



The Barnesville Lantern

Barnesville Baptist Church
17917 Barnesville Road/P.O. Box 69
Barnesville, Maryland 20838

301-407-0500 (phone/fax)
www.barnesvillebaptist.org
barnesvillebaptist@comcast.net

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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

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (II Corinthians 9:6-7).

There is a spiritual principle attached to the virtue of generosity. When one gives to another out of kindness or a joyful heart in the name of the Lord, the giver receives the greater blessing. One does not give in order to be blessed. Christians share their resources with others because the love of Christ compels them to show compassion when they have the opportunity. Jesus shared this principle in *Luke 6:38*, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you". You have probably heard it said by generous people that, "You cannot out-give the Lord!" This is so true.

BBC has for many years had a ministry of benevolence to those in need and has been generous in its giving to missionary outreach. Besides the joy of a spiritual blessing, Barnesville Baptist has been enormously blessed by our local friends at the Watkins Cabinet Company. Because of their generosity the church kitchen has been completely remodeled at a very small fraction of what it would normally cost. These friends' generosity truly is a blessing pressed down, shaken together, and running over! It is our prayer for these friends, who have sown so generously, as a company, as families, and as individuals, that they will also reap generously. Thank you, friends!



God Bless,

Pastor Randy

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Upcoming Events

- September 2** Labor Day, Church Office Closed
- September 4** Business Meeting
- September 20** Watkins Cabinet Lunch
- September 21** Baptist Men's Pig Pickin' & Concert
- September 27** Family Film Night



"...Nothing is better than that a man should rejoice in his own works, for that is his heritage" (Ecclesiastes 3:22).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

I was very excited during the construction of my new home to stop by each week and see the progress. First, the concrete was poured, then came the framing of each floor, the installation of electrical wiring and plumbing, and so on. Finally, the roof was put on, the brick façade was laid, and the interiors were covered with flooring and drywall until the building was complete and I could move in. Last week, a serious plumbing problem in my neighbor's unit sent water into my home's first floor, requiring the flooring and some drywall to be ripped up and taken away. Several months ago, I was happy to see the concrete floor poured and the wood framing going up, but now no longer. Having my first floor reduced to a prior stage of construction was a source of frustration and disappointment in my book.

This incident illustrates a biblical parallel when it comes to the topic of spiritual maturity. Spiritual maturity is the condition by which the Holy Spirit empowers and educates us to become more and more like Christ in our attitudes, thoughts, and actions, and less like our natural selves when we were ruled by sin and selfishness. For Christians, our lives are to be characterized by continual progress forward, not retreat or even being stuck in neutral. *Hebrews 6:1* discusses this truth:

"Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God". For early Christians, a major issue of faith was turning from a religious mindset of believing in Old Testament animal sacrifices and ceremonial regulations toward placing absolute trust in Christ for salvation. Christian faith and maturity started at that point, and got deeper and richer from there. Returning to questions and concerns about obeying Mosaic law to attain God's forgiveness was a step backward.

Another important aspect of spiritual maturity is to recognize that it is not easy to attain; it is a lifelong struggle. Although forward progress is expected, the road ahead is often uneven, uphill, and potholed with adversity and temptation. Paul described it this way in *Philippians 3:12*: *"...I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me..."*. We are to struggle toward Christ-likeness just as a mountain climber seeks his next foothold. Progress may be slow and incremental, but it should be constantly sought after. We are not to get comfortable in our current condition when we have the power of the Holy Spirit at hand to supernaturally enable us when we submit to His will. Our natural strength is insufficient to advance our spiritual maturity just as it was unable to attain salvation through our willpower. We are completely dependent on God's grace and love to get us anywhere closer to His presence.

We could live 100 years and still not reach the level of spiritual maturity that Christ has reached. The earthly building—our body—that we have been working on to improve will one day be replaced by *"...a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven..."* (*II Corinthians 5:1-2*). The Lord will one day glorify us to be able to live with Him forever in a perfect house that will never need repairs.

Interview with King's Domain Missionary

Candice Corwin

★ *What is the purpose of King's Domain?* King's Domain is a year-round, multi-faceted ministry headquartered in a camp/conference/retreat center near Lebanon, Ohio. Our mission is to reclaim the culture for the Kingdom of God. Our guiding principles are to be Kingdom-focused, Biblically informed, Spirit-empowered, and Christ-centered. Our vision is to see men and women of all ages, from all walks of life, 365 days a year, walking intimately with God, clarifying their calling from God, and strategically planning their work for God.

★ *What led you to participate in King's Domain?* In March 2010 I was sitting on a beach in Texas when God spoke to me: "Will you come? Will you go? Will you follow Me?" In the largest step of faith I have ever taken, I resigned from my teaching job after 14 years to follow His calling. Since that moment on the beach, I have had complete, confident peace that it is time for a new journey in my life as I continue to follow God.

I desire to invest in young adults and teens by intentionally seeking to make a difference one conversation at a time in order to make a positive impact now that will also impact generations yet to come. I have a deep and ever-growing passion for impacting what I think of as the "gap" group. In church and society, we know how to direct people through high school and then again when they "get settled" but during the "gap" is often a time with little mentoring or direction. Research shows that post-high school people are not just leaving the church, but leaving their faith. This is unacceptable!

★ *How has the Lord blessed your efforts?* Since 2010, as full-time staff member at King's Domain, I have been given the chance to impact young adults, teens and children. I love watching them grow in their walks with God and in the shaping of their callings. Over the years, I have been blessed to encounter thousands of college students and teenagers through the work King's Domain does and the churches, colleges, and conferences where we visit around the country.

This past summer, I ministered to 26 college students from all over the country as well as dozens of high school students from southwest Ohio. These two groups have worked alongside each other to minister to hundreds of children during the summer through the platform of camp ministry. There each week children and teens decided to follow Christ for the first time or refocus and rededicate their lives to continue walking with Him.

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September Birthdays

- 1 Chuck Fowler, Andrew Yates
- 3 Megan Fedders
- 4 Kristina Cole, Bill Morrison
- 7 Scott Bennett
- 9 Janna Williams
- 11 Shirley Yates, Eric Engle
- 13 Michael Oden
- 14 Ellen Williams, Duane Yates
- 18 Nancy Taylor
- 21 Melissa Fisher, Logan Marsh
- 25 Gale Cole
- 29 Justin Tothill
- 30 Eric Noegel



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in August:

- There was no Old Business pending before the Church.

Expected at the September Business Meeting:

- The Pastor is seeking five members to serve as messengers to the 78th Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting, being held on Oct. 20 at Montrose Baptist Church in Rockville.
- The Internal Administration Cmte. will make a recommendation regarding a proposal from Sugarloaf Network Systems to install an antenna on the church building in exchange for providing free internet service to the church and parsonage.

Interview with King's Domain Missionary, continued

★ *How has serving in your ministry impacted your Christian walk?* Walking in my calling has been the hardest, most challenging, and yet most beautiful thing I have ever done. My walk is daily impacted by those I get to minister to and from whom I have learned so much. God has been teaching me about trusting Him, depending on Him, and allowing Him to lead me in new ways. I love God more than I like to breathe. I feel privileged that He allows me to do His work.

★ *What is the most important thing you have learned or experienced in your ministry?* The most important thing I have learned is that He is the vine, I am just a branch and apart from Him I can do nothing.

★ *How can Barnesville Baptist continue to help you in your ministry?* BBC has been SO supportive of my work and me personally. I could not do what I do without you! I lack adequate words to properly thank you all. I refer to you as ministry partners since we partner together to do the work God has opened up for me to do. One of the most important ways to continue helping me would be to please continue to privilege me with your prayers. Also, the financial support you share allows me to do what I do. Thank you so much! In order to continue full-time in the work I do, and not have to have additional jobs, I need to grow my ministry partners team. Please pray that new people I speak with will want to join along with you on our team by becoming monthly financial supporters!

Prayer Concerns

Virginia Magaha
Mike Furr, recovering from surgery
Junior & Arlene Luhn
Julie Foster, Paul Foster's mother
Jane Fowler
Ollie Baumbaugh
Linda Cain
Tabitha Runkles
June Luhn
Paul Crowe
Eddie Dorsey
Tammy Combs
Lynn Meier, Leslie Foster's friend
Danny Moore, recovering from surgery
Marsha Espinoza, Penny Barton's friend
Mary Cole, Matthew Cole's mother
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Lyndsay O'Malley, Bev Magruder, Phil Brudner, Bill Dunn, Jane Ward, Fran Hoagland, Mark Wilkinson, Mike Blinkhorn, Jody Pelligrino, Donald Jericho, John Hunter
Our missionary friends: Manuel & Cindy Batres (Guatemala), Steve & Emily Ruffner (Inat'l. School Project), David & Cheryl Shive (Faith Home Ministries), Matt & Ellen Zell (Honduras), Candice Corwin (King's Domain)



*"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

BBC spends a day at the fair. On Monday, Aug. 12, members of Barnesville Baptist manned the Montgomery Baptist Association tent at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair from 10 am to 10 pm. Those who spent time ministering to fairgoers included Randy & Sandy Gilliam, Janice and Kaitlyn Cole, Linda Roberts, and Susan Rice, who passed out over 300 bottles of water, tracts, and New Testaments, as well as offering games of cornhole toss to passersby.

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 for 2013 is \$190,000. BBC's goal this year is \$1,605, which will support local efforts like Embrace Silver Spring, collegiate ministries, poverty initiatives, disaster relief, and outreach to internationals. This year's theme is "Gather 2 Scatter", taken from *Acts 8:4*: "So those who were scattered went on their way proclaiming the message of the good news". Please prayerfully consider how you can support state missions.

Bluegrass gospel concert coming to Pig Pickin'. On Saturday, Sept. 21, the annual Pig Pickin' will be followed with a 7:00 pm bluegrass gospel concert starring Gold Heart. Be sure to attend the dinner at 5:30 pm and invite your friends and family to the concert afterwards.

Church kitchen renovation. Thanks to Bill Appleton, Jack Cooley, Paul Foster, Randy Gilliam, Larry Michael, and Ed Williams for removing the kitchen cabinets and Fellowship Hall flooring on Saturday, Aug. 10. The new cabinetry has now been installed and the project should be completed soon.

Congratulations to Scott Foster & Carrie Crogan who were married on Saturday, Aug. 31 at Stone Manor in Middletown.

MBA annual meeting & fall revival. The Montgomery Baptist Association has scheduled its annual meeting and fall revival as back-to-back events on Sunday, Oct. 20 at Montrose Baptist Church in Rockville. The business meeting will be held from 5:00 to 6:30 pm, with the revival service starting at 7:30 pm. Duly elected messengers who participate in both events will be served dinner in between meetings. BBC is entitled to send five messengers.

Directory update planned. Anyone with corrections or updates for their entry in the church directory should contact Lee Michael before the end of September. Supplements will be distributed in mid-October.

Pig Pickin' Announcement

The Baptist Men invite the Church family to a Pig Pickin'



*Saturday, September 21 in the Fellowship Hall
Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm
Bring a side dish to share*

The Gold Heart bluegrass gospel concert will begin at 7:00 pm

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"I don't care if it IS the latest translation, if it starts with 'Once upon a time' I'm not using it!"