



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

"Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord, O my soul. I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live" (Psalm 146:1-2).

One of the great joys of the Christian life is having the desire deep in our hearts to praise God for who He is. When we as Christians spend time with our Lord in prayer, in meditation and in worship, that sweet intimacy with God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ becomes the focus of our day-to-day experiences.

Events take place in our lives sometimes that may cause us to doubt God's love for us, e.g. a bad diagnosis, the death of a loved one, chronic illness, ruptured relationships, unemployment or any number of other life trials. But, when the focus of our lives is on Christ, we have a perspective concerning our difficulties that puts every condition under the care and concern of God our Father. Our praise is not in response to what the Lord does for us, but rather in response to who God is. He is the *"Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—the Lord, who remains faithful forever"* (Psalm. 146:6). In Psalm 18:3 we are reminded that the Lord is *"...worthy of praise"*.

The Psalmist also declares that he will praise the Lord even when he does not feel like praising. He says with conviction *"I will praise the Lord."* When circumstances around us are challenging, when our faith is tested because of pain, and when life seems out of control, these are the times our faith is emboldened as we determine to praise the Lord. *"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble"* (Psalm 46:1). Hallelujah! I **will** praise the Lord! Amen!

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Upcoming Events

- October 3** 141st Annual Business Meeting
- October 19** Watkins Cabinet Lunch
- October 20** 77th MBA Annual Meeting
- October 31** Halloween



Reformation Sunday is October 28

"For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, 'The just shall live by faith'"
(Romans 1:17).

God Bless,

Pastor Randy



The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

On Page 1, you will notice a picture of Martin Luther, who inaugurated the Protestant Reformation on Oct. 31, 1517 by nailing his 95 Theses to the church door in the German city of Wittenberg. Luther was one of many reformers--Wycliffe, Hus, Tyndale, Calvin, Knox, and Zwingli were notable predecessors and contemporaries--who wanted to correct and purify the practices of the medieval Roman Catholic Church. The core of what is known today as Protestant theology is based on five *solas*, from the Latin word for "alone". Each *sola*, introduced below with a question, describes an important belief that we as Southern Baptists in 21st-century America should find very familiar.

What is the standard of faith and practice in the church? *Sola scriptura* "by Scripture alone". This means that the Bible, the Word of God, is the authority for what is right or wrong, true or false. Church tradition and the teaching of senior leadership are to be judged by what the Bible says, and not placed on an equal footing. For Protestants, *sola scriptura* meant that the Bible should be available to all Christians in their own language, not just Latin-reading priests. "Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him. Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar" (Proverbs 30:5-6).

On what basis is a person saved? *Sola fide* "by faith alone". Only faith in Jesus' substitutionary death on the cross brings forgiveness and eternal life to a sinner. Good works are the evidence of a saved soul, but do not by themselves have any saving power. In Luther's day, selling indulgences to buy down a person's time in purgatory was challenged by *sola fide*. "Then He said to the woman, 'Your faith has saved you. Go in peace'" (Luke 7:50).

Why does God save sinners? *Sola gratia* "by grace alone". Salvation is an unmerited extension of God's favor to sinners based on God's righteousness and glory, not having anything to do with men's merit. "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Who grants salvation to sinners? *Solus Christus* "Christ alone". This means there is no mediator between God the Father and mankind except the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who remains the active leader of the Church. For Protestants, this *sola* challenged the papacy's claim to religious and political leadership over Christendom based on apostolic succession. "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all..." (1 Timothy 2:5-6).

Who deserves our praise and worship? *Soli Deo gloria* "glory to God alone". The elevation of specific individuals as spiritual superiors or near-equals to God's divinity, or obligatory participants in God's relationship with believers has no scriptural support. In Luther's day, this *sola* challenged the devotion to saints and relics and the near-divine treatment of Mary as Mother of God. "...to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen" (Ephesians 3:21).

Interview with Missionaries in Guatemala

Manuel & Cindy Batres

★ *What led you to the Kek' Chi Mayans of Honduras as the group you wanted to serve?* We feel God has led us to minister among the Kek' Chi people for they are a very needy group. We worked in the entire country of Guatemala the first 4.5 years of our ministry. However, over 70% of that work was among the Kek' Chi Mayan people. This is a region where the Church is growing quickly.

★ *What projects are you working on currently to help the Kek' Chi?* Currently we have several construction projects in progress, including a school project in the city of Seguachil and a community building for health exams and vaccinations and town meetings in Santa Rosa, plus ongoing compassionate ministries such as child sponsorship, working with public health workers for new mothers, distributing used clothing, vitamins, etc. We hope to help many children start the new school year in January by providing basic supplies and clothing.

★ *How do these projects help you share the gospel with the Kek' Chi people?* In everything we do, we are sure to give God the glory and to point all people to Him. These projects give us an unlimited opportunity to share the gospel with entire villages through Bible School activities and by the spoken Word.

★ *How has the Lord blessed your efforts?* Everything that Mission2Guatemala has, including the beautiful mission site, all the facilities, and the vehicles are blessings provided by God. He has sent wonderful, generous, godly people to work alongside us and support this ministry. We could have done none of what we have been able to accomplish without God's blessing. None of it is in our own strength or abilities.

★ *What is the most important thing you have learned or experienced serving as a missionary?* We have proven God's promises to be true. We have learned that fulfillment is not in material possessions but in doing for others in the name of the Lord.

★ *How has being a missionary impacted your Christian walk?* It keeps us dependent on God daily and makes us realize that we are His hands and feet. It has made us more grateful.

★ *How can Barnesville Baptist continue to help you in your efforts to reach the Kek' Chi people?* Barnesville Baptist has been a constant encouragement to us from the very beginning. Your continued prayer and financial support are an amazing blessing. We would love to host a group from your church so some of your people would know firsthand the needs and the blessings of sharing the Gospel with the Kek' Chi Mayan people of northern Guatemala.

October Birthdays

- 1 Ashley Babyak
- 6 Michaela Driver
- 7 Iris Rodgers
- 8 Karian Mitchell
- 10 David Shive
- 11 Zoe Thomas
- 13 Lynn Eplee, Peter Cole, Brooke Ahalt, Barbara Hungerford
- 17 Sierra Tohill
- 23 Ray Randall, John Shreve
- 25 Judy Wright
- 30 Samantha Fowler, Amber Ennis



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in September:

- The Choir has selected new robes and will be placing an order for them soon.

Expected at the 141st Annual Business Meeting:

- A resolution to begin the annual budget process for 2013 will be offered; the standing committees will report to the Treasurer by Nov. 11.
- A motion will be made to nominate Pastor Randy & Sandy Gilliam as messengers to the BCM/D Annual Convention, being held Nov. 11-13 in Silver Spring, MD.
- The Deacons will offer a motion to approve the membership application of Susan Rice by profession of faith pending baptism.
- The Pastor will nominate as many as five members to serve as messengers to the 77th Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting, being held on Oct. 20 at Colesville Baptist Church in Silver Spring.
- The Outreach Committee will report on a motion to plan a Church Christmas party.
- The Select Committee on Nominations will report on its recommendations for 2012-2014 church officers, and the Church will then vote on those nominations.
- Note: All outstanding motions not acted on at the October Business Meeting must be re-introduced for any further consideration by the Church.

Prayer Concerns

Virginia Magaha
Ralph & Nancy Cooley
Kitty Cooley
Dave Rose
Ashley Dixon
Tammy Combs
Wanda Huntley
Junior & Arlene Luhn, Bilyie Luhn
David Gilliam, Michael Grant, stationed in Afghanistan
Julie Foster, Paul Foster's mother
Linda Cain
June Luhn
Tabitha Runkles
Tori Ann Shumaker, Lynn Eplee's granddaughter
Lillian Runkles, Bob Runkles' mother
Allen Jones, Michelle Ennis' nephew
Stephen Williams, Ed Williams' brother
Connie Connelly
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Dean Swank, Mike Geiser, Billy Broschart, Lyndsay O'Malley, Bev Magruder, Phil Brudner, Joanne Dorsey, Skip Mallory, Bill Dunn, Jane Ward
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).*

News You Can Use

Pig Pickin' and concert a great time for all. The Baptist Men sponsored their annual pig roast on Saturday, Sept. 22 with a gospel bluegrass concert afterwards. The Randy



Barrett Trio bluegrass band, consisting of Randy Barrett, Keith Rogers, and Tom McLaughlin, gave an excellent performance, playing both gospel and traditional bluegrass songs. Keith's wife Patty joined the trio to help sing

several of the gospel tunes. Thanks to the Baptist Men for hosting this time of fellowship.

The Batreses visited on Sept. 16. Missionaries to Guatemala Manuel & Cindy Batres visited Barnesville for the first time in three years, sharing during the morning worship service about their efforts to share the Gospel. During the service, BBC presented a \$1,075 check from the offering taken during the 2012 VBS to purchase school supplies for children in Guatemala who otherwise could not afford to attend school. Manuel & Cindy thanked BBC for its prayers, its many years of financial support, as well as the VBS offering. They spoke and showed a video about how missions offerings from churches like ours allowed them to build church buildings to replace thatched-roof buildings with dirt floors, provide supplies to children so they could go to school, and meet other basic needs while sharing God's love with them. The Batreses extended an open invitation for BBC to send a group of people down to help them in their work.



Committee heads to hold special meeting. The chairmen of the five standing committees will meet promptly after the morning worship on Sunday, Oct. 14 to briefly review the upcoming 2013 budget process. Any interested Church member is welcome to attend.

Write to Virginia Magaha. Virginia has a new address and would welcome your cards and prayers: 5905 Edenton Court, Room 707, Frederick, MD 21703. Her phone number is still 240-629-1931.

Pastor preaching at Eyler's Valley. On Sunday, Oct. 21 at 7:00 pm, Randy will be preaching at the evening service at Eyler's Valley Chapel near Thurmont. All are welcome to attend.

Montgomery Baptists to meet. The 77th Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting will take place at Colesville Baptist Church on Saturday, Oct. 20 in Silver Spring. The guest preacher will be Jeff Christopherson of the North American Mission Board. The Hahnuri Korean Baptist Church will lead the music and worship. BBC is entitled to send five messengers to this important meeting.

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. 4.

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. To date, BBC has received \$85 towards its 2012 goal of \$1,605, 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 this fall.

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Just to clarify... last Sunday when I preached on the 'widow's mite' I was not suggesting it as your tithe..."