



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

Spring has finally sprung! Or at least I think it has. Some days it feels like we are heading straight into summer and other days it feels like we are retreating to winter. As a fan of warmer weather, I'm ready to put away the coats and jackets and get out the short-sleeved shirts.

I remember people used to do spring cleaning, opening windows and doors to allow the fresh air in while rugs and carpets were hung outside and given a good beating. Nowadays, car washes are popular places to clean winter grime off vehicles.

While we take the time to clean our houses and vehicles, it's a good idea to also do some spiritual cleaning of our minds and bodies. That can be done at any time, but while we are in the mood to clean, let's take care of that also. King David wrote: *"Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting"* (Psalm 139:23-24)!

Our minds can become cluttered with thoughts and ideas that should not be there, old hang-ups that stick around so long we forget they are there. Or it may be something new that we put off addressing. A good check-up helps us find them and properly dispose of them.

Are you holding on to a grudge and won't let go of it? Some people who hold on to grudges so long that they forget what the original problem was. Are you feeling guilty over past events? Don't be weighed down by issues that have been resolved, or attempts have been made to resolve. Are you worried about something that could but has not happened yet? I read a statistic that 80% of the things we worry about never come to pass.

There are a number of other issues that could be keeping you up at night, robbing you of your joy and preventing you from moving forward. It doesn't matter what the issue may be, God can help with it. *"Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you"* (1 Peter 5:7).

King David lived a more joyous life when he turned all his worries and cares over to God. You can have the same results if you just allow God to get inside and clean out everything weighing you down.

God Bless,



Pastor Kevin

In This Edition:

- The Pastor's Spotlight, Page 1
- Upcoming Events, Page 1
- The Pew Perspective, Page 2
- Biblical Names Scramble and Word Search, Page 2
- May Birthdays, Page 3
- Prayer Concerns, Page 3
- Business Meeting Briefs, Page 3
- Biblical Names Scramble Answers, Page 3
- COTCD Cartoon, Page 3
- News You Can Use, Page 4
- May 2025 Calendar, Page 5

Upcoming Events

- May 1** National Day of Prayer
- May 4** VBS Planning Meeting
- May 7** Business Meeting
- May 11** Mother's Day
- May 24** Baptist Men's Meeting
- May 25** Deacons' Meeting
- May 26** Memorial Day



"Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name" (Philippians 2:9).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

When we think of the Easter story, and all the physical pain and suffering that Jesus endured, we can't forget the spiritual agony and emotional trauma that Jesus also felt. The abuse and scorn Jesus received from the Jewish religious leaders and the Romans was to be expected, but among the most poignant insults inflicted on Jesus came by disloyalty from His closest followers. If you are now thinking about Judas Iscariot, that is a good answer. And you should also think of Peter. Both Judas and Peter let Jesus down in significant ways, but we think about Judas as a traitorous villain and Peter as a leader of the Church because their stories ended very differently. But both started out that first Easter weekend as two trusted followers and friends who let Jesus down in shocking ways when it counted the most.

Jesus called both Judas and Peter as His apostles, and both equally shared in Jesus' ministry. According to *Mark 6:7,12-13*, all 12 of Jesus apostles, Judas and Peter included, were given power to preach the gospel, cast out unclean spirits, and heal the sick. Judas was given a position of authority and trust as the treasurer of Jesus' disciples (*John 12:6*), and Jesus designated Peter as the leader among the apostles (*Matthew 16:18*).

Both Judas and Peter were tempted and attacked by Satan before Jesus' arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus knew that His disciples were under spiritual attack, and was aware early on that Judas would betray Him (*John 6:70-71*) and Peter would follow his own wisdom (*Matthew 16:23*). Both Luke and John recorded that Judas was possessed by Satan, who led Judas to betray Jesus (*Luke 22:3, John 13:2*). According to *Luke 22:31*, Jesus warned Peter that he was also being sought after by the devil: "And the Lord said, 'Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat'".

Both Judas and Peter sinned and lost fellowship with Jesus, but that is where their stories begin to diverge. Judas' sin was that of betrayal (*Luke 22:48*), directing the Jewish leaders to arrest Jesus, and Peter's was that of denial, lying that he even knew Jesus, much less was His follower (*Matthew 26:34*). Both Judas and Peter had a strong guilt reaction to what they had done. *Matthew 27:3* says that Judas was "remorseful", and gave back the 30 silver coins he received. Peter "wept bitterly" after three rounds of denying his relationship with Jesus (*Luke 22:60-62*). Judas' response was to run away and hang himself (*Matthew 27:5*), but Peter at least did not physically separate himself from Jesus and the other apostles.

The key difference between Judas and Peter was that while Judas had regret, Peter underwent repentance. Paul explains the difference in *II Corinthians 7:10*: "For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death".

continued on page 3, column 2

Biblical Names Scramble

Can you match these 20 Old Testament names with their meanings? Answers are on the bottom of page 3, column 1.

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|--------------|----------------------|
| 1. Abraham | A. joined |
| 2. Asher | B. behold a son |
| 3. Dan | C. appointed |
| 4. Ephraim | D. happiness |
| 5. Esau | E. to draw out |
| 6. Eve | F. judge |
| 7. Isaac | G. fruitful |
| 8. Ishmael | H. forgotten |
| 9. Israel | I. there is a wage |
| 10. Issachar | J. living |
| 11. Judah | K. hairy |
| 12. Levi | L. comfort |
| 13. Manasseh | M. one who dwells |
| 14. Moab | N. from father |
| 15. Moses | O. division |
| 16. Noah | P. laughter |
| 17. Peleg | Q. wrestles with God |
| 18. Reuben | R. exalted father |
| 19. Seth | S. praise |
| 20. Zebulun | T. God who hears |

Biblical Names Word Search

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

Word Bank: Abraham, Asher, Dan, Ephraim, Esau, Eve, Isaac, Ishmael, Israel, Issachar, Judah, Levi, Manasseh, Moab, Moses, Noah, Peleg, Reuben, Seth, Zebulun

May Birthdays

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



Prayer Concerns

Members: Mary Ann Luhn, recovering from surgery; Stephanie Runkles, injured back

Family and Friends: Betty Ritorto, recovering from surgery; Vicky Yates' mother Nancy Noe; 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; Linda Roberts; Mary Yates; Ralph Cooley; Shirley Yates; Susan Rice

Cancer patients: Patricia Lashmit and Sharon Keeney, sisters of Donna Belcher; 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



*"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 Names Scramble Answers

1. **R** (Genesis 17:5); 2. **D** (Genesis 30:13); 3. **F** (Genesis 30:6);
4. **G** (Genesis 41:52); 5. **K** (Genesis 25:25); 6. **J** (Genesis 3:20); 7. **P** (Genesis 17:17,19); 8. **T** (Genesis 16:11); 9. **Q** (Genesis 32:28); 10. **I** (Genesis 30:18); 11. **S** (Genesis 29:35); 12. **A** (Genesis 29:34); 13. **H** (Genesis 41:51); 14. **N** (Genesis 19:37); 15. **E** (Exodus 2:10); 16. **L** (Genesis 5:29); 17. **O** (Genesis 10:25); 18. **B** (Genesis 29:32); 19. **C** (Genesis 4:25); 20. **M** (Genesis 30:20).

Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in April:

- No new motions were offered during the April 2025 Business Meeting.

Expected at the May Business Meeting:

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

The Pew Perspective, continued

Judas was merely upset with the outcome of his action, while Peter recognized his own fault in failing Jesus and knew that he had done wrong. Judas' fatal response prevented any future relationship with Jesus, while Peter had the opportunity to make things right. Jesus even predicted that Peter would come back from his failure, saying in *Luke 22:32*, "*But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren*". In the same way that God reaches out to us to offer us salvation, the angels told the women at Jesus' tomb that the disciples—and Peter—were all invited to see Jesus in Galilee (*Mark 16:7*). We all know the story from *John 21* when Jesus gave Peter the opportunity to affirm His faith and loyalty three times, the same number of times Peter denied Him in Jerusalem.

Peter was able to turn his mistake around and receive Jesus' forgiveness while Judas cut himself off from Jesus in an irreversible way. When we fall short of God's glory and damage our relationship and fellowship with Jesus when we sin, Jesus loves us so much that He is willing to forgive us and restore us when we reach out to Him. The question isn't if we will sin again, but when. Let us always be like Peter, and keep seeking after the Lord, even after we fall.

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"I don't think he understands the symbolism in the phrase 'are you washed in the blood.'"

News You Can Use

Easter 2025. Celebrations of Jesus' resurrection began with the Easter music program "Scenes from Passion Week" on Palm Sunday, Apr. 13 with Choir Director Nita Roff



conducting and Jan Burdette on the piano. The BBC Choir (left) was composed of Suzanne Neal, Marina Rodriguez, Isabel Cullins, Ann

Bennett, Jan Erickson, Gary Cooley, David Bennett, and Noah Arthur. Luke Fedders served as Audio-Visual



Pastor Kevin sharing the Easter story with the children after the Apr. 12 Easter egg hunt on the church grounds

Technician and Lee Michael narrated. For the Good Friday service on Apr. 18, the service was devoted to song and Bible readings. Those who read scripture about Jesus' sufferings

included Lee Michael, David Bennett, Ellen Williams, Ann Bennett, Larry Michael, Suzanne Neal, Joe Yates, and Ed Williams. On Easter Sunday, Apr. 20, a good-sized crowd came out for the sunrise service on the east parking lot and then enjoyed the hospitality of Pastor Kevin & Isabel at the parsonage for breakfast. During the main service, Gary Cooley sang "10,000 Angels" and Marina Rodriguez sang "People Need the Lord".



Ann Bennett, Nita Roff (pictured), and Sheryl Roff played the bells during the Easter season

Easter lilies. Flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Easter were donated in memory of loved ones by the following people: David & Ann Bennett (Carroll & Laura Bennett and Jean Noland); Gary & Jan



Burdette (Bill & Helen Burdette, Bob & Margery Lillard, and Rebecca Umstead); Kitty Cooley (Jack Cooley, Jack & Nellie Cooley, and Carson & Dorothy Ward); Pastor Kevin & Isabel Cullins (all the men and women of BBC); Luke & Lisa Fedders (Doug Cooley and John Michael

Fedders); Sandra Oden and Mary Ann Luhn (Tod & June Luhn); Nita Roff (James & Shirley Alexander and Robert & Nancy Roff); Dan & Shirley Yates (Earl & Virginia Shreve, Earl Shreve Jr., and Lark & Ann Yates); and Joe & Mary Yates (Lark & Ann Yates, Hazel Ward, and Bruce Benson).

VBS 2025 dates set. On Sunday, May 4, 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.



Spring training. So far, 10 BBC members are signed up for the Montgomery Baptist Association's "Spring Training Conference" on Monday, May 12, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm at Redland Baptist Church. The event is free, but pre-registration is required. Dinner will be provided for all who pre-register. Sign up online at montgomeryba.org.

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. As of press time, BBC was 70% toward its 2025 goal of \$2,500 for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering with a collection of \$1,745. So far, 30% (\$745) has come from individual gifts and 70% (\$1,000) is supported by the church budget line item for Cooperative Program offerings. Offerings will be taken until the end of May. Your prayerful generosity will be much appreciated and used to share the gospel across the United States and Canada.

Spring cleaning. Thank you to everyone who participated in the Apr. 19 church clean-up day. The grounds and buildings looked their best for Easter due to your hard work and dedication to serving the Lord.

Church picnic. Gather with us for our annual church picnic on the grounds on Sunday, Jun. 1 after the worship service. BBC is providing the main meal and drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board at the main church entrance.

National Day of Prayer on May 1. The National Day of Prayer is a time for Americans to pray for our country and ask for God's blessings and guidance. Take some time on the 1st to pray for your family and friends, our community and nation, and our church family. Ask the Lord for His blessings and guidance that we may draw closer to Him.