



# 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

*"An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests'" (Luke 2:9-14).*

It's Christmas time! Just like the angels who gave good news to those lonely shepherds on that first Christmas, you also can be a messenger spreading a message of joy to the world and peace to all to those on whom God's favor rests. This Christmas season, look for and seek out opportunities to bless others because God has already blessed you. Take time to give a hug away to those that need some joy in their lives. Send a card with a message of hope to a family member, friend, or neighbor, reminding them that real joy and peace can only be found in Jesus! Make it a priority this month to give away the love that you know firsthand from Jesus and you will be blessed for it. The greatest gift that you could give to anyone is love.

I would like to encourage you to please take part in the Christmas activities this month. The fellowship of Christian brothers and sisters is awesome. The joy that we share with each other is contagious and will bless others. Everyone is invited to participate in all the worship and fellowship activities we have scheduled to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Please see the December calendar and page 4 of this *Lantern* for all the dates and times. Hope to see you all celebrating Jesus and each other this Christmas season. May God bless you all.



God Bless,

Pastor Danny

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## Upcoming Events

**December 4** Christmas Dinner at St. Mary's Pavilion  
**December 7** Business Meeting  
**December 10** Ladies' Cookie Exchange  
**December 16** Lunch with Watkins Cabinet  
**December 17** Baptist Men's Meeting  
**December 18** Cantata, Parsonage Open House, and Christmas Hymn-Sing  
**December 24** Christmas Eve Service  
**December 25** Christmas  
**December 31** New Year's Eve



*"The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising" (Isaiah 60:3).*



## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

One of the best things about the Christmas story is that it didn't end with Jesus staying in the manger. Instead, He grew up: *"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men"* (Luke 2:52). Jesus lived just like us, experiencing growth--mentally (wisdom), physically (stature), spiritually (favor with God), and socially (favor with men). We shouldn't remain spiritual infants, but develop into mature Christian believers as Jesus modeled for us.

First, like Jesus, we should grow in wisdom, not just book knowledge, but the ability to apply it in practical ways to walk in God's truth. At the age of 12, the young Jesus impressed the teachers at the Temple with His knowledge: *"...all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers"* (Luke 2:47). We should join in Paul's prayer that the Father would grant us similar skill and discretion in right thinking *"... that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding..."* (Colossians 1:9).

Second, like Jesus, we should grow in stature, not just in physical height, but in spiritual maturity. Jesus began His ministry at the age of 30 (Luke 3:23), the customary age a priest began his duties. Like our Savior, we should reach the level when can move beyond being served to serving others. Paul explained to the Christians in Ephesus that they should *"...come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children...but...grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ..."* (Ephesians 4:13-15).

Third, like Jesus, we should grow in favor with God, increasing in our faith, seeking His will, and demonstrating the fruits of good works. Jesus received His Father's endorsement at His baptism, when *"...a voice came from heaven which said, 'You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased'"* (Luke 3:22). Jesus lived a life of perfect obedience and sacrifice. Through the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit, we too can adopt a lifestyle that honors God. Hebrews 13:16 sums up such a changed life: *"But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."*

Fourth, like Jesus, we should grow in favor with men. Jesus wasn't born to live a perfect spiritual life in isolation, but to minister to mankind. Jesus taught that His purpose was not to be serve, but to serve, even to the point of death. *"And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself"* (John 12:32). We can't be salt and light if we stay inside our salt shakers and hide under those bushel baskets. Instead, we like the early Church need to engage with others, serving as witnesses to the Gospel in both word and deed. *"So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people"* (Acts 2:46-47).

Merry Christmas and a Happy 2017 from the *Lantern* staff!

## Kings & Queens Scramble

Can you place these 20 biblical kings and queens with the correct kingdom or description? Answers are on the bottom of page 3, column 2.

- |                    |                                    |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Abimelech       | A. Egypt                           |
| 2. Agrippa         | B. first ruled in Hebron           |
| 3. Ahasuerus       | C. replaced a queen                |
| 4. Caesar          | D. King of kings and Lord of lords |
| 5. Candace         | E. the Mede                        |
| 6. Darius          | F. Persia                          |
| 7. David           | G. Salem                           |
| 8. Esther          | H. Jesus said to render unto him   |
| 9. Herod           | I. Philistines                     |
| 10. Hezekiah       | J. first king of divided Israel    |
| 11. Jeroboam       | K. displeased the king             |
| 12. Jesus          | L. from Sidon                      |
| 13. Jezebel        | M. first king of all Israel        |
| 14. Melchizedek    | N. Judea                           |
| 15. Nebuchadnezzar | O. Paul preached to him            |
| 16. Pharaoh        | P. Ethiopia                        |
| 17. Saul           | Q. Babylon                         |
| 18. Solomon        | R. last king of Judah              |
| 19. Vashti         | S. built the first Temple          |
| 20. Zedekiah       | T. God extended his life           |

## Kings & Queens Word Search

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

Word Bank: Abimelech, Agrippa, Ahasuerus, Caesar, Candace, Darius, David, Esther, Herod, Hezekiah, Jeroboam, Jesus, Jezebel, Melchizedek, Nebuchadnezzar, Pharaoh, Saul, Solomon, Vashti, Zedekiah

## December Birthdays

- 2 Tina Appleton, Elnora Caudell
- 5 Robin Berry
- 6 Justin Yates
- 9 Jeannye Hungerford
- 12 Gabby Marsh
- 15 Holly Cross
- 17 Mary Ann Luhn, Cindy Moore
- 24 Ashlinn Cole
- 28 Ralph Cooley
- 29 Ollie Baumbaugh
- 31 Larry Michael



## Business Meeting Briefs

### *Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in November:*

- A motion was approved to grant a letter transferring the membership of William & Iris Rodgers, upon their request, to Tom's Creek United Methodist Church of Emmitsburg, MD.
- A motion to grant a letter transferring the membership of Laura Luhn, upon her request, to First Baptist Church of Deer Park, WA was adopted.
- A motion to approve the membership application of Chris Frazier, who was baptized on Sep. 25, passed.
- A bypass motion to pay for the meals of children 12 and under at the Dec. 4 Christmas dinner and redistribute unused funds within the Outreach Cmte. budget was approved.

### *Expected at the December Business Meeting:*

- The Finance Cmte. will offer a motion to approve its recommended 2017 Church budget. The proposed budget amount of \$190,014 is \$7,637 less than the 2016 adjusted budget amount of \$201,350, which to date includes over \$3,699 in Cooperative Program giving beyond the minimum budgeted amount of \$10,000.
- The Internal Administration Cmte. will offer a motion to transfer unused funds within its budget to the Telecommunications BLI for regular bills and one-time church website upgrades.
- The Internal Administration Cmte. will offer a motion to authorize the creation of a Pickup Truck Fund and transfer gift funds to the 2016 and 2017 budgets for commercial vehicle insurance and maintenance and repair costs.
- The Internal Administration Cmte. will offer a motion to construct a porch over the entrance steps to the Fellowship Hall and transfer gift funds to the Physical Plant BLI to pay for the expenses of the construction.

## Kings & Queens Scramble Answers

1. I (Genesis 26:1); 2. O (Acts 26:28); 3. F (Esther 1:1); 4. H (Matthew 22:21); 5. P (Acts 8:27); 6. E (Daniel 5:31); 7. B (2 Samuel 2:11); 8. C (Esther 2:17); 9. N (Luke 1:5); 10. T (II Kings 20:6); 11. J (I Kings 11:31); 12. D (Revelation 19:16); 13. L (I Kings 16:31); 14. G (Genesis 14:18); 15. Q (II Kings 24:1); 16. A (Exodus 6:11); 17. M (I Samuel 11:15); 18. S (I Kings 6:1); 19. K (Esther 1:9); 20. R (II Kings 25:7).

## Prayer Concerns

Ashlinn Cole  
Barbara Swank  
Cindy Moore  
Jane Fowler  
Kris Drews  
Ola Moore, Pastor Danny's mother  
Pauline Fowler  
the family of BBC member Clark Brown at his passing  
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.  
Seniors: Flora Gilliam, Bob Lillard, June Luhn, Junior & Arlene Luhn, Ollie Baumbaugh, Hisle Beach, Margie Stream, Paul & Trudy Meissner, Rebecca Umstead, Jo Blalock, Vivian Neal, Paul Foster's mother, Amy Rogers' mother  
Cancer patients: Billy Heaton, Cathy Mallory, David Fogle, Debbie Baxter, Donald Jericho, Eddie Weston, Jody Pelligrino, Patti Watkins, Phil Brudner, Debbie Baxter  
Our missionary friends: Manuel & Cindy Batres (Guatemala) and 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).



## News You Can Use

**Food ministry.** The Lord recently blessed BBC so that we in turn can bless others. We were given the opportunity to receive leftover food from the Trader Joe's grocery store in Bethesda. Within a couple weeks, BBC received a refrigerator and freezer to store the food, a pickup truck to transport the food, a host of volunteers to help each week, and contacts in the community who could benefit from the food. All praise to the Lord for setting us up with everything that we needed



for our new food ministry at no cost to the church. The groceries, which we will receive every Monday, will be available for pickup at the parsonage to anyone who would like them. An email detailing the types of food we receive each week will be sent from our new [bbcfoodministry@gmail.com](mailto:bbcfoodministry@gmail.com) account. Any leftovers will be delivered on Tuesdays to local firehouses and those in need.

**Christmas services planned.** BBC has several special events scheduled to celebrate Christmas. The season starts with the annual Christmas Dinner at St. Mary's Pavilion on Sunday, Dec. 4 at 5:00 pm. The ladies will meet on Saturday, Dec. 10 at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall for a cookie exchange. The Bell Choir will perform during the service on Sunday, Dec. 11. The Choir will present its cantata, "Come Let Us Adore", during worship on Sunday, Dec. 18. Jan Burdette will direct, Paul Foster III will narrate, and Gary Cooley and Leslie Foster will sing solos. The service will close with the Baptist Men giving gifts to the children. After the service, the parsonage open house will be held from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm, when we will reconvene in the sanctuary for the annual Christmas hymn sing. A Christmas Eve service will be held at 7:00 pm on Saturday, Dec. 24. Services will be held as usual on Sunday, Dec. 25.

**Fall fellowships.** BBC got its fill of bonfires and hot dogs on Oct. 29 and Nov. 5. The first event was at Summers Farm in Frederick, where 46 people enjoyed the corn maze, fireworks, and fellowship around the campfire. Saturday, Nov. 7 was just as much fun with a hayride to the top of Sugarloaf Mountain. The evening ended with a hot dog roast, s'more-making, and two bonfires.



**Fall clean-up day.** Thanks to Bill Appleton, Luke Fedders, Paul Foster, Larry Michael, Lee Michael, Danny Moore, Jesse Yates, Joe Yates, and Ed Williams, who participated in the fall clean-up day on Saturday, Nov. 19, raking leaves and cleaning up around the church grounds.

**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal set at \$2,000.** Dec. 4-11 is the week of prayer for the 2016 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. This year's theme is "The Gospel Resounds". Together, we and the IMB are able to send out missionaries so the gospel will resound throughout the world. The national goal is \$155 million; BBC's is \$2,000. The average cost for supporting one of the IMB missionaries and their families is \$159 per day. Please pray about a sacrificial gift for foreign missions.

**Outreach activities.** The WMU was blessed and humbled by the generosity of those who donated 51 wrapped shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child—11 more than last year—packed with Christmas presents for needy children around the world. BBC also generously provided Christmas gifts for 25 children in the poorest area of Baltimore by partnering with Northeast Baptist Church. BBC is also holding a coat drive to benefit the Frederick Rescue Mission. New or slightly used coats for all sizes and ages will be collected until Sunday, Dec. 18. Contact Megan Fedders with any questions.

**Christmas poinsettias for sale.** If you would like to purchase a Christmas poinsettia in honor of or 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. Four poinsettia sizes are available this year: 6" for \$10.00; 7" for \$16.00; 8" for \$25.00; and 10" for \$32.00.

## COTCD Cartoon

**CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH** by Thom Tapp

