



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

As we approach the summer season, I would like for us to start praying even now for our outreach and fellowship activities that have been scheduled for the months ahead. We dedicate each of those events to the Lord and His glory, and ask that He would guide our steps so that our thoughts, words, and deeds would align with His. *"There are many plans in a man's heart, nevertheless the Lord's counsel—that will stand" (Proverbs 19:21).*

During the month of May, we will show our love and affection to moms on Sunday the 14th, Mother's Day. We have scheduled our annual outreach to the men's homeless shelter in Rockville at the end of the month. Let also us take time to remember and show our appreciation to the families of the men and women of our military that lost their lives defending our great country and our freedom on Memorial Day, May 29. As we demonstrate respect and honor to those different groups, bathe those interactions with prayer, that people would see the love of Jesus in us and be drawn closer to Him. *"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people" (Ephesians 6:18).*

Before you know it, spring will pass into summer, the season for some of Barnesville Baptist Church's biggest outreach activities. The church has planned some great opportunities to reach out in love to each other and to our community. Mark down all of the dates that we have scheduled, such as our Church Picnic in June, VBS in July, and our county fair outreach in August.

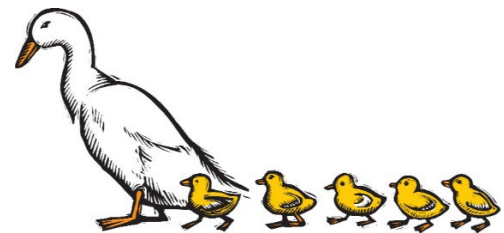
One of the blessings of being in the family of God is to worship together, and to fellowship together and to join together and do the Lord's work within our church family and the community. We all need each other to be all that God wants us to be.

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Upcoming Events

- May 3** Business Meeting
- May 4** National Day of Prayer
- May 14** Mother's Day
- May 22** Deacons' Meeting
- May 27** Baptist Men's Meeting
- May 29** Memorial Day



"...A woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her own works praise her in the gates" (Proverbs 31:30-31).

God Bless,



Pastor Danny

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

The story in *II Kings 5* about the Syrian commander Naaman washing seven times in the Jordan River to be healed from his leprosy is well known, but what he did next is not. Naaman asked the prophet Elisha for dirt, as much as two mules could carry back to Syria. It wasn't because soil from Israel was better than soil from Syria, it was because Naaman wanted to be connected with the God of Israel. Understanding the thinking of ancient biblical peoples about the relationships among lands, peoples, and the gods they worshiped will help us understand and interpret several unusual passages in the Scriptures.

The peoples of Naaman's and Elisha's day believed that the world was divided into nations each with gods that ruled over their own peoples and lands (*Deuteronomy 4:19, 29:26, 32:8,17*). After mankind's rebellion against God's authority at Babel (*Genesis 11*), the Lord scattered them over the earth and apportioned them their own lands. As Paul explained to the Athenians, God set "...every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings..." (*Acts 17:26*). Whereas the Lord had sent the Gentile nations away from His rule and revelation, He set his attention and affection on a chosen people that would come from Abraham. "*For the Lord's portion is His people; Jacob is the place of His inheritance*" (*Deuteronomy 32:9*). Not only did the Lord call out a people, he selected a specific land, Israel, that His chosen people would occupy (*Genesis 12:1-3*).

Having experienced the miraculous healing power of the God of Israel, Naaman would never again put his faith in the gods of Syria, but rather he would be forever committed to the Lord. As the military leader of Israel's enemy, Naaman would be physically separated from the land of the God he gave his allegiance to, so he wanted a physical connection to bring home with him. Whether Naaman intended to build himself an altar for worship on a small patch of Israeli soil or something else is unclear, but what was obvious was that Naaman had no further interest in worshiping the Syrian nation's deity in the temple of Rimmon (*II Kings 5:18*).

In another situation, future king David had not just physical safety but religious concerns about being driven out of the land of Judah by a jealous King Saul. When David appealed to Saul to relent from his pursuit, he complained about Saul's men, "...for they have driven me out this day from sharing in the inheritance of the Lord, saying, 'Go, serve other gods'". (*I Samuel 26:19*). David's concern was not that God's authority was limited to the boundaries of Israel, but that God's people belonged in God's land, and to be outside of God's territory was to put himself under the jurisdiction of foreign gods.

The Jews weren't the only people to hold such a belief. The Philistines recognized that the God of Israel had taken part of their land, in their very own temple of Dagon, their chief god. In *I Samuel 5*, it is recorded that the Ark of the Covenant, taken by the Philistines from the Israelites in battle, was deposited in the Philistine temple as a war prize. Overnight, the idol of Dagon had broken and fallen before the Ark of the

Continued on page 3, column 2

Biblical Mothers Scramble

Can you match these 20 biblical mothers with their child? Answers are on the bottom of page 3, column 1.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Abijah | A. Manasseh |
| 2. Ahinoam | B. Korah |
| 3. Aholibamah | C. Jehoash |
| 4. Asenath | D. Rehoboam |
| 5. Athaliah | E. Solomon |
| 6. Azubah | F. Josiah |
| 7. Bathsheba | G. Joses |
| 8. Eunice | H. Esau |
| 9. Hamutal | I. Jeroboam |
| 10. Jedidah | J. Jehoshaphat |
| 11. Leah | K. Jehoiakim |
| 12. Maachah | L. Reuben |
| 13. Mary | M. Ahaziah |
| 14. Naamah | N. Gershom |
| 15. Rebekah | O. Zedekiah |
| 16. Sarah | P. Isaac |
| 17. Zebudah | Q. Hezekiah |
| 18. Zeruah | R. Timothy |
| 19. Zibiah | S. Asa |
| 20. Zipporah | T. Jonathan |

Biblical Mothers Word Search

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

Word Bank: Abijah, Ahinoam, Aholibamah, Asenath, Athaliah, Azubah, Bathsheba, Eunice, Hamutal, Jedidah, Leah, Maachah, Mary, Naamah, Rebekah, Sarah, Zebudah, Zeruah, Zibiah, Zipporah

May Birthdays

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



Prayer Concerns

Members: Doug & Roberta Allnutt and family

Family and Friends: Theresa, daughter of Eddie & Pauline Fowler; the men & women of the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.

Seniors: Arlene Luhn, Betty James, Cortland "Pop" Moore, Dot Fowler, Eddie Fowler, Gene Bennett, Janet Magruder, Margie Stream, Ollie Baumbaugh, Ralph Cooley, Rebecca Umstead, Susan Rice

Cancer patients: Jack Cooley, bone cancer; Pat Luhn, breast cancer; Bill Appleton, recovering from successful leukemia treatment; Kitty Cooley

Missions: NAMB and IMB missionaries; all the church planters in MD/DE; King of Glory Church in Pakistan; MBA-sponsored church plant Hope Fellowship Church in Ashburn, VA



*"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).

Biblical Mothers Scramble Answers

1. Q (II Chronicles 29:1); 2. T (I Samuel 14:49-50); 3. B (Genesis 36:18); 4. A (Genesis 41:50-51); 5. M (II Kings 11:1); 6. J (I Kings 22:42); 7. E (I Kings 1:11); 8. R (II Timothy 1:5); 9. O (Jeremiah 52:1); 10. F (II Kings 22:1); 11. L (Genesis 30:14); 12. S (II Chronicles 15:16); 13. G (Mark 15:47); 14. D (I Kings 14:21); 15. H (Genesis 28:5); 16. P (Genesis 24:67); 17. K (II Kings 23:36); 18. I (I Kings 11:26); 19. C (II Kings 12:1); 20. N (Exodus 2:21-22).

Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in April:

- There was no Old Business pending before the Church.

Expected at the May Business Meeting:

- The Pastor and Deacons will recommend dismissing Paul & Leslie Foster from church membership upon their request, as they have joined a church in West Virginia.

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"I liked our crafts time a lot better last year."

The Pew Perspective, continued

Covenant, its head and hands on the ground. The Philistines saw that as the God of Israel defeating Dagon, and therefore that ground had been seized by Israel's God and off-limits to the worshipers of Dagon. *"Therefore neither the priests of Dagon nor any who come into Dagon's house tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod to this day"* (I Samuel 5:5).

The prophet Daniel also picked up the theme of nations being overseen by spiritual forces, noting that Persia, Greece, and Israel were under the authority of specific "princes", well understood as spiritual beings (Daniel 10:13, 20-21). The Apostle Paul carried that same understanding into the New Testament with his repeated references to the geographic terms of "principalities" and "powers" with regard to spiritual warfare and Christ's resurrection victory over the powers of darkness (Romans 8:38; Ephesians 3:10, 6:12; Colossians 1:16, 2:15). As Christians, we can rest assured in the knowledge that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has redeemed and conquered every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and that *"the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever"* (Revelation 11:15)!

News You Can Use

Service opportunity. BBC will be providing 200 bag lunches to the men at the Rockville homeless shelter this month.



Easter worship began with the BBC Choir Quartet of Gary Cooley, Karen Hazzard, and Ann & David Bennett, who sang "Jesus Is Alive", with Jan Burdette on the piano.

Donations requested are fruit cups (4 oz. sealed cups), granola bars (any kind/flavor), packages of cheese or peanut butter sandwich crackers, and 12 oz. bottles of water which are needed by Sunday, May 21. Sign up to donate on the

bulletin board in the vestibule. There will be a container in the vestibule to drop off donations. Money may also be donated towards the purchase of items needed. Please see Lisa Fedders with any questions.

Annie Armstrong report. As of press time, BBC has already exceeded its 2023 goal of \$2,500 for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering with a collection of \$2,510. Sixty percent (\$1,510) came from individual gifts and 40% (\$1,000) came from the church budget line item for Cooperative Program offerings. Thank you for your generosity to support our missionaries spreading the Gospel in North America.

National Day of Prayer on May 4. The National Day of Prayer is a time for Americans to pray for our country and ask for God's blessings and guidance. BBC's sanctuary will be open from 6:00 am to 10:00 am on the first Thursday of the month if you want to come and pray.

VBS 2023. Vacation Bible School will be held Jul. 10-14. This year's theme is "Twists & Turns: Following Jesus Changes the Game". The VBS Scripture is *Psalm 25:4*. Thank you to those who have volunteered to serve as teachers and helpers in the areas of crafts, recreation, and snack. Please begin praying for this most important



outreach event of the year.

Thank you. The church grounds and buildings look much better after the Apr. 8 church clean-up day: flower beds were tended, the parking lot was striped, mulch was spread, weeds were pulled, sticks were raked, windows were washed, floors were scrubbed, and much more. Thanks to all who participated.

Worship at Spring Arbor. On Sunday, Apr. 16, Barnesville Baptist was blessed to lead worship for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic at the Spring Arbor nursing home in Frederick. An enthusiastic and large group of seniors, including our own BBC members



Dot Fowler and Cortland "Pop" Moore, gathered for a time of hymn-singing, prayer, communion, and a word of encouragement from the Scripture. BBC will hold services at Spring Arbor on the third Sunday of the month at 3:15 pm. Volunteers are welcome to participate and distribute song books, help the Spring Arbor residents flip pages, and pass out communion elements.

Easter lilies. Flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Easter were donated in memory of loved ones by the following people: Gary & Jan Burdette (Bob & Margery Lillard and Bill & Helen Burdette); Jack &



BBC celebrating Christ's resurrection at the Easter sunrise service

Kitty Cooley (Carson & Dorothy Ward and Jack & Nellie Cooley); David & Ann Bennett (Carroll & Laura Bennett and Jean Noland); Joe & Mary Yates (Lark & Anne Yates, Hazel Ward, Jimmy Benson, and Bruce Benson); Sherry Morrison & family (Bill Morrison and Bill & Mary Mossburg); Luke & Lisa Fedders & family (Doug Cooley and John Michael Fedders); Dan & Shirley Yates (Lark & Ann Yates, Earl & Virginia Shreve); Sandra Oden and Mary Ann Luhn (Tod & June Luhn).

Wednesday Night Bible Study. Pastor Danny will begin a new teaching series on the New Testament book of *II John* on Wednesday nights at 7:00. Now is a great time to join this Bible study, either in-person or online.

Prayer requests. The worship bulletin is updated weekly with prayer requests for BBC members, family, and friends.

Please contact Pastor Danny or the Church Office by Wednesdays at 6:00 pm to have your request included in the following Sunday's bulletin. Prayer requests can also be emailed to the BBC email list for more timely needs.



The parsonage roof was replaced on Apr. 26.