



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

Nov. 1 marks the one-year anniversary that Isabel and I began our ministry here at Barnesville Baptist Church. It is hard to believe that it has already been a year since we moved to the country and took up residence "on the hill". I am both humbled and honored that you saw something in us that you felt we could lead you as we worship and serve God together. We have certainly enjoyed the fellowship with each of you over this past year.

When friends and family ask me how things are going at our new location, I usually respond with one of two words: *wonderful* or *fantastic*. I may not need to say this, but I also tell them how amazed I was at how quickly we were made to feel like not just members of the church but members of the family.

Looking back on this first year, I want to share with you a few qualities I have observed that make us feel so blessed to be with you:

The first is the warmth we show to our visitors. I have noticed that when a visitor walks through the doors of our church, you are right there to greet them and make them feel welcome. I do not take that gesture for granted. We visited churches in the past where we felt as if we were invisible. I am pleased to see that we do not do that with our visitors. *II Corinthians 13:12* instructs us to "greet one another with a holy kiss". I realize customs have changed over the years and that a kiss may not be appropriate. A hearty handshake conveys the same message.

The second is the way we serve each other. Isabel and I were recipients of that service from the very beginning. When we first moved into the parsonage, we were treated to meals for the first few nights as we got settled in. We did not have to ask for you to do that; you lovingly offered. I have seen that same service extended to others in the church who have had medical procedures, been hospitalized, or just not feeling well. We are told in *Galatians 6:2* to "bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ". There is no doubt in my mind that we are

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Upcoming Events

November 5 Business Meeting
November 11 Veterans Day
November 15 Fall Clean-Up Day; Italian Dinner, 4:00 pm
November 22 Deacons' Meeting
November 26 Thanksgiving Eve Service, 7:00 pm
November 27 Thanksgiving



"And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks" (Luke 17:15-16).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

Did you know that King David led Israel to celebrate a national day of thanksgiving? It wasn't an annual occurrence, and they certainly didn't eat turkey and pumpkin pie. But in *I Chronicles 16*, King David felt that the arrival of the Ark of the Covenant into Jerusalem for the first time ever was worthy of a national celebration--everyone received food, there was a big worship service in Jerusalem, and David composed a psalm of praise and thanksgiving to mark the occasion. The first two verses of David's composition, which are also recorded in *Psalms 105*, read, "Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples! Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; talk of all His wondrous works" (*I Chronicles 16:8-9*)! After many struggles and setbacks, the Jewish people were joyous that they could finally worship God in their national capital. As we celebrate our own season and holiday of Thanksgiving this year, I think an important element of being thankful to God is expressing that thanks out loud. It is certainly good to have a heart and attitude of thankfulness, but David's example shows us the value of making known God's deeds to others and talking about His wondrous works. When we wonder what we can tell others about Jesus, giving our own stories of how the Lord has helped us, blessed us, healed us, and loved us are the best examples we can use.

A New Testament example of the importance of vocalizing our thanks shows us that God loves to receive our public gratitude and have us tell others about our thankfulness to Him. In *Luke 17:11-19*, Jesus healed 10 lepers who asked for His help. They all showed faith in Jesus' power and were most likely very happy to have been relieved of their suffering. But only one stayed back to offer thanks and glory to God. Jesus asked where the other nine had gone, and commended the tenth leper for His praise and adoration. "So Jesus answered and said, 'Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner'" (*Luke 17:17-18*)? Even Jesus appreciated someone's genuine gratitude for what He did for him.

And just as we give thanks to the Lord, we should also let others know that we are thankful for them. The Apostle Paul was a good role model for this practice, mentioning in *Romans 16* that he was thankful for Aquila and Priscilla for saving his life; *Romans 16:4* reads that they "...risked their own necks for my life". Wouldn't you want to let everyone know that someone rescued your life and you were grateful? Paul also told several congregations of his thanks for their support and prayers--the Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and the Thessalonians. "We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers..." (*I Thessalonians 1:2*). *Proverbs 18:21* tells us "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit". James tells us in his New Testament epistle about the ability of the tongue to give blessing and cursing in his third chapter. We have the power to raise people up and encourage them by letting them know that we value the good things they do. As you celebrate Thanksgiving this year, you can more richly worship God and bring others into your joy by letting them know about the gratitude that is in your heart for them.

Thankfulness Scramble

Can you match these 20 biblical characters with what they were thankful for? Answers are on the bottom of page 3, column 1.

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|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Anna | A. freedom from Egypt |
| 2. Asaph | B. God revealing the king's dream |
| 3. blind man | C. Boaz's kindness |
| 4. Daniel | D. receiving his sight |
| 5. David | E. birth of the Christ |
| 6. Elizabeth | F. John the Baptist |
| 7. four living creatures | G. God's blessing to be Jesus' mother |
| 8. Hannah | H. fishes and loaves |
| 9. Jesus | I. God's holiness |
| 10. Jonah | J. ability to walk |
| 11. lame man | K. rebuilding of the Temple |
| 12. Leah | L. God's great power and reign |
| 13. Levites | M. Judah |
| 14. Mary | N. God's wondrous works |
| 15. Miriam | O. Samson |
| 16. Paul | P. Isaac |
| 17. Ruth | Q. healing from leprosy |
| 18. Sarah | R. Philippian partners in ministry |
| 19. tenth leper | S. deliverance from the fish's belly |
| 20. twenty-four elders | T. rescue from destruction |

Thankfulness Word Search

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

Word Bank: Anna, Asaph, blind man, Daniel, David, Elizabeth, living creatures, Hannah, Jesus, Jonah, lame man, Leah, Levites, Mary, Miriam, Paul, Ruth, Sarah, tenth leper, twenty-four elders

November Birthdays

- 4 Laura Luhn Hiatt
- 5 Randy Gilliam
- 12 Cris Driver
- 16 Sherry Morrison
- 22 Michelle Ennis
- 23 Kitty Cooley, Isabel Cullins
- 26 Joyce Dunn



Prayer Concerns

Members: John & Joyce Dunn, staying in Idaho; Gary Cooley, health

Family and Friends: Michelle Vasko, daughter of Ralph Cooley, health; Allison Runkles, sister-in-law of Stephanie Runkles, dementia; 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; the Upper Montgomery Co. V.F.D.

Seniors: Barbara Swank; Bob Runkles; Cortland "Pop" Moore; Eddie & Pauline Fowler; Janet Magruder; John & Joyce Dunn; Kitty Cooley; Linda Roberts; Mary Yates; Ralph Cooley; Shirley Yates

Cancer patients: Patricia Lashmit, sister of Donna Belcher; Bill & Elnora Caudell's niece, Brenda Malinowski; David Carlson, brain tumor; Glenn Norris, colon 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; 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).

Thankfulness Scramble Answers

1. E (Luke 2:38); 2. N (Psalm 75:1); 3. D (Luke 18:42-43); 4. B (Daniel 2:23); 5. T (Psalm 35:17-18); 6. F (Luke 1:24-25); 7. I (Revelation 4:8-9); 8. O (I Samuel 1-2); 9. H (Matthew 15:36); 10. S (Jonah 2:9); 11. J (Acts 3:1-10); 12. M (Genesis 29:35); 13. K (Ezra 3:10-11); 14. G (Luke 1:46-55); 15. A (Exodus 15:20-21); 16. R (Philippians 1:3-11); 17. C (Ruth 2:10-13); 18. P (Genesis 21:1-7); 19. Q (Luke 17:11-19); 20. L (Revelation 11:16-17).

Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the 154th Annual Business Meeting in October:

- A resolution to begin the annual budget process for 2026 was adopted; the standing committees will report to the Treasurer by Sunday, Nov. 2.
- Pastor Kevin Cullins, Lee Michael, and Nita Roff were approved to serve as messengers to the 90th Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting, being held on Sunday, Oct. 19 at Olney Baptist Church.
- Pastor Kevin Cullins, Lee Michael, and Nita Roff were approved to serve as messengers to the BCM/D Annual Meeting, being held Nov. 10-11 in Ocean City, MD.

Expected at the Monthly Business Meeting in November:

- A bypass motion to designate certain funds under the Finance Cmte. will be offered.

The Pastor's Spotlight, continued

exceeding in that area.

The third is the desire to minister to our community. Since I have been here, most of the talk has been about the desire to reach more people and bring them into the fold. I can hear the desire we have to let the folks know we care about them. We do what we can to make sure they have what they need. We also do what we can to ensure they know that there is a God who loves them very much and wants a personal relationship with Him. Jesus instructed us in *Matthew 5:16* to "let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven". Our light is shining brightly!

I could go on with other reasons why we are excited to be a part of this church. As much of our focus this month is on Thanksgiving, let me just say that we are thankful to be here with you. We look forward to many more years together, if it is the Lord's will.

I pray that you have a wonderful Thanksgiving wherever you spent it and who you spend it with. We have many reasons to give Him thanks. May God richly bless you now and all year long.



God Bless,

Pastor Kevin

P.S. Isabel and I are also thankful for the cards, kind words, and gift given to us for Pastor Appreciation Month.

News You Can Use

Christmas stocking give-away. An evangelistic outreach giving out Christmas stockings—filled with gifts!—to 48 local children will be held on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Just like the school supplies give-away we held in August, this event in our Fellowship Hall and main parking lot will be an opportunity to meet new families in our community, introduce ourselves and our church to them, and share the love of Jesus. Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors to sign up—online registration is available on the BBC website (barnesvillebaptist.org/outreach). All kids must be physically present to receive the Christmas stockings. We need BBC volunteers to staff the different stations and provide a friendly, Christian witness to the families and children that will attend. BBC has purchased Christmas stockings and a number of items to fill them with, from little toys such as fidget spinners, silly putty, and yo-yos to treats like candy canes, pretzels, and Cracker Jacks. There will also be stations to receive free Bibles and prayer requests, a Christmas photo booth, learn more about BBC's ministries and activities, enjoy a snack, and celebrate the Christmas season with caroling.

**BARNESVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
CHRISTMAS STOCKING GIVE-AWAY FOR KIDS**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 9 AM TO 12 PM
RSVP AT BARNESVILLEBAPTIST.ORG/OUTREACH



Rev. Bruce Conley (left) and Mr. Jose Lopez (right) preached on Oct. 11 and 18

There will also be stations to receive free Bibles and prayer requests, a Christmas photo booth, learn more about BBC's ministries and activities, enjoy a snack, and celebrate the Christmas season with caroling.

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



Members of the Martyrs Memorial Snake Handling Church work their way up slowly.

Susan Rice, 1948-2025. Our sister in Christ, Susan Rice, passed away on Oct. 21 at the age of 77. She had been a member of BBC since her Nov. 2014 baptism and participated in the choir and bell choir in her active years. We extend sympathies to her family and her good friend Linda Roberts. No funeral services have been planned.



Fall fellowships. On Saturday, Nov. 15, we will have an Italian dinner fellowship at 4:00 pm. Please sign up to bring an Italian-themed dish and/or a dessert on the bulletin board in the vestibule. The church will provide drinks, salad, and bread.



The hot dog roast and fall bonfire on Oct. 18 was a good time of fellowship and worship; 32 attended.

A Thanksgiving Eve service will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 26 at 7:00 pm to thank the Lord for all His many blessings and kindnesses this past year. This is a great way to start the holiday season by focusing on all our blessings from the Lord.

Looking ahead to the start of the Christmas season, LT Tyler will be in concert on Sunday, Nov. 30 and the annual Christmas dinner will be a lunch held after the service on Sunday, Dec. 7 at 1:00 pm at Bassett's Restaurant in Poolesville. We have reserved a private room; you may order from the full menu and will be responsible for your own bill.

Supporting missions in Maryland/Delaware. The final total for the State Missions offering collected in September was \$895, which was 179% of BBC's \$500 goal. Donations will be used to plant and revitalize BCM/D churches. Thank you to everyone who has generously supported our state missions offering.

MBA annual meeting report. BBC messengers Lee Michael and Nita Roff attended the 90th Montgomery Baptist Association annual meeting held at Olney Baptist Church on Sunday, Oct. 19. Rev. Jeremy Dickson from the BCM/D was the keynote speaker. Lee Michael led the business meeting as the MBA moderator. The messengers approved MBA officers and budget for 2026, and also welcomed a new congregation to membership.

Congratulations. Olivia Jean Hogue was born on Oct. 1 to Lois & Jim Hogue. Ann & David Bennett are the happy and blessed grandparents!