



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

Just a few weeks ago we gathered on Good Friday to remember the terrible cost that Jesus bore on the cross to atone for our sins and reconcile us back to the Father. On Easter Sunday, the choir sang the powerful message of Jesus' love and resurrection. One of the most powerful and uplifting verses about the resurrection are Jesus' words in *John 20:17* to Mary Magdalene: "...I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God". Jesus, having completed the task appointed by His Father, now reigns with the Lord, seated at His right hand. Now that's something to get excited about! Indeed, Mary Magdalene "...told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her" (*John 20:18*).

Jesus' resurrection promises us renewed life in this world and eternal security in the next, which should develop in us an attitude of gratitude, confidence, and hope. Our future with God based on Jesus' work on the cross is so permanent and secure that nothing can ever shake us loose from God's love and purpose for our lives. What joy and peace that can give us, if we will fully trust in God's goodness and the promises in His Word. Always remind yourselves how much Jesus loved us by sacrificing Himself on the cross that we might be reconciled to God. Those amazing promises should never get old or dull. Jesus, before He went to the cross, left His followers with encouragement by promising that, "...if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself..." (*John 14:3*). The joy of that news should inspire us each day. And it's more than just a feeling. Jesus didn't leave us alone when He returned to heaven. Instead, He sent His Holy Spirit to guide, strengthen, and encourage believers each day. When we realize that we have the Father's love, Jesus as our Savior and Lord, and the Holy Spirit as our Comforter, we already have everything we need to do whatever Almighty God purposes for our lives until Christ comes back for His Church. Are you ready? "He who testifies to these things says, "surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (*Revelation 22:20*)!

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Upcoming Events

- May 1** Business Meeting
- May 4** C&O Canal Bike Ride
- May 11** Children's Fishing Trip at the Neals' Pond
- May 12** Mother's Day
- May 17** Lunch with Watkins Cabinet
- May 18** Baptist Men's Meeting
- May 19** The Padgett's Concert; VBS Planning Meeting
- May 20** Deacons' Meeting
- May 28** Homeless Shelter BBQ



"With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit..." (Ephesians 6:8).

May 2 is the National Day of Prayer

God Bless,

Pastor Danny



The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

If you've been reading the biblical accounts of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection this Easter season, you've probably looked at verses from all four Gospels: *Matthew*, *Mark*, *Luke*, and *John*. You may have wondered why isn't there just one start-to-finish account instead. With four separate gospels, we get four unique perspectives that tell the same overall story. Imagine that you are a police officer investigating a car accident. Would you only want to hear from the driver at fault, or other witnesses as well? In the same way, each of the four gospel writers contributed to the whole of all that we need to know about the life and ministry of Jesus. The gospels both provide similar information about the same incidents and provide extra levels of detail that other gospel writers didn't specify. The first three gospels are known as the "synoptic" gospels because they are the most similar; "synoptic" comes from the Greek term for "seeing together".

Matthew was an eyewitness to the ministry of Jesus as one of His 12 apostles. As a Jew, he was familiar with the Old Testament and Jewish religion and culture, and wrote from that perspective. Matthew's particular goal was to show to the Jewish nation that Jesus was the promised Messiah and prophesied King. Seventeen times *Matthew* used the phrase "fulfilled which was spoken" to indicate how what Jesus did was foretold in prophecy. Matthew also recorded many of Jesus' parables, sermons, and acts of healing as well as Jesus' confrontations with the Jewish religious leaders.

Mark was not an eyewitness but was instead a companion of the Apostle Peter, whose teachings Mark recorded. Mark wrote to a primarily Roman audience, explaining or omitting details about Jewish customs. *Mark* skips over Jesus' genealogy and birth, unlike *Matthew* and *Luke*. Instead, Mark wrote a fast-paced narrative, often using words like "immediately", and emphasized Jesus' humanity and suffering as a servant during His ministry. "...*The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many*" (*Mark 10:45*).

Luke had also never met Jesus, but he was a close companion of the Apostle Paul and a careful historian that recorded the stories of those who did know Jesus personally "...*having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, [I wrote] it out for you in consecutive order...*" (*Luke 1:3*). As a Gentile doctor, Luke emphasized Jesus' love for the unpopular, weak, and oppressed: women, children, sinners, foreigners, and the sick. If *Luke* had a theme verse, it would be "...*the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost*" (*Luke 19:10*). Luke used Greek words and terms instead of Hebrew or Latin vocabulary.

John was an apostle and eyewitness like Matthew, and at the end of his life provided information that was not recorded in the synoptic gospels. John's particular purpose in writing his gospel was that "...*you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name*" (*John 20:31*). Indeed, the themes of Jesus' divinity and the need to believe in order to be saved are dominant throughout the book of *John*. John didn't record any of Jesus' parables but focused on His seven "I AM" statements and eight major miracles to portray Jesus as the Son of God.

Member of the Month: Roy Leibrand

- ★ Born: Dec. 17, 1966 in Takoma Park, MD
- ★ How long a BBC member: since October 2017
- ★ Church offices held: Outreach Cmte. member
- ★ How he first came to BBC: looked for closest Baptist church
- ★ Favorite Hymns: "Just a Closer Walk With Thee", "Wayfaring Stranger"
- ★ Favorite pew: fifth row on the left
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *John 14:6* and *Psalms 34:7*
- ★ Ages at baptisms: 10 and 30 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Wildwood Baptist in Bethesda, MD
- ★ Most famous person he's met: Cal Ripkin, Jr.
- ★ Personal claim to fame: won Battle of the Bands talent show in high school, owned own business
- ★ Most important historical event in his life: 9/11, wars in Iraq and Afghanistan
- ★ Farthest places he's been from Barnesville: California and Mexico
- ★ Story on first name: named after his great-uncle
- ★ Most important technologies invented in his lifetime: CDs, computers, and cell phones
- ★ Childhood heroes: Charles Bronson, father Norman Leibrand, and uncle Bill who was a Vietnam veteran
- ★ Hobbies: cooking on smoker, hunting and fishing, and raising farm animals
- ★ Favorite name of Jesus: "Yeshua HaMashiach" (Jesus the Messiah)



May Birthdays

12 Lara Saylor
14 John Beach
15 Eddie Fowler
24 Nick Cole, Bobbi Comert,
Wade Williams
25 Michelle Cole
28 Paul Foster
30 Sandy Gilliam, Susan Rice



Prayer Concerns

Ashlinn Cole
Joe Williams
Larry Michael
Linda Roberts
Nick Cole
the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.
Seniors: Arlene Luhn, Bilyie Luhn, Gene Bennett, Hisle Beach, Janet Magruder, Jo Blalock, June (Cole) Houseknecht, June Luhn, Margie Stream, Ola Moore, Ollie Baumbaugh, Paul & Trudy Meissner, Phoebe Rogers, Rebecca Umstead, Susan Rice
Cancer patients: Pauline Fowler, Gail Palestine, Charlie Driver, Cathy Rockenhauser, Dennis Oden
Our missionary friends 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 April:

- The Internal Administration Cmte.'s motion to create a fund to receive gifts for future upgrades to the parsonage was approved.
- The Church adopted a bylaw requiring select church leaders responsible for children to complete third-party background checks.

Expected at the May Business Meeting:

- The Internal Administration Cmte. will offer a motion to sell the church pick-up truck on an "as is" basis.
- The Internal Administration Cmte. will offer a motion to extend Paul Foster's tenure as Choir Director until May 31, 2019.

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"I'm telling you Martha, I don't care what it says, I'm sure the rapture hasn't happened yet!"

News You Can Use

Easter sounds and songs. On Palm Sunday, Apr. 14, the Bell Choir, under the direction of Ann Bennett, performed four



tunes during the morning worship service: "With Great

Joy", "The Lamb", "Thine Is the Glory", and "The Cross at Gethsemane". The Bell Choir will be on hiatus until after Labor Day, when practices in preparation for Christmas will begin again. Paul Foster directed his final Easter cantata, "Scenes from Passion Week", on Sunday, Apr. 21. Songs included

"Broken and Spilled Out", with a solo by Suzanne Neal; "On His Knees", with a solo by Gary Cooley;



"In Remembrance"; "Via Dolorosa", with a solo by Leslie Foster; "It Is Finished"; and "Jesus Is Alive". Jan Burdette was the pianist, Lee Michael narrated, and Luke Fedders was the sound technician.

May children and youth activities. On Saturday, May 11 at 11:00 am, the children will enjoy a fishing trip at the Neals' pond on Peach Tree Road. Please see Tina Appleton to sign up; bring your own fishing rod and bait. On Memorial Day, Monday, May 27 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Montgomery County homeless shelter in Rockville, the BBC youth will serve hot dogs and hamburgers for the homeless. If you would like to prepare a side dish for the youth to take, please bring it to church by Sunday, May 26. If you would like to participate in the cookout, please see Lisa Fedders.

Annie Armstrong report. BBC collected 124% (\$2,486) of its 2019 goal of \$2,000 for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Sixty percent of the total came from individual gifts and 40% came from the church budget line item for Cooperative Program offerings. Thank you for your generosity to support our missionaries spreading the Gospel in the United States and Canada.

Choir director search update. The Nominating Cmte. is continuing to search for God's candidate to fill our Choir Director position and is exploring additional publications and forums to get the word out. We ask that BBC members continue to pray that we would be led to the right person.

VBS 2019 dates set. Believe it or not, Barnesville Baptist is already starting to prepare for this year's Vacation Bible School, to be held Jul. 8-12. This year's theme is "In The Wild: Amazing Encounters With Jesus". The VBS Scripture is *John 20:31*. Volunteers are needed to serve as teachers and helpers in the areas of crafts, recreation, and snack. Talk to VBS Co-Directors Cindy Moore and Tina Appleton if you'd like to participate. Please begin praying for this most important outreach event of the year. A planning meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, May 19 after the worship service.



Summer vacation begins for several programs. Monthly activities beginning their summer break include WMU meetings after May 13 and lunches with our Watkins Cabinet friends after May 17. All of these programs will resume in September.

National Day of Prayer on May 2. The National Day of Prayer is a time for Americans to pray for their country and ask for God's blessings and guidance. BBC's sanctuary will be open from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm on the first Thursday of the month if you want to come and pray.

C&O Canal bike ride. Be sure to sign up with Bill & Elnora Caudell for the C&O Canal bike ride scheduled for Saturday, May 4. The 5.4-mile round trip excursion will start with a hot dog lunch at noon at Lock 31 in Weverton (Mile 58). We will then bike up to Harper's Ferry (Mile 60.7) and return to Weverton.

Church picnic. The annual church picnic will be held on Sunday, Jun. 2 at Black Hill Park Shelter B in Boyds at 1:00 pm. Anyone who would like to take a pontoon boat ride during the church picnic at 2:00 pm should see Mary Yates (\$5/ticket) to reserve a spot. Tickets are first-come, first-served and the boat seats 30. We will try to get as many requested tickets as possible on the day of, but there are no guarantees.

Gospel concert. Southern & country gospel singers Myron and Brandon Padgett from Miamisburg, Ohio will sing during the morning worship service on Sunday, May 19 at 10:45 am. A free will offering will be taken. Please invite friends and family to enjoy this special music.

