



# 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

Late May and early June are typically the time for high school and college graduations. Social media posts from some of my friends whose children have graduated include heartfelt messages such as, "I am so proud of all that you have accomplished". However, I know that for some of those graduates, getting them through school wasn't without challenges. I might sarcastically want to ask, "How proud were you of him when he didn't want to get out of bed in the morning?" or "How proud of her were you when she waited until the night before to start on a class project"? Yet all those parents' past frustrations were forgotten as their graduates walked across the stage to receive their diplomas.

We awaiting our heavenly graduation can look forward to the Lord saying, "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:21). Good and faithful? How can I expect to hear God say that to me? Will He forget all those times I refused to obey Him? Will He overlook all those times when I acted selfishly? The answer is yes, most definitely. Psalm 103:12 reminds us that "As far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us". I remember the relief I felt when I received my high school and college diplomas. I have no doubt that we will feel the same relief when we get to Heaven. We will no longer suffer through this world's headaches and heartaches.

There is a big difference between receiving my diplomas and my anticipated entry into Heaven. I felt I earned my diplomas because of the work I put in to get them. The time I spent studying, attending classes, and doing research paid off. I have no doubt that I have not and cannot earn eternal life. Jesus did all the work for me. He has already looked beyond my failures and will recognize me as one of His saints when that time comes.

Every student I ever knew has looked forward to the day their classes were over. Very few Christians I know are not ready to be ushered into Heaven right away. My prayer is that when that time comes, you will be ready and will hear those welcoming words, "Well done, good and faithful servant".

God Bless,

Pastor Kevin



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## Upcoming Events

- June 1** Church Picnic
- June 4** Business Meeting
- June 14** Flag Day
- June 15** Father's Day
- June 19** Juneteenth
- June 21** Baptist Men's Meeting; Fishing at Neals' Pond
- June 23** Deacons' Meeting



*"When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place" (Acts 2:1).*

## The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

This year, Sunday, June 8 is Pentecost, the anniversary of the birth of the church as described in *Acts 2*. Just as Easter is tied to Passover, Pentecost (“fifty” in Greek) is tied to the Old Testament Festival of Weeks that occurred 50 days after Passover (*Leviticus 23:15-16*). Like Passover, the Festival of Weeks was one of three feasts that all Jewish men were required to attend in Jerusalem, thus explaining the wide variety of Jews from many nations present to witness the founding of the church. The Festival of Weeks celebrates the first fruits of the wheat harvest with offerings to God (*Exodus 34:22*). The church started with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and the salvation of 3,000 believers, which was also a first fruits offering unto the Lord. While *Acts 2* is a great place to learn about the origin and functions of the early church, important truths about the church are found throughout the New Testament. The word “church” in our English-language Bibles is used to translate the Greek word “ekklésia”, which more literally means a called-out assembly or congregation. Two sets of truths about the church emerge from the New Testament: its relationship to Christ and its unique functions.

Christ created the church. As He told Peter in *Matthew 16:18*, “...on this rock I will build My church”. The church belongs to Jesus and exists for Him.

Christ leads the church. While Jesus is in heaven and ordained men tend the earthly church as shepherds, *Colossians 1:18* makes it clear that “...He is the head of the body, the church”. *Ephesians 5:24* explains that “...the church is subject to Christ...”. The church follows Jesus’ teachings and seeks after His will. We worship Jesus as Lord and Savior and give Him honor and praise.

Christ loves the church. Just as a husband is to love and sacrifice for his wife, “Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her” (*Ephesians 5:25*). Jesus’ sacrificial death on the cross for our salvation, motivated by His love, allows us to be His children and to be called by His name.

Christ identifies with His church. When Saul of Tarsus sought to travel to Damascus to persecute the believers there, he was confronted by Jesus. Christ did not accuse Saul of attacking the church, instead He said that Saul was attacking Him: “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting” (*Acts 9:5*). Christ saw Saul’s actions against His church in personal terms.

Christ has given the church power and authority. God’s Great Commission work in the New Testament era is intended to happen in and through the church. “And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness” (*Acts 4:31*). That is one reason why it is so important to be part of and active in a local congregation. God’s plan and purpose for the work of the Gospel is connected to the church. The Bible does not conceive of lone wolf Christians who are unlinked to a congregation of believers. Spiritual

continued on page 3, column 2

## Biblical Names #2 Scramble

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

- |               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Adam       | A. mighty hunter         |
| 2. Bathsheba  | B. ruler over the people |
| 3. Beelzebub  | C. consuming             |
| 4. Bethel     | D. house of God          |
| 5. Bethesda   | E. oil press             |
| 6. Boanerges  | F. fortune               |
| 7. Elizabeth  | G. house of mercy        |
| 8. Gad        | H. wide city             |
| 9. Gethsemane | I. God of an oath        |
| 10. Hananiah  | J. secured               |
| 11. Jordan    | K. lord of the flies     |
| 12. Meribah   | L. place of strife       |
| 13. Michael   | M. fool                  |
| 14. Nabal     | N. descender             |
| 15. Nehemiah  | O. ground                |
| 16. Nicodemus | P. sons of thunder       |
| 17. Nimrod    | Q. the Lord is comfort   |
| 18. Rebekah   | R. who is like God       |
| 19. Rehoboth  | S. daughter of an oath   |
| 20. Taberah   | T. God protects          |

## Biblical Names #2 Word Search

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

Word Bank: Adam, Bathsheba, Beelzebub, Bethel, Bethesda, Boanerges, Elizabeth, Gad, Gethsemane, Hananiah, Jordan, Meribah, Michael, Nabal, Nehemiah, Nicodemus, Nimrod, Rebekah, Rehoboth, Taberah

## June Birthdays

*The Barnesville Lantern*  
8 Lisa Fedders  
9 David Bennett  
10 Noah Arthur, Gary Burdette  
11 Jan Burdette  
17 Donna Elgin  
23 Bill Appleton  
27 Danny Moore, Sandra Oden  
29 Elsie Leibrand



## Prayer Concerns

Members: Suzanne Neal, pending surgery; Karen Hazzard, recovering from surgery; Joyce Dunn, back pain  
Family and Friends: Layla, 15-year-old with health concerns; 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; the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.  
Seniors: Barbara Swank; Bob Runkles; 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; 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 #2 Scramble Answers

1. **O** (*Genesis 2:7*); 2. **S** (*II Samuel 11:3*); 3. **K** (*Matthew 12:24*); 4. **D** (*Genesis 28:17,19*); 5. **G** (*John 5:2*); 6. **P** (*Mark 3:17*); 7. **I** (*Luke 1:5*); 8. **F** (*Genesis 30:11*); 9. **E** (*Mark 14:32*); 10. **T** (*Daniel 1:7*); 11. **N** (*Numbers 34:12*); 12. **L** (*Exodus 17:7*); 13. **R** (*Psalms 113:5*); 14. **M** (*I Samuel 25:25*); 15. **Q** (*Nehemiah 1:1*); 16. **B** (*John 3:1*); 17. **A** (*Genesis 10:8,9*); 18. **J** (*Genesis 24:15*); 19. **H** (*Genesis 26:22*); 20. **C** (*Numbers 11:3*).

## Business Meeting Briefs

*Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in May:*

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

*Expected at the June Business Meeting:*

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

## The Pew Perspective, continued

gifts are only fully useful and relevant among other believers. It is hard to encourage or teach or be generous to others when no one else is around.

Christ grows the church. While we are called to share the good news and be witnesses to the saving work of Jesus, we cannot save anyone ourselves. Only God can ultimately bring a sinner into saving fellowship with Himself. *"For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church"* (*Ephesians 5:29*).

Christ establishes new churches. While there is ultimately one universal body of believers across all time, the New Testament describes the planting of many individual congregations, such as those in the Greek cities Corinth (*I Corinthians 1:2*), Macedonia (*II Corinthians 8:1*), and Thessalonica (*I Thessalonians 1:1*). *Revelation 2-3* describe another seven churches in Asia Minor that Christ is intimately familiar with and which He gives words of counsel.

The church assembles together. The New Testament describes a church body of individual believers that regularly gathers with one another. *I Corinthians 14:23* explains that the *"...whole church comes together in one place..."* and *Hebrews 10:25* admonishes believers against *"...forsaking the assembling of ourselves together..."*.

The church sends out missionaries. Even Paul, directly commissioned by God as an apostle to the Gentiles, still connected himself to the church and reported his work to the church. *"Then it pleased the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas..."* (*Acts 15:22*).

The church prays. When Peter was imprisoned, the church's response was not to march on the jailhouse, but rather offer up intercession to God. *"...constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church"* (*Acts 12:5*).

The church teaches the Scripture. In an era when the books of the New Testament were just being written and gathered together, access to the scripture happened in church gatherings. *"Now when this epistle is read among you, see that it is read also in the church of the Laodiceans, and that you likewise read the epistle from Laodicea"* (*Colossians 4:16*).

## News You Can Use

**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 (Mission BBQ) and drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. In the event of rain, we will use the Fellowship Hall.

**Spring training.** Ten BBC members participated in the Montgomery Baptist Association's "Spring Training Conference" on May 12 at Redland Baptist Church. A number of classes on topics like using technology, evangelism, and spiritual growth were enjoyed by all. As one of the top-attending church groups, BBC received a gift from the MBA to purchase materials for our church library.

**Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.** BBC surpassed its 2025 goal of \$2,500 for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering with a collection of \$2,885, 115% of the goal. Sixty-five percent (\$1,885) came from individual gifts and 35% (\$1,000) was supported by the church budget line item for Cooperative Program offerings. This year's offering was one of the most successful in several years. Your prayerful generosity will be much appreciated and used by our SBC missionaries to share the gospel across the United States and Canada.

**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.



Noah Arthur sang "Christian, Seek Not Yet Repose" on May 25

**Charleses back in concert.** Winston & Bernadette Charles, last worshipped with us in August 2024, will

be singing again during the morning worship service on Sunday, Jun. 29, which is a fifth Sunday. The Charleses are members of the National Christian Choir.

**Wednesday night Bible study.** Pastor Kevin Cullins is finishing up his series on the *Gospel of John* on Wednesday nights at 7:00, and will begin a new topic in June. Now is a great time to join this Bible study and prayer service. Don't forget that you can also participate in the Thursday morning prayer meeting and Bible study, held at 10:00.

**VBS 2025 coming soon.** This year's theme for our Jul. 7-11 Vacation Bible School is "Magnified: Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things". Kids will be encouraged to look closely at the details of God's amazing world and magnify, or proclaim, the greatness of God.

Classroom set-up will be held after the worship service on Sunday, Jul. 6, with lunch provided.

Invite your friends, family, and neighborhood kids to join us for VBS from 6:30 to 8:30 pm each weeknight. Classes are available from Pre-K to Adults. Register online at [barnesvillebaptist.org/vbs](http://barnesvillebaptist.org/vbs). VBS is arguably our church's most important annual outreach activity; please join us in serving the Lord and building His Kingdom. 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.



**Choir update.** The Choir's summer hiatus will begin soon. If you would like to participate in a summer worship service by singing, playing an instrument, or with another talent, please contact Choir Director Nita Roff to sign up. Thanks to all who have been contributing to the Sunday service with their solos, duets, and other special music.

**Fishing trip.** The annual visit to the Neals' Pond (21511 Peach Tree Road) will be held on Saturday, Jun. 15 starting at 9:00 am. Bring your own fishing gear and bait.

## COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Our family is trying one of those 'RETRO' churches... they read out of the Bible and have sermons and stuff."