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in May:

- The Church approved the membership application of Lynn Eplee by statement.

Expected at the June Business Meeting:

- The Outreach Cmte. will offer a motion to continue its financial support of Upper Seneca Baptist through the end of the fiscal year.
- The Outreach Cmte. will offer a motion to support the Crosstrek Community Church Plant in Urbana.
- The Outreach Cmte. will request funding for the pastors' anniversary luncheon on Jun. 26.

Prayer Concerns

Junior & Arlene Luhn
Bilyie Luhn
Jane Fowler
June Luhn
the family of Helen Burdette at her passing
Jamie Thomas' "Grandpa Ron"
Dominic Latch
Neal Gravel, stationed in Afghanistan
Carolyn Miller, Janna Williams' mother
Tabitha Runkles
Gavin Byrnes
Melanie Baumbaugh
Kitty Cooley
Paul & Trudy Meissner
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, Kathleen James, Nikkie Harrington
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).*

Fishing Trip Announcement

*The Baptist Men invite the
Church family to go fishing*



Saturday, June 11, 2011
at the Neals' Pond
8:00 am-12:00 noon

21511 Peach Tree Road

Directions from Church: head east on Barnesville Road,
turn right (south) onto Peach Tree Rd., entrance is by the
animal cemetery

Lunch will be provided

Bring your own:

- ★ fishing rod and tackle
- ★ bait

News You Can Use

Vacation Bible School heading our way! The theme for this year's VBS is "Big Apple Adventure: Where Faith and Life Connect", which will be held Jul. 11-15 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. If you would like to serve in a classroom, music, crafts, recreation, or snack, please contact Pastor Randy or Mary Yates. Vacation Bible School is arguably our church's most important annual outreach activity; please join us in serving the Lord and building His Kingdom. A planning meeting will be held on Monday, Jun. 20 at 7:00 pm.



Congratulations to graduates. Mark McDonald, grandson of Virginia Magaha, recently earned his M.D. from the University of Texas. Margie Stream's grandson Michael Umberger graduated from Frederick Community College with honors. Virginia Carroll received her diploma for her doctorate in microbiology. BBC sends best wishes to all.

Bell choir performed on May 15. The Bell Choir, under the direction of Ann Bennett, performed "Nothing But the Blood", "The Power of the Cross", and "When I Survey the Wond-



rous Cross", all of which were appreciated by the congregation. The bell choir is taking the summer off; practices will resume after Labor Day.

Fried chicken dinner held. Saturday, May 21 was a fun time of good food and fellowship for those who attended the Baptist Men-sponsored evening. Five desserts were entered into the strawberry dessert contest. The judges (Sarah Oden, Michael Oden, Ray Randall, and Laura Luhn) awarded first place to Flora Gilliam for her strawberry rhubarb pie, with Ellen Williams' strawberries and cream taking second place.



Baptist Men make summer plans. The Baptist Men have planned several events for the next few months. On Saturday, Jun. 11, they will have a fishing trip and lunch at the Neals' Pond starting at 8:00 am until 12 noon. On Saturday, Aug. 20, the 9th annual Father-Child banquet will be held from 5:30 until 8:30 pm at Dutch's Daughter Restaurant in Frederick. Look for additional details on the banquet in the near future.

BBC to celebrate pastors' 10-year anniversary. On Jun. 17, 2001, Barnesville Baptist called Joe Ivey and Randy Gilliam as our pastors. In recognition of their decade of service to the Lord and our congregation, we will be having a service of celebration on Sunday, Jun. 26, followed by a catered lunch. There will be a time during the service for those who wish to make brief comments on how the pastors and their wives' service have been a blessing. A letter from the deacons will be arriving in your mailbox soon to request your RSVP for this special service.

Two baptized on May 8. One current member and one new member were baptized on the second Sunday of May. Following Jesus' example, Rhonda Burris and John Beach were baptized. Rhonda's baptism was a rededication, while John received his certificate of membership. We are so pleased to have John Beach join our church family!



Health kits distributed. The WMU wishes to thank those who contributed enough supplies to make 31 health kits for migrant workers, prison inmates, homeless people, and seamen. The WMU sent these kits to the state convention headquarters in Columbia, from where the kits were sent out to those in need in places like the port of Baltimore.

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp

