



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

Stop me if you've heard this before. Almost 2,000 years ago, a man named Jesus walked out of a tomb in Jerusalem after three days. Although we recount Jesus' resurrection every year, we never get tired of hearing it or celebrating the occasion. However, there are many aspects of the story we often overlook and spend little time discussing. One side story that gets little attention is about the soldiers who guarded Jesus' body. Scripture does not tell us how many guards there were. My guess is that there were at least four teams with at least two soldiers per team rotating every few hours, ensuring they were fresh and well-rested during their shifts.

Matthew 28:4 records that the guards trembled and became like dead men as they watched an angel roll the stone from the tomb. When the guards reported to the chief priests, they were paid off and told to claim that Jesus' disciples stole His body while they slept. The priests assured the guards they would be saved from discipline by the Roman governor.

I have a problem with the plan the chief priests put before the guards. As a veteran who stood my share of watches, I know that you do not sleep while on duty! At least two guards should have been awake at all times. I witnessed far too many of my shipmates face disciplinary action for sleeping on duty. I would think that the governor would have been smart enough to see right through their alibi. I know from experience that it is difficult to stay awake on watch, especially in the early morning hours when nothing is happening. It is tempting to close your eyes for just a few seconds. For some, those seconds turn into minutes and that's when the trouble begins.

Here's where I am leading you with this. We hear the Easter story every year. We have become so familiar with the story we fall asleep and miss some crucial aspects. Everything associated with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus is preserved in scripture for a reason. There are spiritual truths to be found with each account. Dig into each Gospel account and see what God is saying to you and how the entirety of the story makes the main story even more real. I pray you have a wonderful and blessed Easter.

God Bless,



Pastor Kevin

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Upcoming Events

April 1 Business Meeting
April 3 Good Friday: Service
April 5 Easter Sunday: Sunrise Service and Breakfast
April 18 Baptist Men's Meeting
April 27 Deacons' Meeting



"Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; and He was transfigured before them" (Matthew 17:1-2).

The Pew Perspective

Lee Michael

The Gospel of *Matthew* drew on the imagery of the Exodus time and time again when describing Jesus and His work. From His birth, through His ministry, to the events of that first Easter week, Matthew called on the most famous Old Testament account of Israel's history to explain who Jesus was and what He did.

Jesus, like Moses, was born as a deliverer in a time when Israel was in political and spiritual exile, ruled over by a foreign power and disconnected spiritually from God (*Exodus 1-2, Matthew 1:17*). In Moses' day, the Hebrews suffered under Egyptian slavery. In Jesus' time, God's people were first exiled by the Babylonians who destroyed their Temple. Then they were ruled over by Persian, Greek, and Roman conquerors. The Jews were able to physically return to their homeland but God had been silent for centuries—a continuing exile from His presence. Just as Pharaoh sought to destroy the Hebrew males, including Moses (*Exodus 1:16*), so too did King Herod seek to kill Jesus (*Matthew 2:13,16*). Just as Israel passed through the Red Sea (*Exodus 14:22*) to begin their walk with the Lord, Jesus passed through the waters of baptism to begin His ministry (*Matthew 3:16*). Both Israel, for 40 years, and Jesus, for 40 days, then entered into the wilderness to face testing and temptation (*Deuteronomy 8:2, Matthew 4:1-2*).

Both Moses and Jesus taught Israel the Law. God summoned Moses to Mount Sinai to receive the stone tablets "...that you may teach them" to the children of Israel (*Exodus 24:12*). Jesus' first public message, which we call the Sermon on the Mount, was also a mountaintop message for the people. "And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain...then He opened His mouth and taught them..." (*Matthew 5:1-2*).

Jesus' supernatural feeding of the 4,000 in *Matthew 15* and the 5,000 in *John 6* echoed the miraculous provision of the manna in the wilderness. In *Matthew 15:33*, His disciples used Exodus language when they asked Him to feed the hungry people—to provide "bread in the wilderness". And just like Moses, Jesus called down food from heaven. After Jesus fed the 5,000, they linked Him to Moses in *Exodus 16*. "Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, 'This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world'" (*John 6:14*). The following day, the people again directly compared Jesus' miraculous feeding to the manna in *Exodus*: "Our fathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat'" (*John 6:31*).

The Moses-on-Sinai imagery was repeated in the account of Jesus' transfiguration. Both featured a divine encounter on a high mountain, covered with clouds (*Exodus 24:15-18, Matthew 17:5*). Both Moses and Jesus brought three men with them (*Exodus 24:9, Matthew 17:1*). Both Moses' and Jesus' faces were described as shining like the sun (*Exodus 34:30, Matthew 17:2*). God instructed Jesus' disciples to "listen to Him" (*Matthew 17:5*) just as God did for Moses' followers (*Deuteronomy 18:15*).

Last but not least, the connections between the first Passover and the Last Supper in *Matthew 26* are well known. Jesus' final feast with His disciples before His death was literally a Passover meal. The elements of communion, the bread and the wine, were items on the Passover dinner table. Then Jesus, the Lamb of God, became the Passover sacrifice on the cross.

Jesus in Matthew Scramble

Can you match these 20 events from the life of Jesus with their descriptions? Answers are on the bottom of page 3, column 1.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Birth | A. revealed He must suffer and die in Jerusalem |
| 2. Visit of the Magi | B. escaped Judea to avoid Herod's wrath |
| 3. Flight to Egypt | C. defeated Satan's three temptations |
| 4. Baptism | D. prayed while the disciples slept |
| 5. Temptation | E. mocked and executed at Golgotha |
| 6. Calling of Disciples | F. multiplied five loaves and two fish |
| 7. Sermon on the Mount | G. face shone like the sun before three disciples |
| 8. Feeding the Five Thousand | H. worshiped with gifts by wise men |
| 9. Walking on Water | I. predicted destruction of the Temple and the end of the age |
| 10. Prediction of Death | J. inaugurated earthly ministry with heavenly blessing from Father |
| 11. Transfiguration | K. came back to life on third day |
| 12. Triumphal Entry | L. walked on the lake during a storm |
| 13. Temple Cleansing | M. delivered in city of ancestor David |
| 14. Olivet Discourse | N. began New Covenant with the bread and wine as his body and blood |
| 15. Last Supper | O. commanded His followers to make disciples of all nations |
| 16. Agony in Gethsemane | P. entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey |
| 17. Betrayal | Q. betrayed and arrested at Gethsemane |
| 18. Crucifixion | R. drove out those buying and selling |
| 19. Resurrection | S. called first four followers |
| 20. Great Commission | T. preached gospel message and kingdom living on mountain |

Jesus in Matthew Word Search

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

Word Bank: Birth, Magi, Flight to Egypt, Baptism, Temptation, Disciples, Sermon on the Mount, (Feeding of the) Five Thousand, Walking on Water, Prediction of Death, Transfiguration, Triumphal Entry, Temple Cleansing, Olivet Discourse, Last Supper, Agony in Gethsemane, Betrayal, Crucifixion, Resurrection, Great Commission

April Birthdays

13 Lacey Williams
29 Zack Fedders



Prayer Concerns

Members: the families and friends of Cortland “Pop” Moore and Linda Roberts at their passings; John & Joyce Dunn, staying in Idaho; Gary Cooley, health
Family and Friends: 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; Eddie & Pauline Fowler; Kitty Cooley; Mary Yates; Ralph Cooley; Shirley Yates
Cancer patients: Rev. Mike Trammell; Brenda Baker Windsor and Rhonda, friends of Mary Ann Luhn; Pat Luhn, breast cancer; Patti DeArcangelis, friend of Bill Williams; Bill & Elnora Caudell’s niece, Brenda Malinowski, 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 Nepalese church plant Christ Vision International Church in Rockville, MD



*“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).*

Jesus in Matthew Scramble Answers

1. **M** (Matthew 2:1); 2. **H** (Matthew 2:1-12); 3. **B** (Matthew 2:13-18); 4. **J** (Matthew 3:13-17); 5. **C** (Matthew 4:1-11); 6. **S** (Matthew 4:18-22); 7. **T** (Matthew 5:1-12); 8. **F** (Matthew 14:13-21); 9. **L** (Matthew 14:22-33); 10. **A** (Matthew 16:21-23); 11. **G** (Matthew 17:1-8); 12. **P** (Matthew 21:1-11); 13. **R** (Matthew 21:12-17); 14. **I** (Matthew 24:1-35); 15. **N** (Matthew 26:26-29); 16. **D** (Matthew 26:36-46); 17. **Q** (Matthew 26:47-56); 18. **E** (Matthew 27:32-54); 19. **K** (Matthew 28:1-10); 20. **O** (Matthew 28:16-20).

Business Meeting Briefs

Report from the Monthly Business Meeting in March:

- The Church approved the report from the Select Committee on Auditing on the 2025 finances.

Expected at the April Business Meeting:

- The Finance Cmte. will offer a motion to discontinue the online giving account with iDonate.
- The Nominating Cmte. will recommend the following members to serve on the Outreach Cmte. for the remainder of the 2024-2026 term: Stephanie Runkles as Chairman and Bereavement Coordinator, vice Ellen Williams, resigned; Noah Arthur, Cards Ministry, vice Donna Belcher, resigned; Isabel Cullins, and Sandra Oden.
- The Nominating Cmte. will recommend the following members to serve on the Internal Administration Cmte. for the remainder of the 2024-2026 term: Tom Roff as Groundsman, vice Ed Williams, resigned.
- The Nominating Cmte. will recommend the following members to serve on the Worship Cmte. for the remainder of the 2024-2026 term: Noah Arthur as Head Usher, vice Ed Williams, resigned; Tom Roff for Audio-Visual, vice Noah Arthur, resigned.
- The Pastor and Deacons will offer a motion to send letters of membership transfer for Janet Magruder, Ed Williams, and Ellen Williams to First Baptist Church of Damascus.

COTCD Cartoon

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



People don't REALLY want you to
"HONK IF YOU LOVE JESUS."

News You Can Use

Easter services. Everyone is invited to worship with BBC, either in person or online, as we remember the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. On Palm Sunday, Mar. 29, the Choir will perform its Easter cantata, "Calvary's Love", during the morning worship service. The Good Friday Service will be held on Friday, Apr. 3 at 7:00 pm, featuring a dramatic reading from *Mark 15*. The Easter Sunrise Service will be celebrated on the BBC east parking lot on Sunday, Apr. 5 at 6:30 am (bring a lawn chair and dress for the weather!), followed by an Easter breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. Regular services on Easter Sunday are Sunday School at 9:30 am and the morning worship service with communion at 10:45 am.

Baptist Men's Day. On Sunday, Mar. 15, the men of the church served breakfast to a full Fellowship Hall to begin Baptist Men's Day. During the 10:45 am morning service, the MOB: Men of Barnesville choir performed several



musical selections: "I'll Fly Away", "Victory in Jesus", and "Trust and Obey". 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. 18 at 7:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. All men are invited for this time of fellowship.

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

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering®

FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

North America is with SBC missionaries who spread the Gospel by establishing new churches and serving the needs of their communities. The 2026 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 April, we will be collecting offerings toward our 2026 goal of \$2,500; envelopes are available in each pew. The SBC-wide goal is \$80 million. Your prayerful generosity is much appreciated. With \$2,440 already collected (59% from individual donations and 41% from the church budget), we have reached over 97% of our goal!

Cortland "Pop" Moore, 1928-2026. Our brother in Christ, Cortland "Pop" Moore, passed away on March 14 at Spring Arbor in Frederick. He would have turned 98 on Apr. 23. Pop joined BBC in Oct. 2018 after moving up from Florida. Pop was a major (pastor) in the Salvation Army, serving missions including Baltimore and Frederick from 1951 to 1993. We extend sympathies to Danny & Cindy Moore and their family. A memorial service will be held at First Baptist Church of Damascus on Saturday, Apr. 18 at 11:00 am, followed by a lunch.



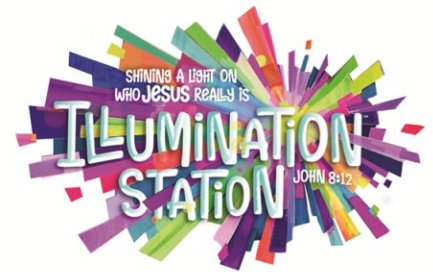
Linda Roberts, 1947-2026. Our sister in Christ, Linda Roberts, passed away on Mar. 12 at the age of 79. She was



baptized at BBC in Jun. 2009. Linda sang in the Choir, played in the Bell Choir, and served as Church Clerk from Sep. 2011 to Oct. 2018. We extend sympathies to her family and friends, especially her next-door neighbors, Ed & Ellen Williams, who helped take care of her. A memorial service will be held on

Monday, Mar. 30 at 11:00 am at BBC, followed by a lunch.

VBS 2026 dates set. On Sunday, May 3, 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 on Jul. 13-17. The 2026 theme is "Illumination Station", based on *John 8:12*. While many people claim to know about Jesus, many are in the dark about who He really is. During VBS, kids will explore all the ways light brightens, illuminates, reflects, and reveals. Please begin praying for this most important outreach event of the year.



Save the date. The Montgomery Baptist Association's Spring Training event will be held on Monday, May 18 at First Baptist Church of Rockville. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm, followed by your choice of six seminars from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Registration and class information will be announced soon.