



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

"Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments'" (Matthew 22: 37-40).

Many of you may have heard the 1965 song made popular by Jackie DeShannon, "What the World Needs Now Is Love". The song's premise is that God needs to send more love to the people on earth. We don't need more mountains, we need more love. This song has always been troubling to Christians because the greatest love imaginable was given to the world when Jesus came. *"This is love: not that we loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins" (1 John 4:10).* This was truly a demonstration of love and grace and mercy with eternal benefits for those who believe in Jesus. *"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God" (1 John 3:1)! The promise of Jesus is that, "... Whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).* What an amazing love that makes us a part of God's family and gives us the gift of eternal life! The Scriptures also teach that nothing can ever separate us from this love.

So, what does the world need in order to bring relief to the suffering, acceptance to the outcast, hope to those who have lost hope, peace to those who are in distress, and freedom to those who are enslaved by the sins of the world? It is not that we need to be loved more by God, but rather that we need to love God more. We love Him by learning about Him, by following the teachings of Jesus, and by allowing Him to show forth His love in our hearts so that we may love others with a self-sacrificing godly love. God has made it possible for us to love Him and with His help to love others.

God Bless,

Pastor Randy



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Upcoming Events

February 6 Business Meeting
February 10 Baptist Men's Day
February 14 Valentine's Day
February 15 Lunch with Watkins Cabinet
February 18 Presidents' Day



"From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day" (Matthew 16:21).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Who was Jesus, and why did He come to earth as a man? The Apostle John records in his gospel that Jesus seven times described himself with “I AM” statements that were declarations of His divinity, harkening back to the scene where God the Father revealed His name to Moses at the burning bush in the book of *Exodus*. In addition to affirming His Godhood, the “I AM” statements also reveal Jesus’ role as Savior—the God-man who could redeem mankind from their sins and reconcile them to the Father.

In *John 6:35,41,48,51*, Christ described Himself as “*the bread of life*” the day after feeding the hungry crowds with fish and loaves. Unlike earthly bread that only nourishes the body for a short time, Jesus said He was “*food which endures to everlasting life*” in *John 6:27*. Unlike Old Testament manna, Christ is heavenly bread that sustains our everlasting life.

Christ proclaimed in Jerusalem that He was “*the light of the world*” who guides us on the right path of righteousness. As a spiritual beacon, He explained that those “*...who follow Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life*” (*John 8:12*).

The third “I AM” statement made by Jesus was that He was “*the door of the sheep*” who allows us entry to heaven. “*If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved*” (*John 10:9*).

Continuing the same metaphor, Christ described Himself as “*the good shepherd*” in *John 10:11,14* who protects us from temptation, sin, and evil. Even when attacked, His disciples are possessors of “*...eternal life, and they shall never perish*” (*John 10:28*).

In the midst of resurrecting Lazarus, Jesus encouraged Martha with the promise that He was “*the resurrection and the life*” who guarantees our destiny even in the face of death (*John 11:25*). With his power over death, Christ told Martha that “*...whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die...*” (*John 11:26*).

Responding to His disciples’ confusion about His return to the Father, Christ told Thomas that He himself was “*the way, the truth, and the life*” who bridges the gap between man and God, because “*...No one comes to the Father except through Me*” (*John 14:6*).

In the last of the seven “I AM” statements, Jesus explained to His followers that He was “*the true vine*” who binds us to God and empowers our fruitfulness (*John 15:1,5*). Without Christ’s abiding presence, we are unconnected to God and cast out of His presence (*John 15:6*).

Just hours before His arrest, Jesus summarized His God-given role as the Savior: “*Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour? But for this purpose I came to this hour*” (*John 12:27*). Despite His human fear, Christ perfectly obeyed His Heavenly Father and fulfilled His destiny that we might have forgiveness of sins.

As we approach Easter, let us remember the Father’s love which birthed salvation and the incarnated “I AM”’s grace which delivered it—and thereby us—out of sin’s bondage and into everlasting life.

Member of the Month: Jeannye Hungerford

- ★ Born: December 9, 1962 in Montgomery County, Maryland
- ★ How long a BBC member: since August 2012
- ★ How she first came to BBC: visited with her friend May Fogle
- ★ Favorite Hymn: “Amazing Grace”
- ★ Favorite Pew: fifth row from the back on the left side
- ★ Favorite Bible verse: *John 3:16*
- ★ Age at baptism: 49 years old
- ★ Childhood churches: Poolesville Methodist and Boyds Presbyterian
- ★ Personal claim to fame: works with special needs students
- ★ Most important historical event in her life: 9/11
- ★ Farthest place she’s been from Barnesville: Michigan
- ★ Most important technology invented in her lifetime: cell phone
- ★ Hobbies: going to amusement parks with her grandchildren



February Birthdays

- 3 Gary Cooley, Linda Roberts
- 5 Kase Watson
- 7 Michelle Vasko, Charles Watson
- 9 Trudy Meissner
- 10 Carole Kearsse
- 11 Sam Furr
- 12 Luke Fedders
- 20 Janet Magruder
- 21 David Gilliam, David Buchanan
- 22 Bradley Keriakos



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in January:

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

Expected at the February Business Meeting:

- As of press time, there were no motions ready for action by the Church at the February 2013 Business Meeting.

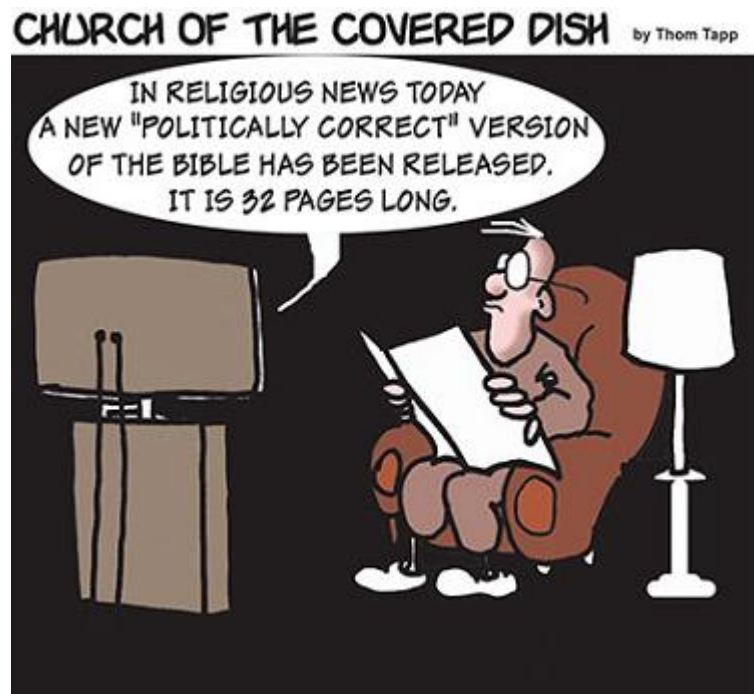
Prayer Concerns

Virginia Magaha
Ralph & Nancy Cooley
Kitty Cooley
Dave Rose
Ashley Dixon
Tammy Combs
Junior & Arlene Luhn, Bilyie Luhn
David Gilliam, stationed in Afghanistan
Julie Foster, Paul Foster's mother
Linda Cain
June Luhn
Tabitha Runkles
Bob Lillard
David Cooper
Edith Lowe
Pam Miceli
Stephen Williams, Ed's brother
Jeanette Watkins
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Dean Swank, Billy Broschart,
Lyndsay O'Malley, Bev Magruder, Phil Brudner, Joanne
Dorsey, Bill Dunn, Jane Ward, Betsy Wenz, Brenda Saylor,
Fran Hoagland
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).*

COTCD Cartoon



News You Can Use

Jeddie G. DeFries, Jr. 1932-2013. Former BBC pastor Jeddie DeFries passed away on Jan. 28 at the age of 80. Pastor DeFries served Barnesville Baptist as pastor for 25 years from 1969 to 1994. We mourn Jeddie's death with his wife Lorraine and sons Steven and Shaun, and pray that the Lord will give the DeFries family comfort and strength in the weeks and months ahead.



Fifth Women's Rally coming in March. Gayla Parker is coming back to BBC for a fifth Women's Rally Mar. 8-10. Gayla recently moved to Arkansas where her husband is now a pastor. She will speak three times, twice from 7:00 to 8:00 pm on Friday, Mar. 8 and Saturday, Mar. 9 and also during the Sunday morning worship service on the 10th. Gayla speaks with the heart of a missionary and with passion for the Gospel and for people.

Go paperless in 2013. BBC is now offering 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.

Christmas poinsettias. Flowers to decorate the sanctuary were donated by the following people: Dot Fowler in memory of Charles Fowler and her parents; Jack & Kitty Cooley in memory of Carson & Dorothy Ward and Jack & Nellie Cooley; Bob Lillard and Gary & Jan Burdette in memory of Margery Lillard; Gary & Jan Burdette in memory of Lloyd & Helen Burdette; Flora Gilliam in memory of Rufus Gilliam, Jack & June Schaum, and Mary Crouse; Jerry & Suzanne Neal in memory and honor of loved ones of the Safford & Neal families; the Carlin Family in honor of Bill & Sherrie Morrison; Evelyn Carlin in memory of Jessie P. Wood; Jane Fowler & family in memory of Frank Fowler; David & Ann Bennett in memory of Laura & Ben Bennett and Jean Noland; Tod & June Luhn in memory of Donnie & Mary Barr and their parents; Pastor Randy & Sandy Gilliam in memory of Rufus Gilliam and Dave & Pearl Fowler and in honor of Flora Gilliam.

Lottie Moon goal surpassed. At final count, BBC's \$2,000 goal for 2012 was exceeded by \$200. Thank you for your prayerful, generous support of international missions.

Baptist Men's Day rescheduled. The Baptist Men will cook breakfast for the church on Sunday, Feb. 10. 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 men of the church will lead the morning service. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Danny Moore.

Historian's update. Nearly 2,500 pictures from 1995 to the present have been sorted and placed into photo albums. Pictures of past VBS weeks, baptisms, fellowship dinners, and other church activities are displayed in chronological order. These albums will be available for viewing in the library but may not be checked out.

Congratulations. Miss Annabelle Claire was born to Patrick & Barbara Stidham on Saturday, Jan. 19. She weighed in at 6.15 lbs. and was 19.75 inches long. Jeannye Hungerford is a proud grandmother.

Snow policy. During this 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.

VBS 2012 missions gift update. As you may recall from the Aug. 2012 *Lantern*, the 2012 VBS missions offering of \$1,075 was sent to missionaries Manuel & Cindy Batres in Guatemala to purchase school uniforms, shoes, and supplies for local children so they could attend school. We recently received an email from Cindy Batres with the attached picture and note: "This was the morning we arrived to get the director's recommendations for kids who need help. He had told these kids to come, knowing we had offered to help so they could attend school. They got their supplies the next day, thanks to you and your children at Barnesville Baptist." BBC's 2012 VBS mission offering was able to help 70 children attend school this year. Thanks to all who participated in that ministry effort.

