



The Barnesville Lantern

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November 2011, Volume 10, No. 6

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path (Psalm 119:105).

The Pastors' Spotlight

"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

As we welcome November, we will prepare to celebrate one of the most popular Christian holidays, Thanksgiving. There is a physical beauty at this time because of the harvests, the colors of the changing leaves, and the clear evening skies with the changing constellations. There is also a spiritual beauty and power in Thanksgiving that is sometimes overwhelming. If you take a Bible concordance and look up the references for "thank", "thankful", "thanks", and "thanksgiving", you instantly feel the reverence, awe, and gratitude toward God expressed by the writers moved by the Holy Spirit. A natural reaction to God's goodness is a heartfelt outpouring of thankfulness to Him. How can we not be thankful, whatever our circumstances, to our God who has shown such great love to us? *"Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God" (1 John 3:1)!*

An important part of our expressing joy at Thanksgiving is singing the great hymns of thankfulness: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"; We Gather Together"; "For The Beauty of the Earth"; and "Now Thank We All Our God". There is a new hymn we can add to this list, "My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness", written by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend. This song expresses thanks to the Lord Jesus for His salvation, for His presence, and for His peace throughout life. This hymn is included in the new Baptist Hymnal. If you can attend the Thanksgiving Eve service at BBC, we will learn to sing it.

May God richly bless you as you give thanks to the Savior.

God Bless,

Pastor Randy

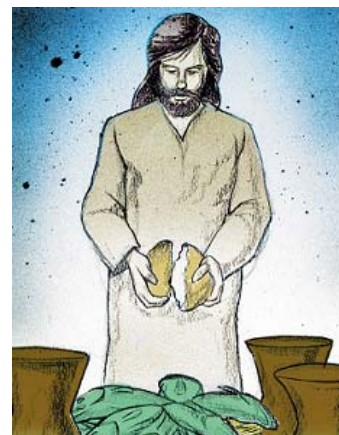


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Upcoming Events

November 2 Business Meeting
November 11 Veteran's Day
November 12 Thanksgiving Potluck, 4:30 pm
November 18 Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends
November 23 Thanksgiving Eve Service, 7:00 pm
November 24 Thanksgiving, Church Office closed



"And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted" (John 6:11).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

This time of year is a prime season for giving to charity, and the requests come from all directions: at work, school, and stores. The entrances to these locations are marked by drop boxes and signs and staffed by bell ringers, 20-something activists, and doe-eyed children who all want your support. Even churches and Christian ministries ramp up their requests for extra giving in this season. BBC is no exception. Now that we've concluded the state missions offering, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering envelopes will be here soon, and Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are due Nov. 6.

Some people react with "donor fatigue" to the many needs around them by becoming frustrated or disillusioned. The Apostle Andrew felt like this in *John 6:9*, when faced with the task of feeding the 5,000, saying, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?" In human terms, Andrew was certainly correct, there was no earthly way so little could provide for so many. However, our Lord is an expert at taking nothing and making it more than enough. In Matthew's recording of this event, Christ "...blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained" (*Matthew 14:19-20*). Jesus taught His followers to offer up everything they owned or cared about for Kingdom use so that His message of salvation would be broadcasted and His Father's glory would be magnified: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (*Luke 12:34*).

As you consider how to best act as a steward of the blessings and resources God has entrusted to you, consider the "return on investment" in giving tithes and offerings to the Kingdom through your local congregation at Barnesville. From October 2010 through September 2011, BBC sent \$92,079, or 36% of our budget, out to other Christian organizations and people for use in charitable ministry and evangelism. The largest amount, \$54,429, was sent to SBC entities such as our local association and state convention, including \$23,207 to the Cooperative Program. Part of these funds were used by BBC to fund a mission trip to the Dominican Republic, support a sister church struggling financially, and to help a new church plant get off the ground. Another \$19,436 was sent to other Christian ministries, which allowed the following acts of love and care in Jesus' name to occur: 50 needy children in New York City received school supplies, local area foster children and battered women had a safe place to sleep and receive care, Christians in Guatemala could worship in their own church buildings, inmates in Clarksburg received spiritual support from a prison chaplain, the homeless, poor, and addicts in Frederick received practical assistance and a Christian witness, and students in central Asian countries were exposed to curriculum based on a Christian worldview. Closer to home, \$18,214 was earmarked for benevolence to the neediest among us.

While there are many worthy charities to support during this season of caring, consider that only the Lord's work has an eternal element, addressing both people's physical and spiritual needs. May the Lord bless your willingness to give now and throughout the year.

Interview with the Choir Director

Paul Foster

- ★ *How did you get your start with music, singing, and conducting?* Wow, that takes me way back. I was about eight years old when I joined a drum & bugle corps with the local Cub Scout pack. Next came years of piano lessons and playing the cornet and French horn in the school bands, from elementary through high school. It was during my high school years that I switched from classical to rock music, playing keyboard and singing back-up for the not-so-famous group The Avant Garde. Other than singing in the shower, I dropped music until after my sons Paul and Scott were born. Every Wednesday evening my wife Leslie would leave us at home to practice with the church choir. As I missed her company, we started tagging along, the boys sleeping in the pews and me learning the bass parts and singing solos in cantatas and other musical pieces. A few years later I was asked to be the congregational song leader at Poolesville Baptist, which was my first experience leading people in singing. After moving to BBC, I served as substitute choir director on occasion, until the job became open. Reluctantly agreeing to give it a try, I've been doing it now for 10 years, and enjoying it.
- ★ *What did you learn from singing in the National Christian Choir that has helped you as BBC's choir director?* The short answer is "a lot". I find myself teaching things like diction and breathing techniques just like Dr. Causey did with the NCC, which is not a bad thing at all, considering how gifted he is. Even though the NCC is a much larger and experienced choir than ours, these are just as valid with our group. The most important thing to remember in group singing is to listen and blend with others.
- ★ *How do you decide which songs to select each Sunday?* Ideally, I try and choose music that will match, and hopefully enhance, the sermon. This is not always possible, as the choir usually needs several weeks in preparing special music, and the sermon topic may not be available when I choose the songs. In those cases, I try to go with a theme – the greatness of God, the second coming, and the like. Special seasons like Christmas and Easter are fun, as there are loads of topical hymns and praise songs to choose from. In all cases, I strive to choose music that is worshipful and praising of God.
- ★ *What is the most important thing you have learned or experienced in the last 10 years as BBC's choir director?* That you can't please everybody. For the first few years I would stress out during praise songs when church members would sit with their arms crossed looking either bored or upset. I finally realized that it's not them I should be trying to please. No matter what music I choose, some people will like it and some people won't. Another thing that I have learned, and appreciate, is what a great group of dedicated choir members we have. Every

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November Birthdays

- 1 Dorine Shields
- 4 J.C. Cooley, Laura Luhn
- 5 Randy Gilliam, Clark Brown
- 6 Nancy Wells
- 8 Loraine DeFries
- 9 Lindsey Baumbaugh
- 11 Jane Fowler, Brenda Cross
- 12 Cris Driver
- 13 Faith Shive
- 15 William Rodgers
- 16 Sherry Morrison
- 18 Anna Michael, Todd Rice, Resha Lehman
- 21 Junior Luhn
- 22 Michelle Ennis
- 23 Kitty Cooley, Tod Luhn
- 24 Stephanie Fowler, Rose Furr
- 26 Joyce Dunn
- 27 Margie Stream, Holly Crowe
- 28 Cheryl Shive



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Annual Business Meeting in October:

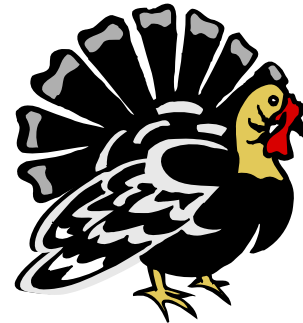
- A resolution to begin the annual budget process for 2011 was adopted; the standing committees will report their budget requests to the Treasurer by Oct. 30.
- Joe Yates was appointed to serve as the Chairman of the Education Committee for the remainder of the 2010-2012 term, vice Randy Gilliam, resigned.
- Pastor Randy & Sandy Gilliam were appointed as messengers to the BCM/D Annual Convention, being held Nov. 15-16 in Towson, MD.
- The Outreach Committee's motion to hold a Church Christmas party at Mountain Gate Restaurant in Thurmont, MD on Dec. 4 was adopted.
- Eddie Fowler was appointed as a messenger to the MBA meeting.
- A motion to replace the sanctuary windows and install concrete fiberboard on the front façade was approved.

Expected at the November Business Meeting:

- As of press time, there were no motions ready for action by the Church at the November 2011 Business Meeting.

Thanksgiving Potluck Announcement

The Baptist Men invite the Church family to a Thanksgiving Potluck



*Saturday, November 12 in the Fellowship Hall
A Turkey Dinner will be served at 4:30 pm
Bring a side dish to share*

*Enter a pumpkin or pecan-based dessert
(pie, cake, roll, pastry, etc.) into the
Pumpkin Pie Plus Dessert Contest!*

Prayer Concerns

Nancy Cooley
Jeddie DeFries
Junior & Arlene Luhn, Bilyie Luhn
Steve Scheuch, Nancy Wells' brother
George Heaton, Dot Fowler's brother
Frank Kostenko, stationed in Afghanistan
Linda Cain
Tommy Thacker, Margie Stream's sister
Bea Lindsten, Nancy Taylor's mother
Melanie Baumbaugh
Edith Lowe and family
Ted Halverson
Julie Foster
Scott Gilliam
Brenda Cross
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Mike Geiser, Billy Broschart,
John Moore, Lyndsay O'Malley, Chris Levinton, Bev Magruder,
Rosie Bowman
Our missionary friends: Manuel & Cindy Batres (Guatemala),
Steve & Emily Ruffner (International School Project), 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

Paul Foster honored on Oct. 16. Barnesville Baptist celebrated Paul Foster's 10 years of service as our choir director on the third Sunday of October. Pastor Randy presented Paul with a plaque during the worship service, and a luncheon was held afterward to mark the occasion.



Christmas Dinner scheduled for Dec. 4. The 2011 Christmas Dinner will be held at Mountain Gate Restaurant in Thurmont on Sunday, Dec. 4 at 6:30 pm. The total cost is \$16.01 for adults. Children ages 12 and under are the guests of BBC. Please RSVP by Nov. 27 to Sandy Gilliam.

State missions offering exceeded. As of press time, BBC has exceeded its 2011 goal of \$1,455 by \$50. Thank you for your prayerful generosity: these offerings are vital to the on-going church planting and evangelism in Maryland and Delaware.

MBA annual meeting report. Five BBC messengers attended the 76th Montgomery Baptist Association annual meeting held



The MBA's Ethiopian language ministry performing during the meeting

at Montrose Baptist on Oct. 8. BCM/D Missionary Rev. Mitch Dowell used *Ezra 9:8-9* to discuss the upcoming Embrace Silver Spring evangelism effort. Six new churches received full membership affiliation and six churches were granted watch care status for future membership.

Christmas poinsettias for sale. If you would like to purchase a Christmas poinsettia in honor of/in memory of a loved one, please contact Kitty Cooley at 301-349-5119. The poinsettias will be used to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas services and throughout the holiday season.

Halloween hospitality at BBC. For Barnesville locals, swing by the church on Halloween night; Pastor Randy will be passing out candy and tracts starting at 5:30 pm.

Get ready for Operation Christmas Child. You can share the love and hope of Jesus Christ with needy children around the world by packing a shoebox with toys. The WMU needs your donations no later than Sunday, Nov. 6.

Interview with the Choir Director, cont.

week they come to rehearsal plus Sunday service, smiling and ready to praise the Lord. Twice a week times 52 weeks a year is a lot of dedication, and some choir members don't miss once in a year!

- ★ *What behind-the-scene activities and preparation go into getting ready for each Sunday's music that most BBC members may not know about?* I try to plan out the Sunday music several weeks in advance, to give the choir and pianist (whom we all love and appreciate) time to prepare. And even with that, there is constant shuffling and switching to Plan B, and sometimes to Plan C when surprises arise. This includes things like the pastor changing his sermon topic or requesting a different song for the invitation on that very Sunday morning, a guest speaker/pastor coming in on short notice, a soloist or musician becoming sick, etc. One other thing most BBC members may not realize is that we try and obtain rehearsal CDs for the choir members for our choir specials. That way they have something to listen to and work with throughout the week. Most of our songs have four-part harmony, and learning and blending the parts, plus instrumentation, is a challenge. We try and balance everything at Tuesday night rehearsals, but a member or two may be missing or not up to full voice, then come Sunday, someone else may be missing. It's a challenge, but a fun challenge. If we had a slightly larger choir, that might help (hint to those non-choir members reading this).

COTCD Cartoon

Church of the Covered Dish by Thom Tapp



"I don't get it... I missed Sunday School last week and my teacher sent me a thank you card..."