



# The Barnesville Lantern

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## 10<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary

June 2012, Volume 11, No. 1

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

### The Pastor's Spotlight

*"Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts according to the grace given us" (Romans 12:4-6).*

To say that the human body is amazingly complex would be a striking understatement. The members—limbs, internal organs, and body parts—that allow the body to function as one unit are myriad. Limbs allow us to move, grasp, kick and throw. Internal organs keep blood flowing, digest food, give us balance and structure, breath oxygen in and out, and make thinking, reasoning, singing, and worshipping possible. More visible body parts give us the ability to see, hear, smell, taste, and touch the world around us. Though these members are different in size and shape, they work together to allow the body to function and to work and at play. There is extreme diversity in design and purpose of the body's members just as there is extreme unity among the all members in allowing the body to function as one organism.

No wonder Paul compared the church, those in Christ, to the human body. The diversity in the church is worldwide: *"... With your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation..." (Revelation 5:9).* There is not only diversity of members but also diversity of gifts: preaching, teaching, serving, encouraging, giving, leading, showing mercy, praying, peacemaking, evangelism, prophecy, and others. In Christ, the church forms one body. It is the task of the unified church, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to take God's love to the world and to share the gospel of life with every person. "Make us one, Lord, make us one!"

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### Upcoming Events

- June 6** Business Meeting
- June 16** Baptist Men's Fishing Trip
- June 17** Father's Day
- June 27** July Business Meeting (TBD)



*Flag Day is June 14*

God Bless,



Pastor Randy

*"We will rejoice in your salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners..." (Psalm 20:5)!*

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Are you ready for battle? The Apostle Paul instructed the church at Ephesus to be ready for spiritual warfare. Even though Jesus defeated Satan on the cross, evil is still present and powerful in the world today. However, we are to “...*be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might*” (*Ephesians 6:10*) because the final victory shall be Christ’s when He strips evil of all its influence and banishes it to hell. Jesus promised His followers, “...*the gates of Hades shall not prevail against [My church]*” (*Matthew 16:18*). The church of Jesus Christ is not defending a castle under siege, it is to storm and overcome evil’s strongholds.

In order to prepare for battle, warding off temptations and fighting the good fight of faith throughout your life (*I Timothy 1:18; 6:12; II Timothy 4:7*), you must dress for success. Paul used the elements of a Roman soldier’s armor to lay out to the Ephesian Christians, and to us today, how to prepare for life’s spiritual challenges in *Ephesians 6:14-17*.

The first piece of gear is the belt of truth to tuck in the loose ends of life so they don’t tangle us up. As it says in *I Corinthians 13:11*, as mature Christians, we are to put away childish things.

Next is the breastplate of righteousness to protect your heart and other vital organs. The most important asset a Christian has in dealing with the world is an unimpeachable testimony that comes by living with holiness. A role model in this regard is Job, whom God called blameless, and who maintained his integrity despite intense persecution (*Job 1:1, 8*).

Footwear is important when traversing rough terrain. Paul recommended wearing the shoes of preparation of the gospel of peace. Just as the Roman soldiers wore boots with nail cleats for traction, we are to withstand all that comes before us, unlike the man who built upon the “sinking sand” of *Matthew 7:26-27*.

Next came the shield of faith, which was trust in God. The Roman version was large enough to protect the entire body, just as trusting in God would defend against the fiery darts of temptation. The “shield of faith” is first found in *Psalms 18:2*, which David wrote to celebrate God’s deliverance of him from Saul. For David, God Himself was his shield in a very personal way.

Protecting the head is the helmet of salvation, which gives us the assurance of salvation, defending against doubt and discouragement that God loves us and has saved us forever. We can be sure that our salvation is permanent because it is “...*sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance...*” (*Ephesians 1:13-14*).

Finally, the properly armed Christian carries with him the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. It is the only offensive weapon listed or needed. Consider the power of Scripture to defeat our spiritual adversaries in *Matthew 4*, when Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness for 40 days and nights. Each time Satan came against Jesus, He defended Himself by going to the Scripture: “*It is written...*” Biblical truth is so potent we cannot be effective Christians without a deep familiarity with and constant exposure to God’s Word.

Suit up! The battle is ongoing, and the Captain of your Salvation calls you to join the fray (*Hebrews 2:10*).

## Interview with the *Lantern* Staff

Randy Gilliam, Sandy Gilliam, and Lee Michael

★ *Why did you decide to start a church newsletter?*

Randy: Members and friends of BBC make up a faith family and, just as in biological families, communication is important. The *Lantern* communicates many things: it teaches and encourages from Scripture; informs about church activities and schedules; keeps those needing prayer in the minds of people; highlights activities and ministries; celebrates baptisms, births and other special events; and recognizes people’s service.

★ *What are some of the most challenging and rewarding aspects of writing the *Lantern*?*

Randy: There are two particularly challenging aspects of writing the *Lantern*. One is having a certainty that what is written has been prayed about and is accurate or consistent with baptistic beliefs and sensitive to the people’s needs. The other is meeting a deadline! As a world-class procrastinator at times, I depend on the friendly, monthly reminders by the editor about the publishing date. In 10 years, we have never missed a month. The rewarding aspects of writing for the *Lantern* are the comments and feedback we receive from those who have been blessed by what had been written or who expressed gratitude for receiving church news.

Lee: As Editor, I need to make sure we keep on schedule as we approach the printing deadline. This requires some careful planning especially when Randy and Sandy or I am out of town. I am also responsible for proofreading--luckily the *Lantern* has never made a mistake, ever. When we put out a smart-looking newsletter with original content for the members of Barnesville Baptist each month, it gives me a feeling of accomplishment.

★ *What is the most important thing you have learned or experienced in the last 10 years as a member of the *Lantern* staff?*

Randy: I have learned that it is possible for a team of different people to work together for many years in harmony when they have the common, worthwhile goal of serving the Lord Jesus and His church.

Lee: I have come to learn that the people of BBC serve the Lord in many different ways, using their varying gifts to serve in a broad range of ministries. I have also found that our newsletter reaches a broad audience, especially through the BBC website.

★ *What does it take to print and mail each month’s *Lantern*?*

Sandy: It takes about three hours to print and fold and another 1 1/2 hours to apply the mailing seals. Nancy Cooley devoted many Saturday evenings over many years to add the seals and Ralph took the finished product to the post office. Recently, Suzanne Neal has volunteered to take on this part of the process. What a blessing it is to have church family willing to help in the production of the *Lantern*.

## June Birthdays

*The Barnesville Lantern*

- 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
- 23 June Ivey
- 27 Sandra Oden, Mark Crowe



## Prayer Concerns

Ralph & Nancy Cooley  
Kitty Cooley  
Matthew Burris, recovering from surgery  
Dave Rose  
Ashley Dixon  
Tammy Combs  
Wanda Huntley  
Junior & Arlene Luhn, Bilyie Luhn  
Steve Scheuch, Nancy Wells' brother  
David Gilliam, Michael Grant, Scott Smith, and Frank Kostenko, stationed in Afghanistan  
Julie Foster, Paul Foster's mother  
Linda Cain  
June Luhn  
Tabitha Runkles  
Jen Bach, friend of Leslie Foster  
Zoe Thomas  
Pat Elam  
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.  
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Mike Geiser, Billy Broschart, Lyndsay O'Malley, Bev Magruder, Phil Brudner, Ginger Anderson, Sandy Shaull, Jimmy Benson, Mary Harrington, Rick Hartley, Evelyn Carlin, Louise Richardson, Joanne Dorsey  
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 May:*

- The Historian budget line item was increased by \$200.

*Expected at the June Business Meeting:*

- The Internal Administration Cmte. will recommend accepting the Steeples Plus bid to install and paint concrete fiberboard on all remaining untreated walls and to paint and install shutters and increasing the Physical Plant budget line item by \$33,000 to cover the new spending.
- A motion to increase the Historian budget line item by \$200 will be offered by the Internal Administration Cmte.
- A motion to move the July Business meeting to June 27 so as not to conflict with Independence Day will be offered.

*Expected at the July Business Meeting:*

- A motion will be made to call for the Standing Committees to authorize Church officer and committee positions for the 2012-2014 term.
- The Pastor will announce the members who will serve on the Nominating Committee to select 2012-2014 officers.

## Fishing Trip Announcement

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



Saturday, June 16, 2012  
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

*Bring your own fishing rod, tackle, and bait*

## News You Can Use

*Vacation Bible School heading our way!* The theme for this year's VBS is "Amazing Wonders", which will be held Jul. 9-13 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 final planning meeting will be held on Monday, Jun. 18 at 7:00 pm.



*Write to David Gilliam.* David and the Gilliam family covet your prayers as he serves our country in Afghanistan. He can be mailed at: Gilliam, David, TF 2-16 IN, FOB ANDAR, APO AE 09311.

*Fried chicken dinner and Gold Heart concert held.* Saturday, May 19 was a fun time of good food and fellowship for those who attended the Baptist Men-sponsored evening. We were pleased to welcome back to



Barnesville the bluegrass band Gold Heart, whom we first heard in concert in Sept. 2011. Also starring was Larry Michael, who gave his first public banjo performance during the concert.

The Baptist Men have planned several events for the next few months. On Saturday, Jun. 16, they will have a fishing trip and lunch at the Neals' Pond starting at 8:00 am until 12 noon. On



Saturday, Aug. 19, the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Father-Child banquet will be held from 5:30 until 8:30 pm at BBC. Look for additional details on the banquet in the near future.

*Library news.* The following titles are newly available in the church library. Check one out today to start your summer reading: *Preparing For Marriage* by D. Rainey; *Saving Your Marriage Before it Starts* by Les Parrott; *The Gospel According to Isaiah* by Darrell Boch; *The Fall Feasts of Israel* by Mitch Glaser; *Not a Fan - Becoming a Completely Committed Follower of Jesus* by Kyle Idleman; *The Jesus I Never Knew* by Philip Yancey; *Daughters of Hope-Stories of Witness and Courage in the Face of Persecution* by Kay Strom; and *Evidence for the Resurrection* by Josh McDowell.

*Health kits distributed.* The WMU wishes to thank those who contributed enough supplies to make 39 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.

*Bell choir performed on May 27.* The Bell Choir, under the direction of Ann Bennett, performed "Praise the Name of



Jesus" and "Let There Be Peace on Earth", both of which were appreciated by the congregation. The bell choir is taking the summer off; practices will resume after Labor Day.

*Historian's update.* Church records, including available business meeting minutes from 1871 to the current day, worship bulletins from 1953 to today, all 10 years of the *Lantern*, and other historical materials have been organized into two shelves' worth of binders in the church library. Please feel free to browse through these records, but unlike other library materials, these records are not available to take home.

## COTCD Cartoon

### Church of the Covered Dish

by Thom Tapp



"That was really a powerful sermon... it was all I could do not to take you up to the altar for prayer!"