



# 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 Pastor's Spotlight

*"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea..." (Psalm 46:1-2).*

The Psalmist had such great confidence in the nature and faithfulness of God that he proclaimed that God was his safe place of refuge and his strong shield against adversaries. Because of this confidence he declared that he would not be afraid even if the earth "be removed" (i.e. shaken or changed, perhaps by an earthquake). Folks in the Barnesville area were startled on Aug. 23 by an earthquake that happened in Mineral, Virginia. When the most basic physical support we have, the earth, begins to tremble, it causes some anxiety and fear. Like the Psalmist, a Christian should lean on his/her faith in God and have a sense of peace, even if the ground begins to shake.

The Psalmist had probably experienced earthquakes in the Jerusalem area. The rift valley between the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea is an active earthquake zone. The research of a geophysics professor at Tel Aviv University suggests that large earthquakes occurred in this zone in 749 BC, 362 BC, 31 BC and 1033 AD. Several smaller earthquakes have occurred as recently as 2007. The researcher also predicts that a major earthquake is coming to this region in the future, but he can't say exactly when. You do not have to be a scientist to know that another great earthquake is coming. "And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives...and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley..." (Zechariah 14:4). What a great sight and sound and earth-shaking that will be when the Lord returns! Surely in that day, the Lord will be the secure refuge and strength for those who trust in Him. Since Jesus paid the price for our sin, we never have to fear the judgment that comes with the Day of the Lord and the great earthquake.

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## Upcoming Events

- September 5** Labor Day, Church Office Closed
- September 7** Business Meeting
- September 16** Watkins Cabinet Lunch
- September 17** Baptist Men's Pig Pickin' & Concert
- September 23** Family Film Night



God Bless,

Pastor Randy



*"Jesus said to him, 'Go your way; your son lives.' So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way" (John 4:50).*

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

By now most BBC members and friends are aware of the situation that has resulted in the resignation of our senior pastor. It is difficult to know how to process the shock and sadness that we all feel. This is the time when our faith really matters, when all that we thought we knew and all that we leaned on has been swept away except for the Lord. As we enter the next chapter of our church's history, there are some fundamental truths we must not forget and must not abandon.

First, God is in control of this situation. We must look to our Heavenly Father for guidance and support. Paul recognized this truth when he said, *"...most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me...when I am weak, then I am strong"* (II Corinthians 12:9-10). We will move forward under His watchcare.

Second, this church belongs to Jesus Christ. The church was founded by Christ, is led today by Christ, and will be taken into eternity by Christ. No one personality or group should offer any competition for our total devotion to our Lord and Savior. We are members of Barnesville Baptist only because Christ has saved us and called us to serve and be served in this congregation.

Third, we continue to need a Savior. This situation reminds us how fragile we really are and how easy it is to falter. Our own strength is totally insufficient; we need the salvation that comes through Christ. Peter recognized this truth and clung close to Jesus, saying, *"...Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God"* (John 6:68). Later in life, Peter explained that to have victory over sin and temptation, we need the, *"...power of God through faith for salvation..."* (I Peter 1:5).

Fourth, we need to pray. As individuals, as families, and as a congregation, we need God's direction. Ask the Lord that Pastor Randy and the deacons may have an extra dose of godly wisdom and discernment, as well as members' support and active participation, in the months ahead. The Scriptures call upon us to constantly approach our Heavenly Father, so we must, *"...pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much"* (James 5:16). Again in I Thessalonians 5:17 we are encouraged to, *"...pray without ceasing..."*.

Fifth, we are still called to service. Acts 2 lays out our purpose as a congregation. Since 1871, our local body of believers has been organized to show care and love to others (fellowship), disciple the saints in the Word (teaching), praise God (worship), meet physical and spiritual needs in the name of Christ (ministry), and fulfill the Great Commission (evangelism). Neither the call nor the need have been satisfied, and will never be until Jesus comes for us. We must continue to give generously to missions and missionaries, to regularly call the fire department to fill the baptistery, and to decorate the sanctuary every July so we can share the good news of the Gospel with children.

For 140 years Barnesville Baptist Church has been a light atop our hill. God has blessed us with a strong sense of unity and love for one another. We can walk through this valley together if we lean on Him.

## Member of the Month: Michael Oden

- ★ Born: September 13, 1996 in Rockville, MD
- ★ How long a BBC member: since November 2008
- ★ Church offices held: bell choir member
- ★ How he first came to BBC: brought as a baby by his grandmother and great-grandparents
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "Holy, Holy, Holy"
- ★ Favorite Pew: back row, right side
- ★ Favorite Bible verse: *John 3:16*
- ★ Age at baptism: 12 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Barnesville Baptist
- ★ Most important historical event in his life: 9/11
- ★ Farthest place he's been from Barnesville: Texas
- ★ Story on first name: named after his father
- ★ Most important technology invented in his lifetime: the computer
- ★ Hobbies: riding his bike



## September Birthdays

- 1 Chuck Fowler, Andrew Yates
- 3 Megan Fedders
- 4 Kristina Cole, Bill Morrison
- 7 Scott Bennett
- 9 Janna Williams
- 10 Ben Bennett
- 11 Shirley Yates, Eric Engle
- 13 Michael Oden
- 14 Ellen Williams, Duane Yates
- 18 Nancy Taylor
- 21 Melissa Campbell, Logan Marsh
- 25 Gale Cole
- 29 Justin Tothill
- 30 Eric Noegel



## Business Meeting Briefs

*Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in August:*

- The Church approved the nominations of Randy Gilliam and Lee Michael to serve as messengers to the 76<sup>th</sup> Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting, being held on Oct. 8 at Montrose Baptist Church in Rockville.
- The Church voted 18-7 to adopt an amended motion accepting the Steeples Plus bid to paint the Church (\$13,800), install snow guards on the roof (\$900), buy 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 Church approved the membership application of Michaela Driver by profession of faith pending baptism on Sept. 18.
- A motion to recognize Paul Foster for his 10 years as Choir Director was referred to the Worship Committee.

*Expected at the September Business Meeting:*

- The Deacons have accepted the resignation of the Pastor. Associate Pastor Randy Gilliam is the Acting Pastor.
- The Nominating Committee will propose candidates to fill vacancies in several church offices and positions.
- The Worship Committee will offer a motion to recognize Paul Foster for his 10 years of service as Choir Director with a luncheon on Sunday, Oct. 16.

## Pig Pickin' Announcement

*The Baptist Men invite the Church family to a Pig Pickin'*



*Saturday, September 17 in the Fellowship Hall  
Dinner will be served at 4:00 pm  
Bring a side dish to share*

*Enter an apple-based dessert (pie, cake, cobbler, turnovers, tarts, etc.) into the Apple Dessert Contest!*

## Prayer Concerns

Jeddie DeFries  
Junior & Arlene Luhn, Bilyie Luhn  
Dominic Latch  
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,  
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).*

## News You Can Use

*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 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.

*BBC spends a day at the fair.* On Thursday, Aug. 18, members of Barnesville Baptist manned the Montgomery Baptist Association tent at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. Those who spent time ministering to fairgoers included Randy & Sandy Gilliam, Todd & Sherri



Marsh, Paul & Leslie Foster, Linda Roberts, Ed Williams, and Nancy Wells, who did face painting.

*Directory update planned.* Anyone with corrections or updates for their entry in the church directory should contact Lee Michael before the end of September. Supplements will be distributed in mid-October.

*Supporting missions in Maryland/Delaware.* The State Missions offering is a vital part of the ongoing task of building God's Kingdom. The BCM/D-wide goal this year is \$215,000. BBC's 2011 goal is \$1,455, which will support local efforts like girls' and boys' missions camps, Ocean City and Deep Creek Lake resort ministries, disaster relief, and VBS clinics. Please prayerfully consider how you can support state missions.

*Justin Hanneken spoke Aug. 14.* Justin and wife Karena visited BBC from Fort Myers, FL. Justin is a missionary and Director of Outreach for youthHOPE, an international ministry that seeks to "transform the lives of young people around the world with the hope of Christ". You can contact Justin for information about his ministry at [jhanneken@youthHOPE.com](mailto:jhanneken@youthHOPE.com).

*Ninth annual father-child banquet.* A wonderful time of fellowship was held on Aug. 20 at Dutch's Daughter Restaurant in Frederick. Twenty-eight fathers and guests gathered for a delicious meal. Afterwards, Lee Michael started the program with comments on the heroes and role models of faith found in *Hebrews 11*.



Steve Honeycutt spoke about the legacy we can

*Ed Williams, Megan Malik, Michael, Sara, Michelle, and Michael Oden (l-r)*

pass down to our children. Larry Michael followed with a top-20 list of advice he'd give his grandsons. Keynote speaker Randy Gilliam spoke about "training up" children, basing his comments on *Proverbs 22:6*.

*Montgomery Baptists to meet.* The 76<sup>th</sup> Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting will take place at Montrose Baptist Church on Saturday, Oct. 8, 9:30 am-1:00 pm. The guest preacher will be Mitch Dowell, executive director of Embrace Wilmington, the state convention's major effort to start new churches in key population centers.

## COTCD Cartoon

**Church of the Covered Dish** by Thom Tapp

