



# 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

*"He is not here, for he has risen, as He said" (Matthew 28:6).*

I cannot think of more joyous words that have ever been spoken! An angel announced to Mary Magdalene and others that the words spoken by Jesus were true. The empty tomb was proof that Jesus is who He said He is: the Messiah, the Lamb of God, the Savior of the World.

Almost 2,000 years have passed since the women were just hoping there would be a way that they could get into the tomb to prepare Jesus' body for a proper burial. Nearly two millennia have passed since John and Peter found only a piece of cloth where a couple days earlier Jesus had laid. We continue to celebrate that heartbreaking, yet wonderful occasion. I suspect, and hope, that we will do so until He returns a second time, just as He promised. Every year at Easter time, we read the words and hear the story from the Bible of how Jesus was put on trial, beaten, hung on the cross, was laid in the tomb, arose from the grave, and ascended to heaven. Even though the story is retold time and again, we never get tired of hearing it. Just like our favorite song, we want to hear it again.

I hope that you will be able to join us either in person or online throughout April as we focus much of our attention on the resurrection. Our Good Friday service on the 18<sup>th</sup> will include dramatic readings of the seven times Jesus spoke from the cross. In between each passage, the choir will lead us in singing a verse of "The Old Rugged Cross" and "At the Cross". I will need volunteers to read each of the passages. If you are comfortable reading scripture in public, please let me know that you would like to participate.

Following the Easter sunrise service on the 20<sup>th</sup>, Isabel and I are inviting everyone to the parsonage for a light breakfast and fellowship. Please plan to come hang out with us and rest a bit before Sunday School.

I look forward to all that the Lord has planned for us all this month. I encourage you to come and be a part of all that we will be doing. Jesus rose once but we get to remember and celebrate Him every day! I pray you have a blessed Easter season.

God Bless,



Pastor Kevin

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## Upcoming Events

- April 2** Business Meeting
- April 13** Palm Sunday; Easter Music Program
- April 19** Baptist Men's Meeting; Spring Clean-Up Day
- April 18** Good Friday Service
- April 20** Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast
- April 27** VBS Planning Meeting
- April 28** Deacons' Meeting



*"Then those who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: 'Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'" (Mark 11:9).*

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

As Jesus prepared to enter Jerusalem for His triumphal entry, the Passover crowd was excited and enthusiastic to see Him. It was widely reported in Jerusalem that Jesus had just raised Lazarus from the dead (*John 11*). With Bethany, Lazarus' hometown, just a short distance from Jerusalem, many people were able to visit and see both Jesus and Lazarus for themselves, which added to the heightened interest of the people. *"Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead"* (*John 12:9*). Jesus, who was well known across Israel for His teaching, healings, and miraculous signs, had with Lazarus' return from the dead captured the imagination of the people. Therefore, when Jesus was spotted approaching Jerusalem, the crowds who were expecting Him began to shout: *"Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest"* (*Mark 11:9-10*)! The words of the crowd were carefully selected direct quotes from the Old Testament. While "hosanna" is untranslated in *Mark 11:9*, it comes directly from *Psalms 118:25*, which says, *"Save now, I pray, O Lord"*. The request for immediate saving is addressed to the Lord, to God in *Psalms 118*, so the crowd was calling Jesus Lord in *Mark 11*. The next phrase from *Mark 11:9* is taken directly from *Psalms 118:26*: *"Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord"*! Throughout the Old Testament, to call upon or mention the name of the Lord is equal to calling upon the Lord Himself, so the second phrase of the Palm Sunday worshipers was again equating Jesus with God. *Mark 11:10's "Blessed is the kingdom of our father David"* brought up a new level of meaning. Both Matthew and John recorded additional versions of the phrase, such as *"Hosanna to the Son of David"*! (*Matthew 21:9*) and *"Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! The King of Israel"* (*John 12:13*)! The term "son of David" is first found in *II Samuel 7:12-14*, when the Lord promised King David an eternal throne and a kingdom forever. His royal descendant would be a son to God. *"When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his Father, and he shall be My son"* (*II Samuel 7:12-14*). "Son of David", most commonly used of King Solomon in the Old Testament, was used as a messianic title in Jesus' day. Altogether, the crowd was strongly linking Jesus with divine and royal titles, claiming that He was both God and King of Israel.

Jesus made a statement of His own with His selection of transportation. Jesus' request for a donkey-colt pair to ride into Jerusalem was directly linked to *Zechariah 9:9*: *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey"*. Jesus, the Son of Man, the Suffering Servant who came not to be served, but to serve, chose a humble beast of

*continued on page 3, column 2*

## Member of the Month: Stephanie Runkles

- ★ Born: August 16, 1956 in Baltimore, MD
- ★ How long a BBC member: since March 2024
- ★ Church offices held: Fellowship Coordinator, Librarian
- ★ How she first came to BBC: "We moved into the area and my husband chose BBC. We started attending in 2005".
- ★ Favorite Hymns: "Redeemed", "O, How I Love Jesus", "This Is My Father's World"
- ★ Favorite pew: 3rd row from rear, on right side facing pulpit
- ★ Favorite Bible verses: *I Corinthians 15:1-4*, *Philippians 4:13*
- ★ Age at baptism: 23 years old
- ★ Childhood church: Holy Trinity Catholic Church
- ★ Most famous person she's met: Jesus Christ
- ★ Personal claims to fame: married for 50 years, home school mom for 20 years, retired R.N., B.S. degree in theology from Liberty University, substitute docent at Seneca Schoolhouse.
- ★ Most important historical events in her life: 9/11
- ★ Farthest places she's been from Barnesville: China
- ★ Story on first name: "My parents liked it".
- ★ Most important technologies invented in her lifetime: computer, cell phone, International Space Station
- ★ Hobbies: gardening, decorating, canning food



## April Birthdays

- 13 Lacey Williams
- 23 Cortland "Pop" Moore
- 29 Zack Fedders



## Prayer Concerns

Members: Mary Ann Luhn, recovering from surgery; Mary Yates, recovering from heart procedure; Stephanie Runkles, injured back; Linda Roberts, health and future care

Family and Friends: former pastor Randy Gilliam, recovering from heart surgery; Vicky Yates' mother Nancy Noe; Sharon Keeney, sister of Donna Belcher, recovering from surgery; Jody Reed, cousin of Janna Williams, for leg strength and walking capabilities; Morgan and Dade Pumphrey, Will Pumphrey's daughters; Joe Yates' niece Cyndi, for her eyesight; Bob Runkles, health; Andrea Appleton, Billy Appleton's sister; the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.

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

Cancer patients: Bill & Elnora Caudell's niece, Brenda Malinowski, cancer; David Carlson, brain tumor; Glenn Norris, colon cancer; Pat Luhn, breast cancer

Missions: Dr. Ron Blankenship and MBA leaders; 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

## Business Meeting Briefs

*Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in March:*

- The Select Committee on Auditing presented its report on the 2024 finances.

*Expected at the April Business Meeting:*

- As of press time, there were no motions ready for action by the Church at the April 2025 Business Meeting.

## The Pew Perspective, continued

burden to show the nature of His ministry and His purpose for coming to Jerusalem. The horse was the mount of a king, like the pharaohs of Egypt. As far back as *Genesis 50:9*, horses were associated with chariots and war, not service and humility. Donkeys, going back as far as *Genesis 42:26*, were considered beasts of burden, not the steeds of royalty.

Jesus was truly King, but His purpose for coming to Jerusalem was to serve as a sacrifice for sin and save His people. Indeed, the voices of joy and worship of the Palm Sunday crowd turned into Good Friday's shouts of violence and reproach against Jesus in just a few days' time. The Jews were expecting a Messiah to restore their nation and cast down the Romans. When Jesus instead rebuked the Jews, their religious leaders, and their worship practices, He was suddenly rejected and hated for failing to live up to their expectations. Yet Jesus will one day receive a better recognition than the temporary and fickle reception He received in Jerusalem. According to *Revelation 7:9*, there will be another crowd assembled to honor and worship Him forever: "...a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands..."

## COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Her methods are a bit unorthodox, but you've got to admit she's effective!"



*"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

**Easter services.** Everyone is invited to worship with BBC, either in person or online, as we remember the crucifixion and death of our Lord on Good Friday and celebrate His resurrection on Easter Sunday. Services and activities start with an Easter Egg Hunt for children in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and younger on Saturday, Apr. 12 at 2:00 pm on the parsonage grounds—contact Children’s Ministry Coordinator Tina Appleton with any questions. Invitations are being sent to our local elementary schools and our VBS attendees; all are welcome. On Palm Sunday, Apr. 13, the Choir will perform its Easter music program “Scenes from Passion Week”. The Good Friday Service will be held on Friday, Apr. 18 at 7:00 pm. The Easter Sunrise Service will be celebrated on the BBC east parking lot on Sunday, Apr. 20 at 6:30 am (bring a lawn chair and dress for the weather!), followed by an Easter breakfast at the parsonage. Regular services on Easter Sunday are Sunday School at 9:30 am and the morning worship service at 10:45 am.

**Baptist Men’s Day.** After serving a hearty breakfast on



*The Baptist Men’s Day 2025 MOB singers were: (front row) Ed Williams, Lee Michael, Billy Appleton, Joe Yates, Larry Michael; (back row) Gary Cooley, Noah Arthur, David Bennett, and Pastor Kevin Cullins.*

Sunday, Mar. 16, the MOB: Men of Barnesville choir sang during the 10:45 am morning service. Their special selections were “Rise Up, O Men of God”, “Fishers of Men”, and “How Firm a Foundation”. The Baptist Men also hold a monthly breakfast meeting, which includes a

time of Bible study and prayer. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Apr. 19 at 7:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. All men are invited for this time of fellowship.

**Church clean-up day.** On Saturday, Apr. 19 at 9:00 am, join the Groundsmen, the Baptist Men, and the rest of your Church family to clean up the church building and grounds. Contact Head Groundsman Bill Appleton for more information on jobs and tools needed, to include cleaning surfaces, washing windows, weeding and mulching flower beds, and raking and cleaning the lawns.

**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 Wednesday at 6:00 pm to have your request included in the following Sunday’s bulletin. Prayer requests can also be sent to the church email address for more timely needs.

**Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.** Did you know that three out of four people in the United States and Canada are lost and do not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ? The most effective and efficient way to reach the lost in North America is with SBC missionaries who spread the Gospel by establishing new churches and serving the needs of their communities. The 2025 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering will bless the North American Mission Board’s more than 3,000 missionaries not only with our prayers, but also our financial support. Together, we are uniquely positioned to help those missionaries make the greatest Kingdom impact. Through the month of May, we will be collecting offerings toward our 2025 goal of \$2,500; envelopes are available in each pew. The SBC-wide goal is \$78 million. Your prayerful generosity is much appreciated.

## Annie Armstrong Easter Offering®

FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

**Easter lilies.** Easter lilies may be purchased in honor or memory of a loved one to decorate the sanctuary. Prices are \$15 for a single-bloom flower, \$24 for one with two blooms, and \$32 for three blooms. Please contact Kitty Cooley (301-349-5119) to place an order.

**VBS 2025 dates set.** On Sunday, Apr. 27, the first planning meeting for Vacation Bible School will be held in the Fellowship Hall after worship, with lunch served. Believe it or not, BBC is already preparing for this year’s VBS to be held Jul. 7-11. This year’s theme is “Magnified”. Kids will be encouraged to look closely at the details of God’s amazing world and magnify, or proclaim, the greatness of God. Please begin praying for this most important outreach event of the year.



**Birthday updates requested.** The *Lantern* enjoys sharing members’ and friends’ birthdays with the Church family. Please help us keep our records current by contacting the Church office with any names and dates we may lack, especially if you started attending within the last year.

**Choir request.** Choir Director Nita Roff is looking for a five-drawer metal cabinet for the choir room, similar to the cabinet already there. Dimensions are 63.25” high, 36.75” across, and 20” deep. If anyone has or knows of such a cabinet, please contact Nita Roff.