



The Barnesville Lantern

Barnesville Baptist Church
17917 Barnesville Road/P.O. Box 69
Barnesville, Maryland 20838

301-407-0500 (phone/fax)
www.barnesvillebaptist.org
church@barnesvillebaptist.org

September 2024, Volume 23, No. 4

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

The Pastor Searchlight

In August, the Pastor Search Committee (PSC) was very engaged with our pastoral candidate and his wife. We had two Zoom interview sessions and one in-person meeting at BBC. We have completed our interview phase, having had four Zoom calls and one in-person visit.

During the meetings, the PSC asked the candidate and his wife questions on various topics such as preaching, theology, shepherding, self-discipline, sociableness, personality, family life, spiritual walk, ministry, leadership, and future goals and plans. The PSC also shared about BBC's major functions such as the worship service (including communion, baptism, music and streaming), missions, outreach, evangelism, children's ministries, Sunday School, VBS, communications, deacons, membership, finances, and business meetings.

During the in-person visit, the PSC gave the candidate and his wife a tour of the church, parsonage, and grounds. We even let them ring the church bell! We concluded our meeting in true BBC style, dinner with Dickerson Market fried chicken and plenty of homemade sides and desserts.

Once we concluded our interviews, we also completed criminal background and credit checks on the candidate along with verifying education and ordination information. There were no issues with any of the information that was received.

The PSC has prepared an employment contract and compensation package and are preparing to negotiate them with the candidate. Once the negotiations are completed, the PSC will make a formal announcement of the candidate and provide details on when the candidate will be visiting and preaching at BBC and when we expect to vote on calling the pastor to serve at BBC. This announcement will be made for at least two consecutive weeks prior to a vote by the membership.

The PSC looks forward to introducing the pastoral candidate and his wife to the church in the coming weeks. The Deacons appreciate your continued prayer for the pastor search process and for the ongoing ministry of BBC.



God Bless,

David Bennett
Chairman of Deacons

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Upcoming Events

- September 2** Labor Day
- September 7** September Business Meeting
- September 14** Baptist Men's Breakfast; Church Fellowship
- September 15** Spring Arbor Service
- September 23** Deacons' Meeting



*"Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him"
(II Kings 2:14).*

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

BBC is approaching a leadership transition. As David Bennett discusses in the Pastor Searchlight column on page 1, the Pastor Search Cmte. (PSC) expects to introduce a pastoral candidate to the congregation in the near future. The PSC has been working steadily toward that goal since February and we look forward to sharing good news with you very soon.

The Scripture describes a number of leaders and successors: famous pairs like Moses and Joshua, Elijah and Elisha, and Paul and Timothy come to mind. These duos were known for their close work together, with the senior preparing the junior to eventually succeed him. Joshua had a 40-year apprenticeship under Moses in their wilderness wanderings and was well-trained to take the children of Israel into the Promised Land after Moses died (*Numbers 27:18-23*). Elisha was granted a double portion of Elijah's spirit before Elijah was taken up to heaven (*II Kings 2:9*), literally leaving behind his mantle of leadership for Elisha as well. Paul considered Timothy his son in the Lord and trained him as a preacher; the epistles named after Timothy attest to the close attention Paul gave to educating and encouraging Timothy as a pastor (*I Timothy 1:9*). Other leaders and successors had different experiences, with unplanned or sudden changes in leadership. Some replacements were specifically announced by the Lord, such as choosing David to replace Saul as king (*I Samuel 16:1*), and some happened by the will of man, such as the Roman governor Felix being replaced by Festus (*Acts 24:27*). Most of the examples about leadership succession in the Bible come from the Old Testament, describing how the kings of Israel and Judah came to their thrones, with most succeeding their fathers. Some of the most interesting stories in the Old Testament concern a good son replacing a wicked father, or vice versa, and the effects that godly or ungodly ruler had on Israel or Judah.

Here at BBC, we have been blessed over the last several pastorates to have elevated an associate pastor to the senior role, with both Pastor Randy Gilliam and Pastor Danny Moore having served in the number-two position before taking on the senior pastor position. Having known both men and experienced and participated in their ministries well in advance of their elevation, BBC members enjoyed an extra level of confidence in advancing them to the pastorate. We also enjoyed a certain amount of stability and continuity, with the new pastor building on the work of the former. *"Thus says the Lord: 'Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; then you will find rest for your souls'" (Jeremiah 6:16).*

It will also be a blessing for BBC to start a new, fresh chapter, with a new pastor who can bring new ideas and new ways of doing things to refresh and revitalize our ministry. There will be growing pains as we learn more

continued on page 3, column 2

Biblical Leaders and Successors Scramble

Can you match these 20 rulers, prophets, or apostles with their successors? Answers are on the bottom of page 3, column 1.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Aaron | A. Ahab |
| 2. Abiathar | B. Belshazzar |
| 3. Asa | C. Ben-Hadad |
| 4. David | D. David |
| 5. Eli | E. Eleazar |
| 6. Elijah | F. Elisha |
| 7. Felix | G. Jehoshaphat |
| 8. Hazael | H. Jeroboam |
| 9. Hezekiah | I. Joshua |
| 10. Jehoash | J. Jotham |
| 11. Jehoiachin | K. Manasseh |
| 12. Jeroboam | L. Matthias |
| 13. Judas | M. Nadab |
| 14. Moses | N. Porcius Festus |
| 15. Nebuchadnezzar | O. Rehoboam |
| 16. Omri | P. Samuel |
| 17. Paul | Q. Solomon |
| 18. Saul | R. Timothy |
| 19. Solomon | S. Zadok |
| 20. Uzziah | T. Zedekiah |

Biblical Leaders and Successors Word Search

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

Word Bank: Ahab, Belshazzar, Ben-Hadad, David, Eleazar, Elisha, Jehoshaphat, Jeroboam, Joshua, Jotham, Manasseh, Matthias, Nadab, Porcius Festus, Rehoboam, Samuel, Solomon, Timothy, Zadok, Zedekiah

September Birthdays

- 3 Megan Fedders McAleer
- 7 Scott Gregory
- 9 Janna Williams
- 11 Shirley Yates
- 13 Michael Oden
- 14 Nita Roff, Ellen Williams



Prayer Concerns

Members: the family of Jack Cooley at his passing; Bill Williams, back pain and upcoming hip surgery on Sep. 10; Linda Roberts, returned home; for the Lord's will and guidance as we seek our next pastor

Family and Friends: Denise Trump, relative of Janet Magruder, recovering from surgery; Jody Reed, relative of Janna Williams, recovering from back surgery; Morgan and Dade Pumphrey, Will Pumphrey's daughters; Joe Yates' niece Cindy, eyesight; Bob Runkles, health; Angela Wagner, cousin of Tina Appleton, ALS and dementia; Andrea Appleton, Billy Appleton's sister; the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.

Seniors: Barbara Swank; Cortland "Pop" Moore; Eddie & Pauline Fowler; Janet Magruder; Ollie Baumbaugh; Ralph Cooley; Shirley Yates; Susan Rice

Cancer patients: Carol Sullivan, lung cancer; Glenn Norris, colon cancer; Pat Luhn, breast cancer; Kitty Cooley

Missions: MBA leaders Dr. Ron Blankenship and Rev. Michael Mattar; BCM/D Executive Director Tom Stolle and staff; NAMB and IMB missionaries; 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 Leaders and Successors Scramble Answers

1. E (Numbers 20:26); 2. S (I Kings 2:35); 3. G (I Kings 15:24); 4. Q (I Kings 1:43); 5. P (I Samuel 3:20); 6. F (I Kings 19:19); 7. N (Acts 24:27); 8. C (II Kings 13:24); 9. K (II Kings 20:21); 10. H (II Kings 14:16); 11. T (II Kings 24:17); 12. M (I Kings 14:20); 13. L (Acts 1:26); 14. I (Deuteronomy 31:14); 15. B (Daniel 5:1); 16. A (I Kings 16:28); 17. R (I Corinthians 4:17); 18. D (I Samuel 16:1); 19. O (I Kings 11:43); 20. J (II Chronicles 26:23).

Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in August:

- The Church approved a motion providing the Standing Committees' recommendations for Church officer and committee position vacancies for the 2024-2026 term.
- The Church approved the membership application of Claude Belcher, who was baptized on Jun. 22.

Expected at the September Business Meeting:

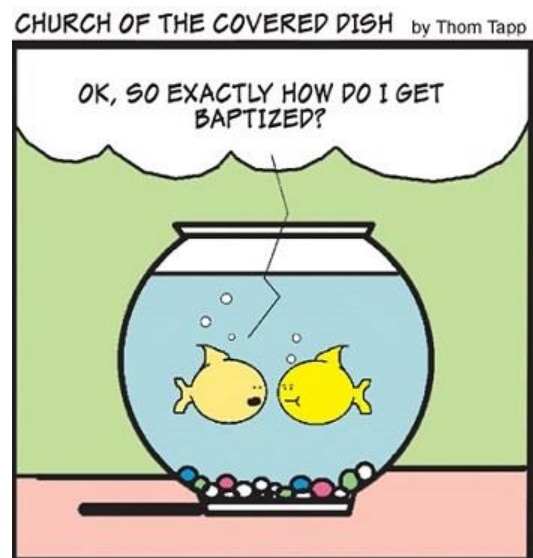
- The Deacons will offer a motion to send a letter of membership transfer for Sam & Robin Berry to First Baptist Church of Damascus.

The Pew Perspective, continued

about our future pastor and he becomes familiar with us, but those changes will allow us to stretch and grow in ways that will make us more capable and suited for what the Lord has prepared for us in the future. Indeed, most of our pastoral transitions in BBC history have occur without a formal hand-off from one leader to the next. *"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it" (Isaiah 43:18-19)?*

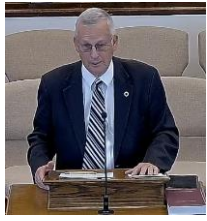
Whatever changes or opportunities come our way, let us keep our trust in the Lord; Christ is the head of His Church (Ephesians 5:23; Colossians 1:18) and we will look to Him as He selects the under-shepherd He has prepared for His church at Barnesville.

COTCD Cartoon



News You Can Use

September preaching schedule. The following ministers will preach in the Sunday worship services during the month of September: Dr. Michael Trammell will preach on *Luke 3:21-22* on Sep. 1 and lead us in communion; Rabbi-Pastor Robert Pristoop of Shofarel Jewish Ministries will speak about Mephibosheth on Sep. 8; the Sep. 15 service will be led by Dr. Tim Bonner; Dr. Michael Trammell will again speak on Sep. 22, and on Sep. 29, Rev. Michael Mattar will be in the pulpit.



Rev. Randy Gilliam preached on Aug. 11.

Save the date. The Baptist Men will host a church fellowship on Saturday, Sep. 14 at 5:00 pm on the church grounds. Stay tuned for more details soon.

Prayer requests. The worship bulletin is updated weekly with prayer requests for BBC members, family and friends, and other needs. Please contact 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 sent out on the BBC email list for more timely needs.

Wednesday night Bible study. Deacon Lee Michael is in the middle of a teaching series on the Resurrection on Wednesday nights at 7:00. Now is a great time to join this Bible study and prayer service.

Musical talents. Karen Hazzard and her grandchildren (see picture below, right) sang "Seek Ye First" as a special during the service on Aug. 11. Winston & Bernadette Charles led the service through song on Sunday, Aug. 18, along with Don Dunnevant on the piano and guitar, as well as our own Gary Cooley. They are all (see picture below, left) members of the National Christian Choir.



Supporting missions in Maryland/Delaware. The annual State Missions offering is a vital part of the ongoing task of building God's Kingdom. This year, the week of prayer for the offering is Sep. 8-15; donations will be collected through the end of the month. The BCM/D-wide goal for 2024 is \$100,000. Donations will be used to revitalize and plant new churches and to raise up teams and church plant leaders. Please prayerfully consider how you can support state missions. If you would like to contribute, please designate your check or use the online giving option.

Jack Cooley, 1942-2024. We regret to announce the passing of our brother in Christ and BBC member Jack Cooley on Aug. 3 at age 82, after a long battle with cancer. Jack was baptized at BBC in 1954 and served his Lord and his church family in many ways over the years, including as a groundsman, trustee, usher, and teller. We extend sympathies to and prayers for the Cooley and Fedders families at this time. The funeral service, led by former pastor Danny Moore, was held at BBC on Aug. 9 and followed by burial at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Frederick and a fellowship meal at St. Mary's Pavilion.



Martha Jo Blalock, 1925-2020. We have recently learned that Jo Blalock, who joined BBC in 2005, passed away in Jan. 2020.

Fall revival services. The 89th Montgomery Baptist Association (MBA) Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, Oct. 20 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm, with dinner to follow. This year's meeting will feature keynote addresses by BCM/D Associate Executive Director Mark Dooley and MBA Director of Missions Dr. Ron Blankenship. Following the annual meeting, the MBA will kick off a series of four nights of church revitalization, renewal, and revival services starting at 7:30 each night from Oct. 20 to 23. Each evening will offer a unique experience with different worship teams and testimonies. Revival speakers include Chris Allen on Oct. 20, Greg Kame on Oct. 21, Jeremy Dickson on Oct. 22, and Brian Tubbs on Oct. 23. All events will be held at Olney Baptist Church in Olney, MD.



Rabbi Robert Pristoop dressed as King David for his Aug. 25 biographical sermon.

VBS offering update. Thanks again to everyone who participated in and supported Vacation Bible School this July, especially those who gave to the missions offering that was sent

to the King of Glory Church in Pakistan to buy school supplies for the children. We received a number of pictures showing the excited children with their new gear that is required to attend classes.

