



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

March 2016, Volume 14, No. 10

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path (Psalm 119:105).

The Pastor's Spotlight

"They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because He is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with Him will be His called, chosen and faithful followers" (Revelation 17:14).

I love this powerful praise song refrain from the Gaithers: "The King is coming/The King is coming/I just heard the trumpet sounding/And now His face I see/The King is coming/The King is coming/Praise God He's coming for me".

Easter is just a few weeks away. Are you prepared to celebrate our risen Savior Jesus Christ? The King that came back from death with victory over the grave is also coming back for His Church one day. My prayer is that we are preparing ourselves daily to see Him face to face. God's Word tells us to be ready at all times in *Matthew 24:36-37*: "But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man". As we celebrate Easter, my prayer for us here at Barnesville Baptist is that we will be even more involved in serving His Kingdom, earnest in prayer, devoted to studying God's Word, and joyful in ministering to others in His name. In *Luke 12:35-40*, Jesus promised a blessing for those who were busy about His work when He returned.

Easter is a season of new and fresh life when the flowers start to bloom, the long-dormant grass starts to turn green again, and the early sunsets of wintertime lengthen into sun-filled after-dinner hours. These are all gifts from God to us, reminders of how we are new creations in Christ. As Paul said in *II Corinthians 5:17*, old things have passed away and all things have become new. Let's all be found faithful with the new life that Jesus has given us through His resurrection.

So again, are we prepared for Easter? Are we doing all that we can to be the church and the people that God wants us to be? Church, the King is coming. Praise God, He's coming for you, and He's coming for me!



God Bless,

Pastor Danny

In This Edition:

The Pastor's Spotlight, Page 1
Upcoming Events, Page 1
The Pew Perspective, Page 2
Member of the Month, Page 2
March Birthdays, Page 3
Prayer Concerns, Page 3
Business Meeting Briefs, Page 3
COTCD Cartoon, Page 3
News You Can Use, Page 4
March 2016 Calendar, Page 5

Upcoming Events

March 2 Business Meeting
March 18 Lunch with Watkins Cabinet
March 19 Baptist Men's Meeting
March 20 Palm Sunday, Bell Choir Concert
March 25 Good Friday Service, 7:00 pm
March 27 Easter Sunday, Cantata



"Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done" (Luke 22:42).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

One of the saddest parts of the Easter story is the betrayal of Christ by Judas Iscariot. As one of the original 12 apostles, Judas had the benefit of knowing Jesus personally, listening to His teaching, and witnessing His miracles. Despite his amazing access and position, Judas is now reviled for all time as a traitor. His eternal downfall teaches us several painful lessons about what does not lead to salvation.

First, being physically near to Jesus did not save Judas, who sat close enough to the Lord during the Last Supper for Jesus to hand him a piece of bread (*John 13:26*). However, that position of honor only served to identify Judas as Christ's betrayer. In the same way, attending church functions and services or even being a church member does nothing for salvation. Jesus told the Samaritan woman at the well that physical location is not important to God. "...true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him" (*John 4:23*). Instead, our spiritual condition is what brings us near to God's presence.

Participating in religious ceremonies did not save Judas, who was there when Jesus washed His disciples' feet and witnessed Christ institute the Lord's Supper. Can you imagine how meaningful it would be if Jesus Himself conducted the communion service on the first Sunday of the month at BBC? But those experiences did nothing to improve Judas' spiritual condition. Before he had even got up from the Passover table, John recorded that "*Satan entered him*" (*13:27*). Paul taught the Christians of Galatia that ceremony and ritual did nothing for one's soul. "*For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation*" (*Galatians 6:15*).

Finally, being in a position of ecclesiastical authority did not save Judas, who was entrusted with the financial resources of Jesus' earthly ministry. Judas was apparently able to continue in his position without arousing suspicion until the bitter end (*John 13:28-29*). He had an official position and title--perhaps the first church committee member!--but Judas' heart was wicked, displaying fake concern for the poor and stealing what was given for himself (*John 12:6*). Jesus, in contrast, taught that simple and total dependence on God's favor is the mark of a Kingdom member. When His disciples started jockeying for rank and favor, Jesus said: "...*whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven*" (*Matthew 18:4*).

If access and ceremony and position could not save Judas, what can save us? Only faith in Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection can wash away our sin and make us righteous before the Father. From *1 Peter 1:3* we know that "...*the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead*". If only Judas had seen the risen Savior. Jesus' love, which was big enough to forgive the Roman soldiers who crucified Him and forgive Peter who publicly denied Him, was big enough to forgive Judas too. Christ's love is big enough today to forgive my sins and your sins. Are you relying on your religiousness for your right standing before God, or will you place your trust in Jesus' finished work on the cross?

Member of the Month: Marlowe Mentzer

- ★ Born: Sep. 24, 1949 in Leesburg, Virginia
- ★ How long a BBC member: since July 2015
- ★ How he first came to BBC: searching for a Baptist church close to home
- ★ Favorite Hymn: "O Holy Night"
- ★ Favorite Pew: third or fourth pew from back, left of center
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *Psalms 23*
- ★ Age at baptism: "The day after my 39th birthday".
- ★ Childhood church: St. James Reformed Church in Lovettsville, VA
- ★ Most famous people he's met: horsemanship clinician Pat Parelli
- ★ Personal claim to fame: "Becoming a CPA and owning horses".
- ★ Most important historical events in his life: President Kennedy's assassination
- ★ Farthest place he's been from Barnesville: California's west coast
- ★ Story on first name: named after his father
- ★ Most important technology invented in his lifetime: personal computers and the Internet
- ★ Childhood heroes: Cheyenne Bodie and other TV cowboys
- ★ Hobbies: horsemanship, watching baseball and football, and exploring history



March Birthdays

- 2 Joe Connelly
- 3 Kirk Williams
- 5 Stape Shields
- 8 Doug Heimlich
- 9 Arlene Luhn
- 10 Ed Williams
- 11 Jim Gilliam
- 14 Barbara Swank
- 17 Tammy Thomas
- 18 Steven Bennett
- 24 Janice Cole
- 28 Jack Hough, Todd Marsh
- 29 Sarah Marsh
- 30 Paul Keriakos
- 31 Tyler Babyak, Robert Shreve,
Jessica Thomas



Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in February:

- There was no Old Business pending before the Church.

Expected at the March Business Meeting:

- The Select Committee on Auditing will present its report on the 2015 finances.
- The Pastor and Deacons will make recommendations regarding the dismissal of a set of inactive members.

Prayer Concerns

the family of Doug Cooley at his passing

Kris Drews

Pastor Lord Boadu and Calvary Life Baptist Chapel

Rob Hendricks

Rex Schmidt, Watkins Cabinet friend

Homebound: Flora Gilliam, Tod & June Luhn, Junior &

Arlene Luhn, Ollie Baumbaugh, Margie Stream

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

Cancer patients: Billy Heaton, Cathy Mallory, David Fogle,

Doug Swank, Gail Zingg, Jody Pelligrino, Jimmy Benson,

Phil Brudner, Patti Watkins, Eddie Weston, Shirley

Molitor, Butch Thompson

Our missionary friends: Manuel & Cindy Batres

(Guatemala), Steve & Emily Ruffner (International School

Project), David & Cheryl Shive (Faith Home Ministries),

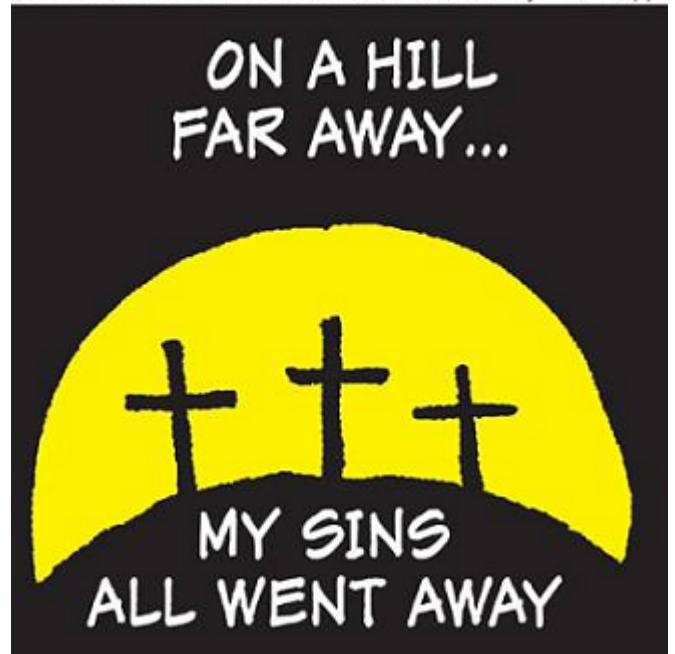
Matt & Ellen Zell (Honduras)



*"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

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



News You Can Use

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal set. The 2016 AAEO will be used to fund 49% of the budget for missionaries serving under the North American Mission Board who 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 these missionaries who are spreading the good news of the Gospel in the United States and Canada. The WMU has set a 2016 goal of \$2,500 for BBC. The SBC-wide goal is \$70 million. Thank you for your prayerful generosity.



Douglas W. Cooley, Sr., 1966-2016. Doug Cooley passed away on Sunday, Feb. 21 at the age of 49. He was baptized at BBC in 1982. We mourn Doug's passing with his parents Jack & Kitty and pray that the Lord will give the Cooley and Fedders families comfort and strength in the days and weeks ahead.



New directory coming soon. Attention all members: the 2016-2018 church directory will be distributed in April. That means new pictures for everyone!! Also, anyone with changes to their contact information or regular attendees who would like to have their picture and information included for the first time should promptly submit their data to Lee Michael. After April, the next scheduled directory update is planned for October—don't delay!

Easter services. Barnesville Baptist will offer a range of services this month to commemorate Jesus Christ's death and burial as well as celebrate His resurrection from the dead. On Palm Sunday, Mar. 20, the Bell Choir, led by Ann Bennett, will perform "Were You There?", "And Can It Be?", "Nothing but the Blood", and "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross". A Good Friday service will be held on Mar. 25 at 7:00 pm. On Easter morning, Sunday, Mar. 27, the 61st annual Sugarloaf sunrise service will be held on the mountain at 6:15 am. The BBC Choir will perform its cantata, "Calvary's Love", during the morning worship service later that morning. Soloist Gary Cooley will sing "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go", Paul Foster III will narrate, and Jan Burdette will provide piano accompaniment. 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.



Gary Burdette narrating the 2015 Easter cantata

Seniors lunch. Twenty-one of BBC's most distinguished personalities had a great time at the Love Our Seniors Lunch on Wednesday, Feb. 17, coming out after the



President's Day snow to enjoy great food, fellowship, and spending time in God's Word.

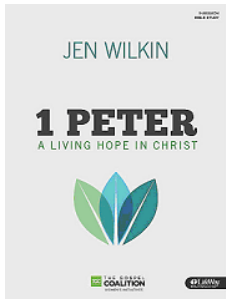
Thanks to Stephanie Runkles and Cindy Moore for their hard work in making the event a success.

Snow policy. During this winter 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. Services will be held for anyone who can safely travel during inclement weather. A Barnesville Baptist local weather/road condition message will be posted on the answering machine. We ask that Sunday School teachers and other leaders call in their absences to the Church office as soon as possible.



Daylight Savings Time begins Mar. 13. Remember to set your watches and clocks forward one hour (and lose an hour of sleep) before you go to bed on the 12th.

I Peter study. The Wednesday night Bible study has begun an in-depth look at the Apostle Peter's first epistle to the Church using literature from the Gospel Coalition. One of *I Peter's* key lessons is that it is a blessing to suffer for Christ's name and the sake of the Gospel. Those participating in the study have committed to reading all five chapters of *I Peter* once a week over the next few months in preparation for each week's class. We have only just begun, so those who would like to join in can easily catch up. Some families are participating remotely, following along at home with the main class at BBC.



My Story of Sharing the Word

by Ashley Babyak

A few months ago, I was confronted with a situation that God has been laying on my heart to write about. While talking with a fellow science major at my college, she was shocked to find out I was a Christian, that I do not believe in scientific theories that claim to disprove the faith, and that I do believe in what she called the “impossible” stories of the Bible, such as the virgin birth. I found myself questioning if I was a bad Christian because I wasn’t letting my faith and love of God shine in everything I do. I struggled with this and prayed about it for a while. The conversation eventually came up with my classmate again. She couldn’t believe in something science told her wasn’t true. Now, I have always known there were contradictions between science and religion, but the assertion that we have to believe in either science or God is simply not true. Even before I started college, I had several teachers who taught that science proved religion wrong, but I have always felt that God gifted me with a talent for science, and that science and medicine were my way of helping others and sharing my faith.

My classmate’s comment that “science proves religion is false” stuck with me though, and honestly, it bothered me. I continued to pray about it, and God continued to provide me opportunities to converse with her. As we talked more, I realized that sharing the blessings in my life and the importance of God’s love wasn’t enough to convince her. She has never experienced the worries on her heart being lifted by a simple prayer. Neither has she known, when everything was going wrong in her life, that everything will be okay because God has a plan for her and He will never leave her. I somewhat know her thought process for proving facts, since we have been taking the same science classes and learning the same methods for tackling questions about the natural world, but I wasn’t sure how to approach her on spiritual issues. Obviously none of our textbooks were going to come out and support the Word of God. At first, I wasn’t sure that quoting Scripture was even going to help me discuss scientific facts with my classmate. But once again, God reminded me that His Word always has the answers.

The more I read and studied the Bible, I found references to scientific truths all over the place. I discovered a vast amount of scientific insight especially in the book of *Job*. For example, the Word of God spoke about meteorological facts over a thousand years before it was discovered by science. *Job 26:7-8* reveals, “He spreads out the northern skies over empty space; he suspends the earth over nothing. He wraps up the waters in his clouds, yet the clouds do not burst under their weight”. *Job 28:25* explains, “...He established the force of the wind and measured out the waters” even though air was not scientifically analyzed until only a few hundred years ago. In *1 Corinthians 15:41*, Paul spoke of the difference between stars that cannot be seen by the naked eye or even with a telescope. “The sun has one kind of splendor, the moon another and the stars another; and star differs from star in splendor.” Many of those differences can only be seen by analyzing stars’ light spectra, a technique that was not even developed until the 1800s. There are many more verses that provided scientific knowledge long before modern scientists made their discoveries, but, unfortunately, those facts were not enough to change my classmate’s heart. She may not, yet, know the love of God, but through all of this I have grown even closer in my relationship with God. His greatness and power were revealed to me more and more every step of the way. Part of me is bothered that I couldn’t convince my classmate just how amazing our Father in heaven is, but rather than considering that experience a failure, I see it as a blessing because I had the opportunity to have an in-depth conversation on the greatness of the Lord.

Pastor’s Note

*“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing”
(1 Thessalonians 5:11).*

As we prepare for Easter, I wanted to encourage you to look inside yourself and ask the question, “Am I doing all that I can do to be the person that God wants me to be”? Guys, we need each other to be all that God wants us to be. I need you to be involved in your church. It is easy to say “What is the church doing for me”? I am asking you to say instead, “What can I do to help my church be more effective in reaching the youth and young adults in our community”? Please get involved. As we grow we need your help and support, which means everything to us. Be an encourager! Come to Sunday School, come to the services, and join the choir. You can make a

difference if you try. Support the outings and Bible studies. Do whatever it takes to be an encourager and I promise you that God will bless you for it. It will be hard at first, but the rewards are awesome!!

In His love,

Pastor Danny

Prayer Concerns

Share your prayer concerns with and questions for your pastor:

Book of *Job* Crossword Puzzle

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

Word Bank

AFFLICTION
ANGELS
ATTACKED
BEHEMOTH
BILDAD
BLAMELESS
BLESSING
CLOUDS
COUNSELOR
DOMINION
FIRE

GLORY
HONOR
LIGHTNING
OBEDIENCE
PROSPERITY
PROVISION
QUESTIONS
RIGHTEOUS
SUFFERING
TESTING
WISDOM