



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

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience..." (I Peter 3:15).

The Christian hope is not wishful thinking; it is a certainty that will come about just as God promised. Jesus said *"whoever believes (trusts) in Me shall never perish but have everlasting life"* (John 3:16). This is the certainty of life that never ends. The Apostle Paul wrote in *Colossians 1:27*: *"... Christ in you, the hope of glory"*. This is the certainty that Jew and Gentile are partakers of the glorious riches of God's glory in this life and in Heaven. The Apostle Peter wrote, *"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you..."* (I Peter 1:3-4). This is the certainty of a life made sure by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and of an inheritance in heaven for all who trust in His name.

Anyone who repents of sin and confesses Jesus as Lord can receive this hope. On the one hand this hope of life, forgiveness of sins and reconciliation with God is free. Jesus has done all of the heavy lifting to give us this hope. *"For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God..."* (I Peter 3:18). There is nothing we can do to earn this hope because it is a free gift. On the other hand, Jesus said, *"...If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me"* (Luke 9:23). To follow Christ is the joy of maturing as a believer. As a believer grows in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus through worship, prayer and Bible study, the focus of life becomes serving Him by serving others and living a life that glorifies God.

God Bless,

Pastor Randy



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Upcoming Events

August 6 Business Meeting



"And they went into the ark to Noah, two by two, of all flesh in which is the breath of life" (Genesis 7:15).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

I am confident that I am not alone in thinking that this year's VBS focus on apologetics—the ability to defend one's faith—was one of the best curricula we have used in many years. Correctly and articulately advocating one's beliefs about Jesus Christ is of utmost importance. In order to do that, we must first have a solid grasp on the Scripture, God's Word. The Scripture make many claims about itself and upon its readers with which we should be familiar.

The Scripture explains its origins, declaring the entire Godhead was involved in providing the Scripture to mankind. The Scripture was authored by God (*II Timothy 3:16*), and human authors received God's Word through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit (*II Peter 1:21*). Jesus, who was Himself the Word (*John 1:1*) taught from the Old Testament scriptures (*Luke 24:27*), thereby affirming their historicity (*Luke 17:27*) and validating their miracles (*Matthew 16:4*).

The Scripture explains its form, coming to us not in oral traditions and imperfect memories but written down and preserved (*Romans 15:4*) so that we may carefully observe God's laws and reverentially respect His holy name (*Deuteronomy 28:58*). Because the Scripture is written down, no one may take from it or add to it (*Deuteronomy 4:2, 12:32; Revelation 22:18-19*).

The Scripture explains its purposes: to reveal the laws, statutes, and judgments of God (*Deuteronomy 4:5, 14; Exodus 24:3-4*), to record divine prophecies (*II Peter 1:19-21*), to testify of Christ (*John 5:39*) and His Gospel (*Romans 1:2*), and to explain the way to salvation through faith in Christ (*II Timothy 3:15*).

The Scripture explains how to interpret itself: both Christ (*Luke 24:25*) and the Holy Spirit (*I Corinthians 2:10-14*) enable us to understand the biblical text's meaning. Scripture should be understood in the light of other Scripture (*I Corinthians 2:13*) and interpretations should be consistent with established truth (*Isaiah 8:20*).

The Scripture demands to be a regular part of a Christian's life, public and private. We are to read it (*Isaiah 34:16*), share it with others (*Act 13:15*), teach it to children (*Deuteronomy 6:7*), and to all men (*II Chronicles 17:7-9*). We should reference it daily (*Acts 17:11*) so that it is a part of us (*Psalms 119:11*).

The Scripture blesses us in many ways when we read it, giving us wisdom (*Psalms 19:7*) and illumination (*Psalms 119:130*) when we are confused. Reading the Scripture produces faith (*John 20:31*), hope (*Romans 15:4*), joy (*Psalms 19:8*), comfort (*Psalms 119:82*) and obedience (*Deuteronomy 17:19-20*). The Scripture cleanses our heart (*Ephesians 5:26*) and straightens our path (*Psalms 17:4*).

When we are saturated with biblical truth and can easily recall the Scriptures, our ability to share it with others and defend it from criticism will be vastly improved. Let us prepare ourselves for this God-given duty by committing to regularly reading and understanding the Bible.

Noah's Ark Event Scramble

Can you place these 20 events in the correct order? Answers are on the bottom of page 4, column 2.

- A. Noah offered a sacrifice
- B. Noah and his family exited the ark
- C. Noah planted a vineyard
- D. Noah sent out a dove which returned with an olive leaf
- E. God promised never to destroy the earth by water again
- F. the floodwaters receded
- G. God told Noah to build an ark of gopherwood and pitch
- H. the Lord closed the ark
- I. Noah sent out a dove
- J. animals came two by two into the ark
- K. Noah took his family into the ark
- L. all terrestrial life perished
- M. the fountains of the deep were broken up
- N. God saw that man was wicked and evil
- O. God offered the rainbow as a sign of His covenant with Noah
- P. Noah sent out a raven
- Q. Noah cursed Canaan for his father Ham's disrespect to Noah
- R. the ark rested on the mountains of Ararat
- S. rain fell for 40 days and nights
- T. God told Noah and his sons to multiply and fill the earth

Noah's Ark Word Search

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D E J A P H E T H H K R Y Y
L M C I R T S T D V A T R P
Y M T N A A N H Q V D M B M
S C L R E A I T E O N A Z M
H N A D N L W N O M N J Q K
D R I E R O O W B I V T T Y
A V V A B A R I M O P J Q N
L O L Y T E Y A V U W A N Y
C X T N H N L E R F L O O D
Y W O P K S U R N T D O V E
O A O R M Y O O A I M J K Y
H G A B N C M R F R V B N R
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Word Bank: altar, animals, Ararat, ark, corrupt, covenant, dove, flood, fountains, gopherwood, Ham, Japheth, Noah, pitch, rainbow, raven, Shem, two by two, vineyard, violence

August Birthdays

5 Suzanne Neal
7 Matthew Ennis
11 Rick Thomas
12 Madison Marsh
16 Stephanie Runkles
17 Pauline Fowler
19 Kyle Marsh
20 Bill Williams
21 Edith Fowler, Jamie Thomas
26 Lee Michael
28 Ann Bennett
29 Paul Meissner
30 Matthew Cole
31 Bob Runkles



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in July:

- A motion to call for the Standing Committees to authorize Church officer and committee positions for the 2014-2016 term was charged to those Committees.
- The Pastor announced that the following members will serve on the Nominating Committee to select 2014-2016 officers: Pauline Fowler, Sandy Gilliam, Lee Michael, Ellen Williams, Joe Yates, and himself.

Expected at the August Business Meeting:

- The Standing Committees will report on Church officer authorizations for the 2014-2016 term.
- The Pastor and Deacons will recommend that the Church call a part-time Associate Pastor for Evangelism.
- The Pastor and Deacons will recommend that the Church enter into a mother church agreement with Rev. Lord Boadu and Calvary Life Baptist Chapel.
- The Internal Administration Cmte. will recommend that the Church accept a bid to install a new church sign.

Prayer Concerns

Pastor Randy Gilliam
Mary Mossburg
Pastor Danny Moore, recovering from surgery
Virginia Magaha
Junior & Arlene Luhn
Julie Foster, Paul Foster's mother
Jane Fowler
Ollie Baumbaugh
Tammy Combs
June Luhn
Larry Magruder
PFC Kevin Yates
Cale Zurakowski
Tyler Babyak
Patricia Stiles
Reese Burdette
the family of John Burdette at his passing
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Bill Dunn, Mark Wilkinson, Mike Blinkhorn, Jody Pelligrino, Donald Jericho, Cathy Mallory, JoAnn Clark, David Fogle, Phil Brudner, Jan Woody, Jimmy Benson, Garnet Beam, Donald Nugen, Freddy Parker, Sandy Anthony
Our missionary friends: Manuel & Cindy Batres (Guatemala), Steve & Emily Ruffner (International 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).*

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!"

News You Can Use

Vacation Bible School a good time. I Peter 3:15 and the motto of “Discover! Decide! Defend!” were shouted in the



sanctuary during the evenings of Jul. 7-11 during our special agent-themed VBS, Agency D3. Thank you to

everyone who helped make Vacation Bible School 2014 a success, especially to those in the classroom, crafts, missions, recreation, snack, and behind the scenes. Your service in building God’s Kingdom and sharing His Gospel is appreciated. The total enrollment this year was 52.

VBS missions offering. This year’s VBS missions offering totaled \$1,400 and will again be sent to missionaries Manuel & Cindy Batres in Guatemala to purchase school uniforms, shoes, and supplies for local children so they can attend school. In addition, 21 heat retention cookers were made during the missions rotation, which will be sent to missionaries Matt & Ellen Zell for their ministry in Honduras.

Fall activities to start up soon. September is coming sooner than you think. Activities that will resume from their summer hiatus after Labor Day include the Friday Night movie, monthly WMU and Baptist Men meetings, and the lunches with Watkins Cabinet.

Christian apologetics books. The following books are in the BBC Library and can be borrowed. These books are very useful tools for every Christian who wants to be able to defend the faith that we hold so strongly: Joseph Baskin: *Why I Believe in Jesus Christ*; Norman Geisler: *When Skeptics Ask* and *I Don’t Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist*; Dean Hardy: *Stand Your Ground*; Josh McDowell: *New Evidence That Demands a Verdict* and *More Than a Carpenter*; and Lee Strobel: *The Case For Christ* and *The Case For the Real Jesus*.

MBA annual meeting & fall revival. The Montgomery Baptist Association has scheduled its annual meeting and fall revival for Sept. 27-30 at Montrose Baptist Church in Rockville. Speaking this year are Dr. David Lee, past president of the BCM/D, and Dr. Fred Luter, Jr., past president of the SBC. On Sunday, Sept. 28, the annual 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.

Important issues at August business meeting. In addition to beginning our church officer election process, there will be two recommendations made at the August business meeting of key importance to our church.

First, the Pastor and Deacons will recommend that BBC call a part-time associate minister, specifically Rev. Danny Moore. Given his health status, Pastor Randy believes Pastor Danny would be able to assist him in his preaching and teaching duties and expanding ministry activities for the congregation and the community. If the Church wishes to further explore this recommendation, a Pastor Search Committee will be established to prayerfully consider whether calling Danny Moore is God’s will for our Church. Even though Pastor Danny is no stranger to us, the Pastor Search Committee will conduct an interview process and provide opportunities for Church members to become better acquainted with Pastor Danny. If the Pastor Search Committee makes a positive determination, a special business meeting will be held for all Church members to vote on calling Rev. Danny Moore as our part-time associate pastor.



Second, the Pastor and Deacons will recommend that Barnesville Baptist agree to serve as a “mother church” to Rev. Lord Boadu’s church plant, Calvary Life Baptist Chapel in the Gaithersburg area. Rev. Boadu is a pastor from the west African country of Ghana. By being a “mother church”, BBC would serve as a sponsor to Rev. Boadu’s congregation—currently under Montgomery Baptist Association watchcare status—as they seek full membership with the MBA and as Rev. Boadu seeks support from NAMB as a church planter. Rev. Boadu will be



speaking to BBC at the Sunday, Aug. 3 morning worship service.

Noah’s Ark Event Scramble Answers

1. N (*Genesis 6:5*); **2. G** (*6:14*); **3. K** (*7:7*); **4. J** (*7:9*); **5. M** (*7:11*); **6. H** (*7:16*); **7. S** (*7:17*); **8. L** (*7:21-22*); **9. F** (*8:1*); **10. R** (*8:4*); **11. P** (*8:7*); **12. I** (*8:8*); **13. D** (*8:11*); **14. B** (*8:18*); **15. A** (*8:20*); **16. T** (*9:1*); **17. E** (*9:11*); **18. O** (*9:12-13*); **19. C** (*9:20*); **20. Q** (*9:25*)