



# 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

*"Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age'"*  
(Matthew 28: 18-20).

In light of who Jesus is and reflecting on His instructions to the church to go and made disciples of all nations, we should take some time at the beginning of this new year and consider how we can be obedient to the Lord's first priority. Every element of our lives, because Christ lives His life through us, can be useful in helping to fulfill the Great Commission.

What can we do? First, we must pray that God's will is done. *"...Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven"* (Matthew 6:10). In our personal and spiritual spheres of influence the simplest acts of Christ-like behavior and love toward others can be anointed by God to accomplish His purposes. We may never know how or to what extent our small deeds have brought about God's will in someone's life.

Second, we must never forget that the Lord commissioned us to be salt and light in a world that is starving for the salt of righteousness and the light of the knowledge of God. Our every act can be consecrated as an act of service. *"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him"* (Colossians 3:17).

Third, we must continue to support and pray for those who actually go to the far corners of the world to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. *"And anyone who gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward"* (Matthew 10:42).

May this new year, 2013, bring to you an abundant life that honors and brings glory to Him. Amen.

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## Upcoming Events

- January 1** New Year's Day
- January 2** Business Meeting
- January 18** Lunch with Watkins Cabinet
- January 19** Baptist Men's Meeting
- January 27** Baptist Men's Day



January 6 is Epiphany

*"Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem..."* (Matthew 2:1).

God Bless,



Pastor Randy

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

It seems like I just wrote a year-in-review column for 2011, and now the year 2012 has already gone on its way. Time flies when we are having fun and when we are serving our Lord (or is that the same thing)? Here are some of the more interesting and important Church news headlines from the past 12 months:

January: passing of Ben Bennett, Baptist Men's Day celebrated with speaker Danny Moore

February: Nancy Cooley honored for 58 years' service as Church Clerk

March: fourth Women's Rally led by Gayla Parker

April: the Choir performed "Amazing Grace" cantata, Rabbi Neal Surasky talked about Christ in the Passover

May: Fried chicken dinner and Gold Heart concert held

June: Church archives put on display in library

July: Amazing Wonders Aviation VBS held, eight baptized, missionaries Matt & Ellen Zell visited

August: BBC received North American Mission Board recognition as the 2011 top per capita missions giver in the Montgomery Baptist Association

September: Pig Pickin' featured a concert by Randy Barrett Trio, missionaries Manuel & Cindy Batres visited

October: the Choir debuted their new robes, the International Mission Board recognized BBC with a Cartersville Challenge certificate for our 2011 Lottie Moon Christmas offering

November: one baptized, WMU collected 25 shoeboxes for Christmas

December: annual Christmas dinner held at Mountain Gate, "Silent Night! Holy Night!" cantata performed for Christmas

God has certainly blessed BBC in the past year with many opportunities to engage in discipleship, evangelism, fellowship, ministry, and worship. As we look forward to 2013, it is exciting to imagine the possibilities the Lord has in store for us as we seek to serve Him in this new year.

*"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works..." (Hebrews 10:24).*

## Member of the Month: Barbara Stidham

- ★ Born: October 13, 1987 in Rockville, Maryland
- ★ How long a BBC member: since August 2012
- ★ How she first came to BBC: "friends and family recommended BBC"
- ★ Favorite Pew: fifth row from the back on the left side
- ★ Age at baptism: 24 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Boyds Presbyterian Church
- ★ Most famous people she's met: country singers Billy Currington and Josh Gracin at the Great Frederick Fair
- ★ Personal claim to fame: "I stood in line for three hours to get an autograph at the Frederick Fair from Josh Gracin".
- ★ Most important events in her life: "finding out I was pregnant" and "marrying my best friend who turned out to be the love of my life".
- ★ Farthest place she's been from Barnesville: Orlando, Florida
- ★ Story on first name: "My parents named me after my great aunt and my aunt".
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: pagers and cell phones
- ★ Childhood heroes: "My brothers, my dad and my mom, and my best friend Kayla".
- ★ Hobbies: "I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, riding four-wheelers, shopping, and traveling".



## January Birthdays

- 1 Jack Cooley
- 4 Bob Lillard
- 5 Dave Thomas
- 8 Flora Gilliam, Scott Foster,  
Dan Yates
- 9 Pat Elam
- 10 Lois Hogue, Rebecca Thomas
- 11 Jesse Yates
- 15 Sara Oden
- 18 James Thomas
- 19 Joe Connelly Jr., Dick Wells
- 20 Julia Cole
- 21 Robert Fowler
- 22 Leslie Foster
- 26 TJ Marsh, Stacey Tothill



## Business Meeting Briefs

*Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in December:*

- The Church accepted the Finance Committee's motion to approve its 2013 Budget proposal.

*Expected at the January Business Meeting:*

- The Treasurer will submit his Annual Report on the 2012 fiscal year.
- The Pastor will appoint the Deacons to serve as the Select Committee on Auditing, which will review the 2012 finances and report at the March Business Meeting.

## Prayer Concerns

Virginia Magaha  
 Ralph & Nancy Cooley  
 Kitty Cooley  
 Dave Rose  
 Ashley Dixon  
 Tammy Combs  
 Wanda Huntley  
 Junior & Arlene Luhn, Bilyie Luhn  
 David Gilliam, stationed in Afghanistan  
 Julie Foster, Paul Foster's mother  
 Linda Cain  
 June Luhn  
 Tabitha Runkles  
 Bob Lillard  
 Barbara Bell, Todd Marsh's mother  
 David Cooper  
 Edith Lowe  
 Pam Miceli  
 Stephen Williams, Ed's brother  
 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)

## COTCD Cartoon



*"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

**Lottie Moon goal almost met.** As of press time, offerings toward BBC's \$2,200 goal are at \$1,771, or 81%, of our 2012 target. According to the SBC, every penny given to Lottie Moon is used to support Southern Baptist missionaries as they share the Gospel overseas. The offering represents 54 percent of the International Mission Board's total annual income. Thank you for your willingness to contribute to the building of God's Kingdom throughout the coming year.

**Birthday updates requested.** The *Lantern* enjoys sharing members' and friends' birthdays with the Church family. Please help us keep our records current by contacting the Church office with any names and dates we may lack, especially if you started attending within the last year.

**Go paperless in 2013.** BBC offers the *Lantern* in electronic format to those would prefer such an option instead of a copy sent by mail. If you would like to receive a monthly email with a link to the *Lantern*, please send an email to our masthead address. Those who wish to continue receiving a paper copy of the *Lantern* will continue to receive one; no further action is required. While back copies of the *Lantern* are always available on the BBC website, the calendar is for the current month only.

**Baptist Men's Day scheduled.** If the snow doesn't stop us as in previous years, the Baptist Men will cook breakfast for the church on Sunday, Jan. 27. Join the men at 8:30 am for a breakfast buffet of pancakes, eggs, and other good food, and then get ready for the annual singing performance of the MOB: Men of Barnesville choir. The MOB will again perform "Fishers of Men" and "Down to the River to Pray", as well as some new songs. The men of the church will lead the morning service. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Danny Moore, who is no stranger to BBC.

**"Silent Night! Holy Night!" cantata performed.** Thanks to



Paul Foster and the Adult Choir for their excell-

ent musical and video presentation on Dec. 23. Nancy Taylor performed a solo, Paul Foster III narrated, and Luke Fedders was the audio-visual technician. If you like to sing, please consider joining the choir and making a joyful noise unto the Lord on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm.

**Milestone.** Congratulations to Paul & Trudy Meissner, who celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary the day after Christmas.

**Men's and women's groups celebrate Christmas.** The Baptist Men assembled 20 gift bags for the children of the church at their December meeting and distributed them during the Dec. 23 morning worship service.



*Fred Bird, Paul Foster, Ed & Ellen Williams, and Megan & Aydin Malik singing at the Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> Christmas dinner (l-r)*

The WMU is now collecting non-perishable food items for the food pantry, which will be distributed to local families in need. Consider joining the men's or women's group this coming year. The WMU gathers on the second Monday morning of each month, and the Baptist Men normally meet every third Saturday for breakfast.

**Call for submissions.** As the *Lantern* begins its 12<sup>th</sup> calendar year, the Editor would like to remind the readership that we accept original compositions, poems, lyrics or other appropriate materials for publication. Please contact the Editor with questions and for more specific guidelines.

**Snow policy.** As we enter the season of ice and snow, we urge all our members and visitors to exercise caution and good judgment in deciding whether or not it is safe for your family to travel on a given Sunday. Pastor Randy is only a sidewalk away from the sanctuary, and will hold services for anyone who can safely travel during inclement weather. A BBC local weather/road condition message will be posted on the answering machine. We ask that Sunday School teachers or other leaders call in their absence to the Church office at their earliest convenience.

**Call for overdue library books.** Please return any church library materials that you are no longer using. Please keep books no more than one month and DVDs and videos no longer than two weeks.

**Evangelism outreach.** "My Hope with Billy Graham" is a massive effort to reach people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Nov. 2013. Under the guidance of their local pastors, Christians will open their homes to share the Gospel message with friends, family, colleagues, and neighbors using different media programs featuring Billy Graham, dynamic music, and testimonies. Training will be held at the First Baptist Church of Laurel on Jan. 24. Contact Pastor Randy if you are interested.