



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

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law...If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit" (Galatians 5:22-23, 25).

The members of BBC are soon to decide how to best care for the exterior of the building in which the Barnesville Baptist Church meets. Surely taking care of the building and keeping it attractive shows respect for the God we worship. This is a good time to remind ourselves that God is not so concerned with the building we meet in, but rather the "temple" in which the Holy Spirit resides. In these times when Christianity is under attack by so many media outlets, politicians, authors, and social engineers, and Christians are being watched by all members of the community, it is important that believers honor the Lord with their words and actions.

People are watching and we need to represent the love of Christ to all we meet. The apostle Paul reminded us twice in *I Corinthians 6:19-20* that we were bought with a price and should glorify God in our bodies and spirits. In *Ephesians* he talked about the "temple" where the Lord dwells: *"Now, therefore you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit."* Just imagine, the Lord placed the members and friends of BBC here to be part of His Holy temple! In this *koinonia* fellowship, we are to love one another and be of one mind. Why is this so important? Jesus made it very clear in His great priestly prayer: *"...that the world may believe that You (God) sent Me" (John 17:21).*

God Bless,

Your Pastors



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Upcoming Events

- August 3** Business Meeting
- August 20** Baptist Men's Father-Child Banquet



"This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him" (John 2:11).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

How do you know that the God of the Bible exists? How would you answer those who ask what your reasons for believing are, especially if they don't accept the Scriptures? We can look to the Bible for reasons to believe without resorting to arbitrary "because I said so" or "because I believe it in my heart" types of answers that will not convince anyone who doesn't already agree with you.

The most obvious reason to believe God exists is the creation. *Psalm 90:2* reads, "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God". Even without citing that verse, we can argue that everything that has a beginning and an end has a cause. Just as we can look at a car or a building and understand how they came to be, so too the world and the entire universe must have an ultimate Cause. This ultimate Cause must be itself uncaused, unchanging, and eternal. Does that sound like Anyone you know?

Another powerful argument to employ to justify God's existence is the design and purposefulness we see in the universe. As believers, we have faith that God, "...formed my inward parts...I am fearfully and wonderfully made..." (*Psalm 139:13-14*). To non-believers, we can use several examples from the natural world to get the point across. We can point to DNA, mentioning the encoded information stored in its strands and how it acts like a self-executing computer program that builds complex biological systems. We can also cite the logical, mathematical laws and principles that govern the behavior of matter and energy in the universe. Both examples can be used to make a link between an orderly design and the need for an orderly, intelligent Designer.

The existence of basic principles of right and wrong and truth and error that are foundational to all cultures and generations point to a common source and standard of morality. By faith we know that the reason for this is the fact that, "The LORD is our Judge, the LORD is our Lawgiver, the LORD is our King; He will save us" (*Isaiah 33:22*).

One final reason that justifies a belief in the biblical God is that without Him, we wouldn't have a rational basis for knowing anything. Before we can claim to know anything, we must first assume the existence of the laws of logic, that the universe will continue to operate under the same rules, and that we can correctly understand the world using our senses and memory. No other worldview explains why we can generate logical arguments, accurately sense and remember the world around us, or trust that similar causes will continue to have similar effects except for a belief in a logical, truthful, and consistent God. The Scriptures explain: "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction" (*Proverbs 1:7*).

Knowing the reasons why you believe that the God of the Bible exists can prepare the way for a presentation of the Gospel to a skeptic. Just like a plot of ground must be cleared of roots and rocks before a garden can be planted, fuzzy and unclear thinking must be exposed before a hardened heart will accept spiritual seeds. Being ready to engage in this "pre-evangelism" is a great way to fulfill the Great Commission call to make disciples and teach them to observe all things.

Member of the Month: John Beach

- ★ Born: May 14, 1961 in Frederick, Maryland
- ★ How long a BBC member: since May 2011
- ★ How he first came to BBC: "I started attending Sunday School when I was a little boy".
- ★ Favorite Hymns: "Amazing Grace" and "Doxology"
- ★ Age at baptism: 50 years old
- ★ Most famous person he's met: "The Lord Jesus Christ".
- ★ Farthest place he's been from Barnesville: Nashville, Tennessee
- ★ Hobbies: "Playing pool, listening to country and gospel music, and singing along with the radio".



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:

- There was no Old Business pending before the Church.

Expected at the August Business Meeting:

- The Pastor will nominate five members (Randy & Sandy Gilliam, Lee Michael, June Ivey, and himself) to serve as messengers to the 76th Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting, being held on Oct. 8 at Montrose Baptist Church in Rockville.
- The Internal Administration Committee will present a motion with two options for maintaining the exterior of the Church. The first option is to install white vinyl siding for \$19,354. The second option is to paint the Church for \$7,350. Both options will also recommend installing snow guards on the roof (\$900), buying 14 new cedar shutters (\$5,700), and increasing the Physical Plant budget line item by \$10,000 to cover the proposed spending plus expenses for the remainder of the year. The option that receives the most votes during the Business Meeting will be adopted.
- The Deacons will offer a motion to approve the membership application of Michaela Driver by profession of faith pending baptism on Sept. 18.

Prayer Concerns

Junior & Arlene Luhn, Bilyie Luhn
Dominic Latch
Neal Gravel and Frank Kostenko, stationed in Afghanistan
Tabitha Runkles
Gavin Byrnes
Kitty Cooley
Janice Cole
Linda Cain
Margaret Seyedin, Linda Roberts' friend
Tommy Thatcher, Margie Stream's sister
Bea Lindsten, Nancy Taylor's mother
Stevie Wilt, Todd Marsh's uncle
Melanie Baumbaugh
Edith Lowe and family
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Cancer patients: Bill Caudell, Doug Swank, Christine Carlin, Mike Geiser, Billy Broschart, John Moore, Lyndsay O'Malley, Kathleen James, Nikkie Harrington, Chris Levinton, Bev Magruder, Mary Lou Zell, Juanita Watson's mother Nadine
Our missionary friends: Manuel & Cindy Batres (Guatemala), Steve & Emily Ruffner (Campus Crusade), David & Cheryl Shive (Faith Home Ministries), Matt & Ellen Zell (Honduras), Earl & Maria Wentzel (Urbana)



*"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).*

VBS 2012 Sneak Peek



*"Our Lord is great, vast in power; His understanding
is infinite"
(Psalm 147:5).*

News You Can Use

Vacation Bible School well-attended. Romans 10:17 and the motto of "Hear It! Believe It! Connect It!" were heard being shouted in the sanctuary during the evenings of Jul. 11-15 during our New York City-



Joyce Dunn teaching the missions rotation

Gospel is appreciated. The total enrollment this year was 92.

VBS missions offering goes to NYC missionaries. West Africa Outreach is a ministry that was started by Chris and Nichole Clayman in June 2006. Based out of North America's Little Africa in Harlem, New York City, the West Africa Outreach ministry exists to share the Gospel and make disciples of the estimated 100,000 West African Muslims in New York City, while at the same time walking through the doors they open to the Gospel back home in Africa. This year's VBS missions offering of \$626 and the 50 back-to-school kits made by our VBS students during our new missions rotation will let BBC have a small part in helping Chris and Nichole share the Gospel with those in New York City and around the world.



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.

themed VBS. Thank you to everyone who helped make Vacation Bible School 2011 (Big Apple Adventure: Where Faith and Life Connect) a success, especially to those in the classroom, crafts, missions, recreation, snack, and behind the scenes. Your service in building God's Kingdom and sharing His

Father-child banquet. On Saturday, Aug. 21, the Baptist Men will hold their 9th 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. 7. The total per person cost this year is \$20.00 per adult and \$10.00 for a child's meal.

Bluegrass gospel concert coming to Pig Pickin'. On Saturday, Sept. 17, the annual Pig Pickin' will be followed with a 6:30 pm bluegrass gospel concert starring Gold Heart, the Gold family bluegrass band from nearby Loudoun County, Virginia. Gold Heart features three sisters (Analise, Jocelyn, and Shelby) and their father Trent who play the mandolin, rhythm guitar, fiddle, and upright bass, respectively. Be sure to attend the dinner at 4:30 pm, compete in the apple dessert contest, and invite your friends and family to the concert afterwards.

Baptism service scheduled. On Sunday, Sept. 18, a baptism service will be held. The first baptismal candidate is Michaela Driver, daughter of Cris Driver and granddaughter of Joe & Mary Yates, as she recently accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior. Please pray for this new Christian.

COTCD Cartoon

Church of the Covered Dish by Thom Tapp



"Mrs. Jones must really like your sermons dear... I heard her say yesterday that every one she heard was better than the next one!"