



# 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

*"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again; Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:4-7).*

One of the wonderful things about November is that the goodness of being thankful is openly admitted and practiced. Being thankful, feeling gratitude in your heart puts you on the path that leads into God's presence. *"Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name" (Psalm 100:4-5).* When we consider God's goodness and all that He has done for us, we should be overwhelmed with the desire to give Him thanks and to praise Him. He has extended His grace and mercy to bring us salvation; He knows us by name; He knows the things we need even before we ask; He has forgotten our sins; He is with us every second of every minute of every hour in this life; and, He has prepared a place for us to be with Him eternally!

Not only do we grow nearer to God when we have a heart of gratitude, but it is gratitude toward God that brings us the peace of mind and spirit that allows us to live with confidence and faith in Him. It is the certain knowledge that no matter what goes on around us, God knows and cares and is in control. Life may have its aggravations and trials in small and large things. Plumbing will leak, cars won't start, money may be short, friends may betray us, and we will all experience loss and grief from time to time, but God is faithful to work things out for our good and His glory. We need to be faithful in giving Him thanks, *"...give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18).*



God Bless,

Pastor Randy

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## Upcoming Events

**November 6** Business Meeting  
**November 15** Watkins Cabinet Lunch  
**November 27** Thanksgiving Eve Service, 7:00 pm  
**November 28** Thanksgiving, Church Office closed



November 11 is Veterans Day

*"...They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (Micah 4:3).*

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

As the Pastor's Spotlight notes on page 1, Thanksgiving is indeed a time for public thankfulness to the Lord for His many favors and blessings that we have enjoyed throughout the year. The Lord sends some of His blessings to all men because of His grace and mercy: "...*He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust*" (*Matthew 5:45*). Although God is fatherly toward His creation, He is only Father to those who believe in Him. There are greater blessings in store for those who are the children of God. We see this clearly in *Matthew 5:1-12*, where Jesus lays out those who are due blessings from God. The Beatitudes identify eight types of people who will receive God's blessings for their character and Christlikeness.

"The poor in spirit" (v. 3). This type of poverty is not about how much money you have, but realizing that you should be humble before God because without Him you would be spiritually bankrupt. "*Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick...I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance*" (*Matthew 9:12-13*).

"Those who mourn" (v. 4) is a common verse used at funerals, and it is indeed true that God will heal our broken hearts. However, Jesus was really talking about having sorrow before God for one's sins that leads to repentance and salvation without regret--the best comfort of all. "*For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death*" (*II Corinthians 7:10*).

"Meekness" (v. 5) means not weakness, but submissiveness to God's will, being teachable and considerate. Jesus quoted *Psalms 37:11* when He promised the meek their blessing: "*But the meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace*".

"Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness" (v. 6) are those who seek righteousness from God and don't assume, like the Pharisees, that they are deserving of God's favor. "*For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God*" (*Romans 10:3*).

"The merciful" (v. 7) are those who extend grace and forgiveness to others as God gave it to them. "*For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment*" (*James 2:13*).

"The pure in heart" (v. 8) will enjoy God's presence through faith and finally by sight. "*...His servants shall serve Him. They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads*" (*Revelation 22:3-4*).

"Peacemakers" (v. 9) have God-given tranquility that lets their witness show forth. "*Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord...*" (*Hebrews 12:14*).

"Those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake" (v. 10), will partake in Christ's suffering and glory. "*Rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings...If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you*" (*I Peter 4:12-14*).

In all these cases, these blessed receive what they give to others, are adopted into God's family, and will inherit His Kingdom. How thankful are we that these blessings are ours.

## Survey Question of the Month

The *Lantern* invites its readers to participate in a new series of interview columns. Instead of asking one person several questions, we would like several people to answer one question for the month. We are looking for unique and individual answers one or two sentences long.—Editor

November's question is **"What are you thankful to God for this Thanksgiving season?"**

*"Days without migraines, just being able to walk every day, and the fact that no matter how out of control everything gets, God is still in control!"*—Bonnie Todd, online reader

*"I am so thankful for some of the things we usually take for granted but not everyone enjoys: running water, flush toilets, showers, soft beds, heat and air conditioning in our home, a good car that runs, and so much more!"*—Cindy Batres, missionary in Guatemala

*"I am so thankful that 10 years ago, God saw fit to allow me to get a heart transplant and continue living and enjoying life with my dear wife."*—Jim McKamey, reader in Ohio

*"I am so thankful that the Lord not only makes it possible for us to see the world around us, but He made it so that we can see it in color. What a blessing to be able to see His creation in color."*—Flora Gilliam

*"I am thankful for God's power to open doors in Honduras where we wouldn't even think to look!"*—Ellen Zell, missionary in Honduras

*"I am thankful for technology that allows me to easily communicate with people all over the world. It make it possible to have an effective ministry in various parts of the world (Honduras, Albania, Kyrgyzstan, and Taiwan) at the same time....and it makes it easier to stay in touch with our family, friends, and ministry partners."*—Steve Ruffner, missionary with the International School Project

*"I am thankful that God kept my sister and me safe during our tandem skydive jumps and I am thankful that so far this season, we have had no hurricanes coming through Ocean City, Maryland! I am also thankful for the everyday blessings – a car, a job, a roof over my head, food and God's grace!"*—Laura Luhn

*"I am very thankful to have my son David home safely from Afghanistan."*—Sandy Gilliam

*continued on page 3, column 2*

## November Birthdays

- 1 Dorine Shields
- 4 Laura Luhn, Matt Burriss
- 5 Randy Gilliam, Clark Brown
- 6 Nancy Wells
- 8 Loraine DeFries
- 9 Lindsey Baumbaugh
- 11 Jane Fowler, Brenda Cross
- 12 Cris Driver
- 13 Faith Shive
- 15 William Rodgers
- 16 Sherry Morrison
- 18 Anna Michael, Todd Rice, Resha Lehman
- 21 Junior Luhn
- 22 Michelle Ennis
- 23 Kitty Cooley, Tod Luhn
- 24 Stephanie Fowler, Rose Furr
- 26 Joyce Dunn
- 27 Margie Stream, Holly Crowe
- 28 Cheryl Shive



## Business Meeting Briefs

*Report from the 142<sup>nd</sup> Annual Business Meeting in October:*

- A resolution to begin the annual budget process for 2014 was adopted; the standing committees will report their budget requests to the Treasurer by Nov. 10.
- Pastor Randy & Sandy Gilliam were appointed as messengers to the BCM/D Annual Convention, being held Nov. 10-12 in Newark, DE.
- Randy Gilliam, Sandy Gilliam, and Lee Michael were appointed as messengers to the MBA annual meeting held on Oct. 20 at Montrose Baptist Church in Rockville.
- The Church approved the membership application of Zachary Fedders by profession of faith and baptism on Sept. 29.
- An Outreach Committee motion to transfer \$3,000 from the Missions Trip budget line item to the Outreach budget line item was approved.

*Expected at the November Business Meeting:*

- The Outreach Committee's motion to hold a Church Christmas party at Mountain Gate Restaurant in Thurmont, MD on Dec. 1 will be considered.

## Survey Question of the Month, continued

*"I am so thankful for the many sources of encouragement the Lord makes available to us in all of life's circumstances. These are dear helps along the road of life: the Holy Spirit, wife or husband, family members, our faith family, brothers in Christ, the Scriptures, Christian music, and especially the 'songs in the night' when only God can speak to our needs".—Pastor Randy Gilliam*

*"I'm thankful for music. There are songs for all of life's circumstances and occasions! We have songs of praise, songs for remembering, songs for falling asleep, songs for sorrow and the blues, songs for physical work, songs for love, songs for peace, and of course songs for pure and simple joy".—Nancy Taylor*

December's question is **"What is your most—or least—favorite part of the Christmas season, and how would you change the holiday to make it better?"** Responses are due to the Editor by Wednesday, Nov. 27.

## Prayer Concerns

Virginia Magaha  
Mike Furr, recovering from surgery  
Junior & Arlene Luhn  
Julie Foster, Paul Foster's mother  
Mary Yates  
the Neal family in the loss of Suzanne's sister  
Jane Fowler  
Ollie Baumbaugh  
Linda Cain  
Paul Crowe  
Eddie Dorsey  
Tammy Combs  
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, Cathy Mallory, JoAnn Clark, Jack Neal, Carl Baker  
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

*Christmas Dinner scheduled for Dec. 1.* The 2013 Christmas Dinner will be held at Mountain Gate Restaurant in Thurmont on Sunday, Dec. 1 at 5:00 pm. The total cost is \$16.58 for adults. Children ages 12 and under are the guests of BBC. Please RSVP by Nov. 24 to Sandy Gilliam.

*State missions offering report.* As of press time, BBC has given \$1,204, which is 75% of its 2013 goal of \$1,605. Thank you for your prayerful generosity: these offerings are vital to the on-going church planting and evangelism in Maryland and Delaware.

*MBA annual meeting report.* Three BBC messengers attended the 78<sup>th</sup> Montgomery Baptist Association annual meeting held at Montrose Baptist on Oct. 20. Dr. Robert Smith, Jr., of Beeson Divinity School, was the keynote speaker for the MBA Fall Revival, and spoke on "Preaching the Wonderful Counselor Within the Whole Counsel of God" using *Joshua 2* as his text. Seven new churches received full membership affiliation and nine churches were granted watch care status for future membership.



*Christmas poinsettias for sale.* If you would like to purchase a Christmas poinsettia in honor of/in memory of a loved one, please contact Kitty Cooley at 301-349-5119. The poinsettias will be used to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas services and throughout the holiday season.



*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. Brochures containing gift ideas and labels for the boxes are available in the church vestibule. The WMU needs your donations and \$7.00/box shipping fee no later than Sunday, Nov. 17.

*Human trafficking seminar.* Melody Knox, interim WMU Director for the BCM/D, spoke at BBC on the issue of human trafficking on Sunday, Oct. 27. Human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal activity in this country. It involves sex trafficking, labor trafficking, and pornography. Those victimized by this crime include children, teens, men, and women. This is modern-day slavery and no community is exempt from it. Two book resources to help parents, teachers, and churches protect their families are: *Not In My Town* and *Refuse To Do Nothing*. Sadly, 30% of human trafficking is committed by a victim's family members.

*Baptism held on Sept. 29.* Following Jesus' example, Zachary Fedders was baptized on the last Sunday of September by Pastor Randy Gilliam and his father Luke Fedders. Zack's membership application was approved at the October business meeting. We are so pleased to have Zack join our church family!

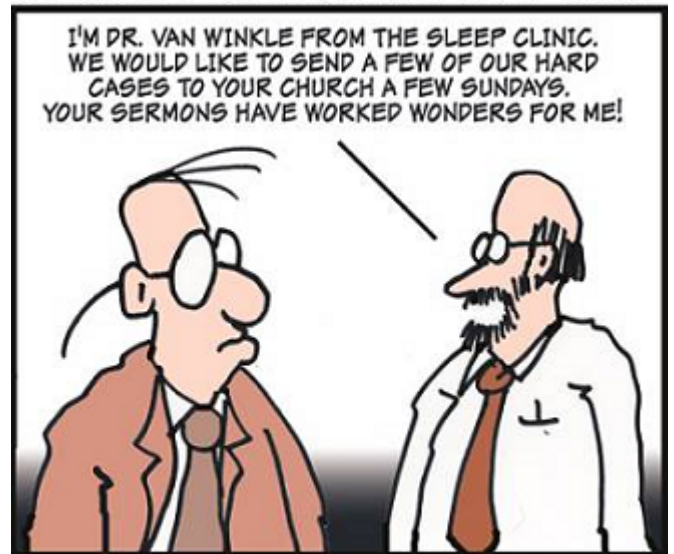


*BBC giving recognized.* The International Mission Board recently sent a Cartersville Challenge certificate to BBC for our 2012 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering contribution. Our per capita giving of \$41.50 put us in the top 12 percent of the SBC's 45,000 churches who gave 22 percent of the total offering. The Cartersville Challenge is named after the church in Georgia where Lottie Moon accepted God's call to China as a missionary.

*Halloween hospitality at BBC.* BBC joined in the Town of Barnesville's Halloween festivities on Thursday, Oct. 31, with Pastor Randy Gilliam passing out candy and Jesus tracts to trick-or-treaters in the parking lot with a message of "peek-a-BOO, Jesus loves you".

## COTCD Cartoon

### CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



THE APOSTLE PAUL USED THIS GIFT ON A CERTAIN EUTYCHUS AS WELL...