



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

"...Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen..." (Luke 24:5-6)!

The women who first heard the extraordinary news recorded in *Luke 24* no doubt wondered what it might mean. They had seen the dead body of their Lord laid in the tomb. Could it possibly be that He was now alive? The angels encouraged them to think back, "...Remember how He told you, while He was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again'" (vv. 6-7).

When the two disciples on the road to Emmaus recognized the risen Savior, they returned at once to Jerusalem and with the Eleven proclaimed, "*It is true! The Lord has risen...*" (v. 34). While the disciples were discussing this, "...Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you'" (v. 36). Not yet understanding what had happened they were afraid. But Jesus said to them, "*Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch Me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have*" (v. 38). Though they were joyful and amazed at the Lord's presence they were still reluctant to believe. Jesus asked them, "...Do you have anything here to eat? They gave Him a piece of broiled fish, and He took it and ate it in their presence" (vv. 41-42). The Lord presented Himself alive to His disciples and it changed their lives.

Jesus' resurrection validated everything He taught and preached. Therefore He said, "...repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in His name to all nations" (v. 47). The good news of the gospel is that Jesus defeated death, the great enemy of mankind. Jesus declared, "...Because I live, you also will live" (*John 14:19*). His death and resurrection not only reconciled us to God, but also gave those who trust in Him everlasting life! "*I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever...*" (*Revelation 1:18*)! He is risen indeed!

God Bless,



Pastor Randy

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Upcoming Events

April 1 Palm Sunday
April 4 Business Meeting
April 6 Good Friday Service, 7:00 pm
April 8 Easter Sunday, Easter Cantata
April 21 Baptist Men's Meeting; Church Clean-Up Day
April 27 Lunch with Watkins Cabinet Friends



"For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth" (Job 19:25).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Have you ever enjoyed the experience of redeeming a valuable coupon at your favorite store? By presenting that piece of paper to the cashier, the store was obligated to give you something valuable in return. When you showed up with that magic ticket, it was time for the store to pay up.

“Redeem”, or “redemption” can also mean to recover ownership, set free from captivity, release from debt, clear from accusation, or restore one’s honor. These latter meanings describe how God sought to rescue us from sin and death and bring us back into a relationship with Him.

“In the beginning”, when things were “very good”, God enjoyed knowing Adam & Eve on a daily and personal basis in the Garden of Eden. Once Adam & Eve fell into sin through willful disobedience and lack of faith in God’s Word, they no longer wanted to meet God in the cool of the day as they did before (*Genesis 3:8*), but instead hid themselves from the Lord in shame and fear (vv. 8, 10). And so a holy and righteous God turned out his prize creation, made in His own image, barring the way back to fellowship and communion: *“...therefore the Lord God sent him out of the garden of Eden...He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life”* (vv. 23-24). Even though Adam & Eve had sinned, the Lord still loved them, and began to work out His plan of redemption for all mankind, who inherited their ancestors’ sin nature. Throughout the Bible we see not only warnings to turn from wickedness or face punishment, but also promises of restoration and forgiveness. In *Isaiah 44:22* the Lord forgave an idolatrous Judah and opened His arms for the people to again turn to their God: *“I have blotted out, like a thick cloud, your transgressions, and like a cloud, your sins. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.”*

The Lord’s plan of redemption was also meant to rescue His prize creation from everlasting death, or separation from God. In *Hosea 13:14* the Lord warned of judgment to a wicked and rebellious Israel, yet even in the midst of that well-deserved condemnation the Lord showed His eternal love toward His people by promising, *“I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. O Death, I will be your plagues! O Grave, I will be your destruction...”!*

God’s redemption was realized in the person of Jesus Christ, His one and only Son. In *Titus 2:14* we learn that Christ *“...gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us...”*, and so it was at Calvary that Jesus fulfilled the meaning of redemption in so many ways. No longer condemned by God as the descendants of banished lawbreakers, Jesus recovered our status as God’s children and heirs, set us free from the bonds of sin so that we could walk with God in newness of life, released us from having to pay for the consequences of our innumerable sins, cleared us from Satan’s accusations, and restored our standing before God by clothing us in His own righteousness. There was no paper coupon or shiny ticket involved in our redemption, but on the cross Jesus cashed in His own life in an amazing act of love and sacrifice and then rose up from the grave to bring us back home with Him.

Interview with the Church Pianist

Jan Burdette

★ *How did you get your start with music and playing the piano?* My parents thought it would be a good idea for me to learn about music. Since we had my grandmother’s piano that was the logical choice of instrument. I started piano lessons just before my 7th birthday, with Joyce Yates, in Poolesville. In my early teens, I began taking lessons from Emily Thorne. I continued with her until I went off to college. I also took one semester of piano lessons in college.

★ *When did you start playing the piano for BBC?* My “regular gig” began when I was 14 or 15, accompanying the Youth Choir and playing for various youth programs. Soon thereafter, Lorraine DeFries and I started playing piano/organ duets for the Prelude, Offertory, and hymns. After Pastor DeFries retired, and Emily Thorne became the Choir Director, I began accompanying the Adult Choir, in addition to playing organ/piano duets for the service. I am grateful to both Lorraine and Emily for encouraging and supporting me as I grew in skill and interest in sacred music.

★ *What are the most rewarding and most challenging aspects of playing the piano for BBC each week?* I am rewarded when I learn that a choir special or offertory music has especially touched someone and contributed to a sense of worship for them. The most challenging aspect is learning the more contemporary praise music. I have more traditional training and taste, so it stretches me.

★ *In addition to Tuesday night choir practice, how else do you prepare for each Sunday’s music?* In addition to Tuesday night practice, I spend a couple of additional hours each week choosing the Offertory piece, practicing the music for Sunday morning, and working on choir pieces that are planned for future dates. Of course, in the weeks leading up to holiday programs, I spend additional time at the piano.

★ *What is the most important thing you have learned or experienced as BBC’s pianist?* I have learned that music “speaks” to people, even when I least expect it! The most important thing I have experienced is our choir director’s and choir members’ patience during my learning curves and our congregation’s support of my participation in the music program.

★ *In your opinion, how does music help contribute to a worship service?* In my opinion, music contributes to the worship service by, with the proper selections, emphasizing the sermon message or supporting a general spirit of reverence and focus.

April Birthdays

- 1** Jo Blalock
- 2** Rebecca Umstead
- 4** Ralph Wright
- 13** Lacey Williams
- 14** Luke Watson
- 15** Dot Fowler
- 24** Mark Williams
- 29** Zachary Fedders



Prayer Concerns

Ralph & Nancy Cooley
Kitty Cooley
Larry Michael
Louise Richardson, aunt of Paul Keriakos
Matthew Burris, recovering from surgery
Sandra Oden, recovering from surgery
Dave Rose
Junior & Eleanor Collins
Ashley Dixon
Tammy Combs, Cindy Combs
Wanda Huntley
Junior & Arlene Luhn, Bilyie Luhn
Steve Scheuch, Nancy Wells' brother
Frank Kostenko, stationed in Afghanistan
Julie Foster, Paul Foster's mother
Linda Cain
Michael Grant
Scott Smith
June Luhn
Tabitha Runkles
Jen Bach, friend of Leslie Foster
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Mike Geiser, Billy Broschart,
Lyndsay O'Malley, Bev Magruder, Thomas Lally, Phil Brudner,
Ginger Anderson, Sandy Shaull, Jimmy Benson, Mary
Harrington, Rick Hartley, Evelyn Carlin
Our missionary friends: Manuel & Cindy Batres (Guatemala),
Steve & Emily Ruffner (International School Project), David &
Cheryl Shive (Faith Home Ministries), Matt & Ellen Zell
(Honduras)



*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).*

Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in March:

- The Select Committee on Auditing's report on the 2011 finances was accepted by the Church.
- The Church approved the Internal Administration Cmte.'s motion to accept the Steeples Plus bid to repair the window trims and jambs, front porch, basement entrance area, and install and paint cement board on the remainder of the sanctuary exterior.

Expected at the April Business Meeting:

- As of press time, there were no motions ready for action by the Church at the April 2012 Business Meeting.

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"GOD IS A BETTER MONEY MANAGER THAN THE GOVERNMENT, 'CAUSE HE ONLY NEEDS TEN PERCENT."

News You Can Use

Easter services planned. The BBC Choir will present their cantata entitled, "Amazing Grace", a compelling musical that takes a closer look at the incomprehensible grace of God as it retraces the events that lead up to the first Easter during the morning worship service on Easter Sunday, Apr. 8. Scott Foster and Leslie Foster will sing solos and Lee Michael will narrate. BBC will also gather for a Good Friday worship service on Apr. 6 at 7:00 pm.

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal set. The WMU has set a 2012 goal of \$1,950 for BBC. This offering is used to support the 5,000+ missionaries serving under the North American Mission Board. The SBC-wide goal is \$70

million. All receipts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering will directly support the following mission endeavors: Missionary Support, 58%; Church Planting, 28%;

Evangelism, 14%. Let's do our part to support the missionaries who are spreading the good news of the Gospel in the United States & Canada. Thank you for your prayerful generosity.

Church clean-up day. On Saturday, Apr. 21 at 9:00 am, join the Groundsmen, the Baptist Men, and the rest of your Church family to clean up the church building and grounds. Contact Head Groundsman Larry Michael for more information on jobs and tools needed. Lunch will be provided for workers at noon.

VBS 2012 dates set. Believe it or not, Barnesville Baptist is already preparing for this year's Vacation Bible School, to be held Jul. 9-13. Volunteers are needed to serve as teachers and helpers in the areas of crafts, recreation, and snack. Talk to Pastor Randy if you'd like to participate. Please begin praying for this most important outreach event of the year.

Library news. BBC has added two new titles to its library collection. The movie "Courageous", which portrays the importance of fatherhood, is now available for borrowing. Also on the shelf is Gayla Parker's book, "Active Compassion". Gayla uses the *Mark 2* account of the paralytic man carried to Jesus through a roof by his friends to challenge people today to bring hurting people to Jesus by engaging in active compassion.



Women's Rally report. BBC held its fourth Women's Rally on Mar. 16-18. Our keynote

speaker was Gayla Parker, WMU Director of the BCM/D. Gayla's messages came from *John 4* where the Samaritan woman encountered Jesus at the well. In this encounter, the woman learned several things:

repentance is necessary and it is not easy; she learned about the nature of living water as a gift from God; and, she learned that

the Messiah whom she waited for was speaking to her face to face. What an awesome encounter! Special thanks go out to Joyce Dunn who organized this and the three previous women's rallies.



Easter lilies for sale. If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily in honor of/in memory of a loved one, please contact Kitty Cooley at 301-349-5119. The lilies will be used to decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday and throughout the Easter season.

Easter sunrise service on Sugarloaf Mountain. For early risers, this 58th annual mountaintop service beginning at 6:00 am on Easter morning is a wonderful way to begin the celebration of the Lord's resurrection with believers from many local congregations. We all have the Risen Savior in common.

April directory update coming soon. Attention all members: the next update to the church directory will be distributed by the end of April. New pictures are being taken for everyone. Also, those with changes to their contact information should promptly submit their information to Lee Michael. After April, the next scheduled directory update is planned for October—don't delay!

Messiah in the Passover service. Rabbi Neal Surasky, the Chosen People Ministries representative who has visited us twice before, will be joining us again on Wednesday, Apr. 11 at 7:00 pm to speak about the relationship between the Passover and Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. This service will be a great way to complete the Easter holiday and learn more about how Jesus was the Passover Lamb for all mankind.