



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 Pastors' Spotlight

"For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it" (Matthew 13:17).

We are so fortunate to live in the Church age, when we can clearly see and appreciate the many messianic prophecies that were fulfilled in Jesus, the Anointed One of God. In *Acts 2-3* the Apostle Peter spoke of Isaiah's prophecy that the Christ would suffer (*Isaiah 52-53*). Peter also identified Jesus as the promised Prophet that Moses foretold in *Deuteronomy 18:15-19*, urging the Jerusalem crowds to listen to everything that Jesus taught them. Peter declared it was by God's set purpose that Jesus was handed over to evil men who put Him to death on a cross, and explained that the Resurrection was foretold by the Psalmist, who wrote "...*You will not abandon me to the grave, nor will Your Holy One see decay*" (*Psalm 16:10*).

Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and the preaching of the Gospel through the power of the Holy Spirit, the great promise God first made to Abraham has been fulfilled. "*Through your offspring all the peoples of the earth will be blessed*" (*Genesis 22:18*). Surely we are heirs of these wonderful prophecies. Our spirits should be thrilled when we realize that God's promises are still being fulfilled. Isaiah saw beyond Christ as the Suffering Servant to a future "*when the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples...He will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces*" (*Isaiah 25:6,8*). The Apostle John wrote centuries after Isaiah, "*Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb*" (*Revelation 19:9*)! John also described a beautiful scene that Christians will experience, "*For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their Shepherd; He will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes*" (*Revelation 7:17*). God is good. Celebrate Him and His faithfulness to us throughout the year.

In This Edition:

- The Pastors' Spotlight, Page 1
- Upcoming Events, Page 1
- The Pew Perspective, Page 2
- Member of the Month, Page 2
- April Birthdays, Page 3
- Prayer Concerns, Page 3
- Business Meeting Briefs, Page 3
- COTCD Cartoon, Page 3
- News You Can Use, Page 4
- April 2015 Calendar, Page 5

Upcoming Events

- April 1** Business Meeting
- April 3** Good Friday Service, 7:00 pm
- April 5** Easter Sunday
- April 17** Lunch with Watkins Cabinet
- April 18** Baptist Men's Meeting; Church Clean-Up Day



"And He said to them, 'This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many'" (Mark 14:24).



God Bless,

Pastors Randy & Danny

The Pew Perspective*

Lee Michael

What are the qualifications of a pastor? The answer, both biblically, and, for BBC, constitutionally, is found in *I Timothy 3:1-7*, which describes the office of pastor as “a good work”. The Greek word for “good” is *kalos*, meaning beautiful, excellent, or intrinsically good. A pastor worthy of such a high calling, because he leads by influence and example, must be a role model who is beyond reproach or blame. This high standard does not require perfection, but does insist on a longstanding record of spiritual excellence.

The Apostle Paul in his first letter to the young pastor Timothy described several important ways in which a pastor must be “above reproach”. First, a pastor must be “a man of one woman”. This standard focuses on a pastor’s integrity, not his marital status, requiring that he be faithful to the promises he made. To understand why this criterion was listed first, consider how many reputations and ministries have been ruined when a pastor broke his wedding vows.

Next, a pastor’s character must be in order. He must be temperate, alert and perceptive to spiritual things. He must be sober-minded, in control of his thoughts and disciplined in his thinking. He must be of good behavior, in control of his emotions and his deeds. He must also be hospitable, literally a lover of strangers. A theologian may do well alone in an office absorbed in his books, but a pastor must be willing to engage people and show love to those outside the church.

A pastor is distinguished by his aptitude to teach. A pastor must be familiar with the Bible, know how to study the Scriptures, and be able to explain, apply, and defend the Word for the benefit of his congregation and to the unbelieving world.

Another set of qualifications excludes those who are known as drinkers, violent, or greedy for money. Instead, an upright pastor is known as a gracious, gentle man who gets along with others, forgives slights, and does not seek power or riches.

The next standard, that a pastor must “rule his own house well”, is a matter of stewardship. Paul again uses the word *kalos* to describe godly leadership in the home. A pastor must be an obviously good husband if he has been blessed with a wife and an obviously good father if he has been blessed with children. A man, even if a good Christian, whose home is out of order or overrun by rebellious, unbelieving children cannot be trusted with an even larger, more complex church family.

A pastor must also be spiritually mature and experienced so that his faith can withstand disappointment, persecution, crises, and spiritual warfare during bad times. In contrast, during the good times a pastor must remember that he is a humble servant and cannot succumb to pride, vanity, or rely on his own strength.

Finally, a pastor must have a good (again, *kalos*) reputation in the community, his externally blameless reputation founded in his internally admirable spiritual condition.

As we seek to call our next pastor, let us pray that the Lord will bless us with a man with excellent spiritual qualities. When we do find him, may our prayer, support, encouragement, and love for such a man and his ministry be just as *kalos*.

* Thanks to Joyce Dunn for suggesting this month’s topic.

Member of the Month: Danny Moore

- ★ Born: June 27, 1960 in Havre de Grace, Maryland
- ★ How long a BBC member: since August 2014
- ★ Church offices held: Associate Pastor for Evangelism
- ★ How he first came to BBC: preached at BBC’s Nov. 2007 revival at Pastor Randy’s invitation
- ★ Favorite Hymn: “How Great Thou Art”
- ★ Favorite Pew: front row, right side
- ★ Favorite Bible verse: *John 3:16*
- ★ Age at baptism: 30 years old
- ★ Childhood church: The Salvation Army, Light Street, Baltimore, MD
- ★ Most famous person he’s met: Baltimore Orioles baseball player Cal Ripken, Jr.
- ★ Personal claim to fame: catching a tagged rockfish in the Chesapeake Bay and winning \$500
- ★ Most important historical event in his life: the Columbia space shuttle disaster
- ★ Farthest place he’s been from Barnesville: Jamaica
- ★ Story on (middle) name: named after his grandfather
- ★ Most important technology invented in his lifetime: the laptop computer
- ★ Childhood hero: Baltimore Orioles third baseman Brooks Robinson
- ★ Hobbies: fishing and hunting



April Birthdays

- 1 Jo Blalock
- 2 Rebecca Umstead
- 4 Ralph Wright
- 10 Alexis Connolly
- 13 Lacey Williams
- 14 Luke Watson
- 15 Dot Fowler
- 24 Mark Williams
- 29 Zachary Fedders



Prayer Concerns

the family of Amy Burdette Riggs at her passing

the family of Nancy Cooley at her passing

Julie Foster, Paul Foster's mother

Tammy Combs

PFC Kevin Yates

Patricia Stiles

Reese Burdette

June Lehrman

Bob Lillard

Linda Cain

Virginia Gravely

Bill Fowler

Harry Fowler

Richard Cregger

Jim Gong, traveling

the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.

Pastor Lord Boadu and Calvary Life Baptist Chapel

Homebound: Jo Blalock, June Luhn, Junior & Arlene

Luhn, Ollie Baumbaugh, Vivian Neal, Margie Stream

Cancer patients: Doug Swank, Mark Wilkinson, Mike

Blinkhorn, Jody Pelligrino, Donald Jericho, Cathy Mallory,

David Fogle, Jimmy Benson, Phil Brudner, Donald Nugen,

Shirley Molitor, Randy Ward, Jan Woody

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).*

Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in March:

- A motion to determine the disposition of an unused piano was referred to the Worship Cmte.

Expected at the April Business Meeting:

- The Pastors and Deacons will announce the nominations of Lee Michael and Luke Fedders to serve as Deacons. The nominations will be voted on at the May business meeting.
- In light of the Pastor's announcement that he will retire on Aug. 31, 2015, a Pastor Search Committee will be formed.
- A motion to establish a Pastoral Transition budget line item will be offered.
- The Deacons will offer a motion to approve the membership application of Jim Gong by profession of faith pending baptism.

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Dear Bro. Eli, some of us were wondering if we could have our sun-rise service around noon this year and forgo the regular morning service..."

News You Can Use

Pastor announces retirement date. On Sunday, Mar. 15, Pastor Randy Gilliam announced his intention to retire on Aug. 31. Pastor Randy & Sandy first came to Barnesville in Jun. 2001 and have served the Lord and BBC faithfully for 14 years. In light of this announcement, a Pastor Search Committee will be formed at the Apr. 1 business meeting. Representatives from each of the standing committees, the deacons, and the congregation will comprise the seven-person group. Please start praying for this time of transition.



Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Thanks to all who have given to this year's AAEO, which is used to fund 49% of the budget for missionaries serving under the North American Mission Board. As of Mar. 22, we have received \$1,311, or 55% of our 2015 goal of \$2,375. The SBC-wide goal is \$60 million. The SBC missionaries supported by the AAEO start new churches, engage in student evangelism on college campuses, serve the physical and spiritual needs of people through ministry evangelism, and serve as church planting catalysts. Let's do our part to support the missionaries who are spreading the good news of the Gospel in the United States & Canada. Thank you for your prayerful generosity.

New marquee sign installed. After a year of designing, planning, applying, and waiting, the new church sign is now up in the front yard. The old signs will soon be removed to comply with town code. Once the electrical service has been installed, we will be able to share messages with passersby day and night. Suggestions for messages to put on the signboards are welcome.



Easter services. A Good Friday service will be held on Apr. 3 at 7:00 pm. On Easter morning, the 60th annual Sugarloaf sunrise service will be held on the mountain at 6:15 am, where Pastor Randy will preach. The BBC choir will perform its cantata, "Worthy is the Lamb", during the morning worship service on Sunday, Apr. 5. Please contact Kitty Cooley at 301-349-5119 to purchase an Easter lily to decorate the sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one.

Batreses to visit on Apr. 26. Our missionary friends Cindy & Manuel Batres serving in Guatemala will be visiting BBC on Sunday, Apr. 26. They want very much to share their appreciation for your faithfulness to them and for your special VBS offerings that have made it possible for many children to attend school in Guatemala.

Nancy Cooley, 1934-2015. Our dear sister Nancy Cooley passed away on Mar. 1 at the age of 80. Nancy became a member of our congregation in Aug. 1952. She served her Church and her Lord as Church Clerk for 58 years. Nancy also served as a Sunday School teacher, teller, and on nominating and pastor search committees. We mourn Nancy's death with her husband Ralph and children Gary and Michelle and pray that the Lord will give Nancy's family comfort and strength in the weeks and months ahead.



Revival a great success. Barnesville Baptist Church held revival services on the weekend of Mar. 6-8 led by Salvation Army Majors Brian & Loretta Gilliam (pictured below, left). On Friday, Major Brian Gilliam spoke from *Ephesians 3:18* about the width and length and height of God's love. On Saturday, he taught about peace from *John 20* and *Philippians 4*. Pastor Danny led sessions with the youth about knowing the truth to defeat the lies of Satan. Major Loretta Gilliam and Cindy Moore led the children's classes. On Sunday, Major Gilliam spoke about a love that will never you let you go. In addition to the teaching, music and singing was a prominent part of the revival. Attendees enjoyed several tunes from a three-piece strings ensemble and songs performed by members of Calvary Life Baptist Chapel.



Church clean-up day. On Saturday, Apr. 18 at 9:00 am, join the Groundsmen, the Baptist Men, and the rest of your Church family to clean up the church building and grounds. Contact Head Groundsman Larry Michael for more information on jobs and tools needed. Lunch will be provided for workers at noon.

April youth event. The snowed-out youth bowling event will now be held on Saturday, Apr. 25, preceded by a missions project in the Fellowship at 10:00 am making sandwiches for the homeless. Lunch will be served at noon for the youth. Bowling will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at the Bowl America located at 1101 Clopper Road in Gaithersburg. The cost is \$5.50 per person per game, shoes included. After bowling, the youth will deliver the sandwiches to the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless.

April directory update being prepared. Updates for the church directory are requested no later than the end of April. Anyone with changes to their contact information should promptly submit their information to Lee Michael. After April, the next scheduled directory update is planned for October—don't delay!

God Has a Plan for Us

by Ashley Babyak

We all go through difficult times when we don't understand what is going on in our lives—it can be as simple as a fight with your best friend, or doing poorly on a test in school. In those times, we can become a little lost and forget that we always have someone to turn to. As Christians, we need to remember that even when times get hard, God has a plan for us and always has. During struggles in life, we can turn to the book of *Jeremiah* for help. Jeremiah questioned God's plan for him to be a prophet, and God spoke to him and told him "Before I shaped you in the womb, I knew all about you. Before you saw the light of day, I had holy plans for you: A prophet to the nations—that's what I had in mind for you" (*Jeremiah 1:5*). God reassured Jeremiah that He had always known His plans for Jeremiah, even before Jeremiah was born. We don't have to be prophets from the Bible for God to take care of us. *Jeremiah 29:11* says "I know what I'm doing. I have it all planned out—plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for". This verse reminds us that God will always be there for us and that He will never give us more than we can handle.

Monthly Scripture

"He comes alongside us when we go through hard times, and before you know it, He brings us alongside someone else who is going through hard times so that we can be there for that person just as God was there for us"
(II Corinthians 1:4).

Upcoming Youth Events



April 4th

11 am-1 pm: Easter Egg Hunt at Valley Baptist Church

April 25th

10 am: Service Day: Making Lunches for the Homeless

2 pm: Bowling Outing at Bowl America



Prayer Concerns

Share your prayer concerns and questions for your pastors:

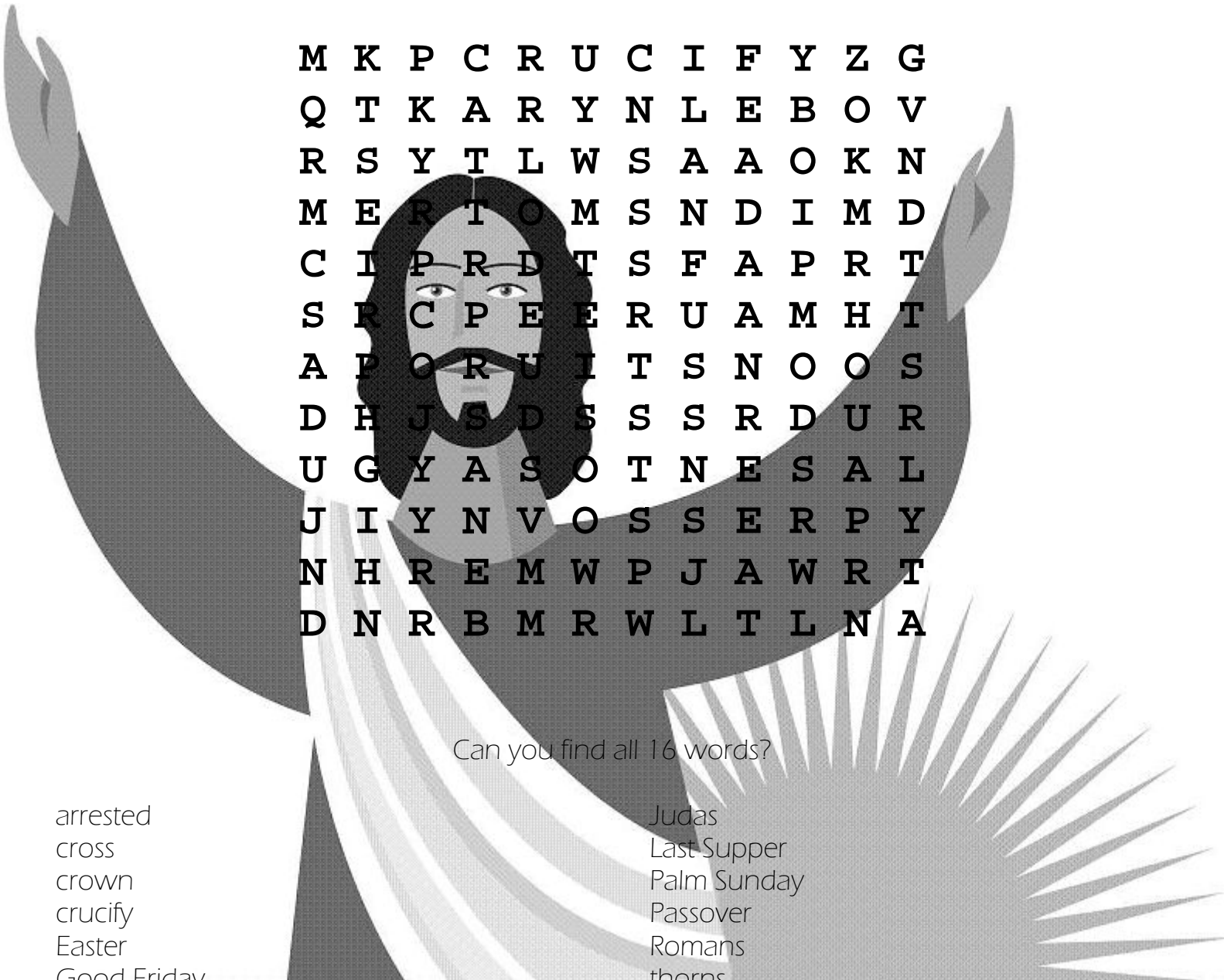
Pastor's Note

Spring is just around the corner. What plans have you made for the warm weather and summer that are quickly coming our way? I hope and pray that we all make plans to get more involved in God's Word here at BBC. We are so blessed to have each other, and to have a loving church family to support our youth and young adults. I want to encourage all of our youth and young adults to seek out God's plan for their lives and thank you for your willingness to get involved in God's work here at BBC. We need each other to be all that God wants us to be, so please pray and get involved in YOUR GROUP! Please invite your friends and family to worship God with us as we seek out His blessing on our church family. I was so excited to see some of our youth participating in the March revival services. Share your talents, get involved, and God will be honored!! We had 16 youth and young adults attend the revival services—praise God!

With love,

Pastor Danny

Easter Word Search



M K P C R U C I F Y Z G
Q T K A R Y N L E B O V
R S Y T L W S A A O K N
M E R T O M S N D I M D
C I P R D T S F A P R T
S R C P E E R U A M H T
A P O R U I T S N O O S
D H J S D S S R D U R
U G Y A S O T N E S A L
J I Y N V O S S E R P Y
N H R E M W P J A W R T
D N R B M R W L T L N A

Can you find all 16 words?

arrested
cross
crown
crucify
Easter
Good Friday
high priest
Jesus

Judas
Last Supper
Palm Sunday
Passover
Romans
thorns
tomb
trial