



OUR MISSION: “To Re-Present Jesus Christ
In Our Community And Beyond”

Pastor: Dr. Dennis Felder

USBC News

TOTAL ECLIPSE!

By Pastor Dennis Felder



As I am writing this article, we are on the eve of witnessing a total solar eclipse in certain locations in the United States. A total solar eclipse occurs when the earth's moon stands directly between the sun and the earth. When this unique phenomenon happens, the light of earth's sun is blocked by the moon. Therefore, darkness is experienced

although the sun is still shining brightly.

Think about this for a moment. We Christians can also experience a total solar eclipse in our lives. This solar eclipse does not involve planets, moons, nor stars. However, this eclipse does involve a powerful, indestructible Light. This magnificent Light is the Son of God, Jesus Christ.

Jesus is the light source that provides spiritual life, but this light can be blocked from our lives. Not because of a moon, but because of sin that stands between us and our heavenly Father. Sin is the deadly barrier that allows darkness to enter into our world, our lives. When this phenomenon happens, we lose sight of the Son.

The Bible talks a lot about Christ being our permanent light source and how darkness can be totally eradicated. **John 8:12** says, “*When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.’*”

Since Christ took on the sins of the world, we no longer have to experience spiritual darkness again. The sin barrier that separated us from our heavenly Father was removed when Christ died on the cross over 2000 years ago. **1 John 1:7** affirms this fact by saying, “*But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.*”

MINISTRY TEAMS

By Pastor Dennis Felder



For the last few months, I have been sharing with you some wonderful and unique opportunities to serve at USBC and to help build the kingdom of God. Several people have stepped forward to answer the call, but we are still needing many more to help. This rewarding service can be achieved by serving on one of the church's *Ministry Teams*.

On the next page, is a list of several *Ministry Teams* that we are encouraging you to become a part of. If you would like to have a better description of each *Ministry Team's* responsibilities, please contact the church for more details. The goal is to have everyone within our church family in a place of service come this Fall. So, please step up and express your love for Christ by means of your service.

Some of you may have already committed to one of our *Ministry Teams* and USBC is very grateful for your service. If one of these *Ministry Teams* do not meet your skill set or gifts, please let me know and I will find you a place of service that matches your abilities.

MINISTRY TEAMS

By Pastor Dennis Felder



Ministry Teams:

Benevolence Team: (*Purpose: To meet the benevolence needs within the church and community.*)

Cemetery Team: (*Purpose: To help meet and to facilitate the burial needs of families who are burying their loved one in the church's cemetery.*)

Children's Ministry Team: (*Purpose: To communicate and coordinate all children's activities from birth through 5th grade in order to teach them about God's Word and the love of Jesus Christ.*)

Greeter/Usher Team: (*Purpose: To be responsible for seating and comfort of the congregation, the greeting and introduction of guests, to help minimize interruptions and distractions for church-wide gatherings.*)

Hospitality Team: (*Purpose: To plan, coordinate, and oversee designated activities that involve food services for the church and family members of the church.*)

Outreach Team: (*Purpose: Creates and follows through with plans to help bring people to Christ, to meet the needs of our church family, and to understand the needs of all guests by engaging with these groups by means of personal contact.*)

COFFEE SHOP

By Pastor Dennis Felder



USBC is excited to announce that we are going into the coffee business. This Fall, the church will be creating and building a special coffee bar in the lobby/foyer. The coffee bar will provide coffee, juice, and refreshments for all church attendees on Sunday mornings. The coffee bar will be appropriately named the **HISTORY CAFÉ**.

Although, the **HISTORY CAFÉ** will be modern and up-to-date with equipment and furnishings, it will also reflect the history of USBC. Throughout the **HISTORY CAFÉ**, there will be mementos and historical artifacts on display to celebrate the wonderful history of USBC. As one sips on their beverage and nibbles on their Danish, they can be reminded of the commitment that so many have made to make USBC a lasting presence in our community.

However, for the **HISTORY CAFÉ** to become a reality, USBC needs your support. First, I encourage you to lift this new endeavor up in prayer. This specialized café will afford us a wonderful opportunity to have important fellowship with one another and with our guests that God brings to our church. Second, I ask that you volunteer to be a special greeter in the café and to help keep it well stocked with coffee, juice, and refreshments. Third, I ask that you help with the construction of the café. Lastly, I am asking that you help financially.

To renovate the church lobby/foyer to make the **HISTORY CAFÉ** a reality, it will take sacrificial giving. The projected cost to make these meaningful and needed additions will be \$5,000. Therefore, I am asking all to make a sacrificial gift above and beyond your regular church tithe. In the month of September, we will be providing you with more information in how you can make a financial contribution to this worthy cause.

STRANGE BIBLE STORIES!

By Pastor Dennis Felder



Have you had a pastor that delivered a sermon and it went on and on and on? As a matter of fact, the sermon was so long that it put you to sleep? Well, falling to sleep in a never-ending sermon, can be deadly for your health. If you do not believe me, just ask Eutychus.

In **Acts 20:7-13**, Paul delivered a sermon that lasted many hours. While this unending sermon continued, a young man by the name of Eutychus perched himself on a third story window seal to hear Paul's message. As hours passed by, Eutychus fell asleep and toppled out of the window, to his death. However, the story has a miraculous ending. Paul went down to the lifeless body of Eutychus, placed himself upon the young man, reassured the people, and brought him back to life.

So, what is the lesson that we can learn from this strange Bible story in Acts? Don't fall asleep in my sermons because it may cost you your life and I may not have the resurrection power like Paul. Just a thought to remember when my sermon goes on and on.



September 3, 2017

Sermon Title: "The Problem of Partiality"

Scripture: James 2:1-13

September 10, 2017

Sermon Title: "How to Quench Your Thirst"

Scripture: John 7:37-38

September 17, 2017

Sermon Title: "Cheap Shots"

Scripture: Genesis 29:16-26

September 24, 2017

Guest Speaker: Rev. Gayle Clifton

BAPTIST BRUNCH

By Lana Felder



What is one thing you think of when you hear the word Baptist? FOOD! Baptists love to have meals together and USBC members are no exception!

On Tuesday, August 15th, USBC had what we called a "Baptist Brunch." Normally, the 2nd Tuesday of each month is when the seniors meet for lunch, but this time Pastor Dennis put a new twist on it. He invited the entire church and cooked the brunch himself!

There were 18 in attendance and we truly enjoyed eating and fellowshiping with one another. We had bacon, sausage, scrambled eggs, waffles, bagels, hash browns, and fruit along with coffee, milk, and juice. It was delicious!

SHINE FOR JESUS DAY

By Lana Felder



If you have walked through the halls of USBC, I am sure you have noticed a new shine to the building. Yes, we had the tile floors stripped, cleaned and shined for Jesus!

We had "Shine for Jesus" day on Wednesday, August 16th. All of the furnishings had to be moved out of the classrooms and Fellowship Hall for the cleaning company to be able to do their work on the floors. An amazing group of 21+ people helped take out furniture on the 16th and put it back in place upstairs on Saturday, August 19th.

It was truly inspiring to see such a large group of volunteers come to give of their time and muscle to get the job done so quickly! Thank you to all who helped – especially Jane Gartner who coordinated the entire effort!

USBC NEWS
Upper Seneca Baptist Church
23401 Davis Mill Rd.
Germantown, MD 20876



God's Plan Of Salvation

Trust Jesus Christ today! Here's what you must do:

1. Admit you are a sinner.

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; (Romans 3:23)

2. Be willing to turn from sin (repent).

Jesus said: "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:5)

3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, was buried, and rose from the dead.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

4. Through prayer, invite Jesus into your life to become your personal Savior.

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. (Romans 10:13)

What to pray:

Dear God, I am a sinner and need forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ shed His **precious blood** and died for my sin. I am willing to turn from sin. I now invite Christ to come into my heart and life as my personal Savior.

Next Newsletter Deadline
September 17, 2017

Editor's Note:

Included in this newsletter is the **USBC Church Birthday Calendar** showing the dates of birthdays of our church family, but we don't always have the information to include. So, if we miss YOUR date, we are sorry! Why not fill out a connect card and place it in the offering plate with your name and birthday noted so that it can be included in our calendar.

Also, if you have something to be included in the newsletter, an announcement, an article, a cartoon....we are always looking for information and new ideas!

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DAMASCUS FAIR

By Pastor Dennis Felder



Coming in September, **USBC** will have a wonderful opportunity to share with our community about the love of Christ. From September 8th – 10th,

our church will have a booth at the Damascus Fair. During this time, we will be distributing Biblical material, information about our church, and engaging with prospective families. Another important focus will be sharing the gospel of Christ in a comfortable and accepting manner.

In addition, we will have a Memorial Wall at our booth. The purpose of the Memorial Wall is to give attendees the opportunity to write a loved one's name on the wall. Since September 11th will be the day following the close of the Damascus Fair, we will invite people to write a person's name on the Memorial Wall to honor loved ones who have served in our military, past or present. Also, if they have a family member or friend who is or was a first responder, we will encourage them to write their name on the wall. As a church, we will lift up all the names that appear on the wall in prayer.

Since this is large undertaking for our church in providing outreach to our community, I am asking that all sign up to participate in this event. In the church's foyer, there will be a signup sheet where you can select a specific time to volunteer at our booth. Even if you can provide just one hour of your time, it can greatly impact the kingdom of God in a powerful way.

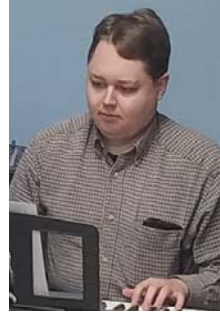
For we are God's
handiwork, created in
Christ Jesus to do
good works, which God
prepared in advance
for us to do.
Ephesians 2:10



THANKS

ADAM HANNON!

By Pastor Dennis Felder



If you have not heard, Adam Hannon, our pianist, will be moving to the Atlanta, Georgia area to start a new job in September. His last Sunday with us will be September 3rd.

On behalf of **USBC**, I want to express our gratitude for all that Adam has done. For the last few years, he has strengthened our church with his musical talents. From playing to singing, he has touched the hearts of many. In addition to serving the church through music, he has been a true servant for the Lord. When the church needed help in any area of ministry, Adam never hesitated to give of his time.

As Adam prepares to make this new transition in his life, we, as a church family would like to honor Adam in a memorable way on September 3rd. Therefore, I am asking that all be in attendance to pray for Adam, to encourage Adam, and to share our gratitude to Adam for his faithful service.

Adam, we are forever grateful!

WOMEN'S TEA TIME

By Lana Felder



Ladies, when was the last time you went to a proper tea party? Well, thanks to Mae Settles, you are cordially invited to a women's tea at Upper Seneca Baptist Church! It will be held on Saturday, September 30th, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the church's fellowship hall. Finger foods and great fellowship will be provided.

Each lady is encouraged to make a fancy hat to wear to the party. Pictures will be taken of us in our beautiful "creations" and prizes will be awarded. If you have a favorite tea or tea cup, please bring those with you and invite a friend or neighbor.

YOU LOVE ME COMPLETELY

Written by Lana Felder

I see people around me
And I judge by the way
They look on the outside
Or the things that they say.

I try not to judge,
But human nature's not fair.
I want to love like Jesus,
So this is my prayer:

Let my hands be Your hands,
Let my feet be Your feet.
Make my heart beat with love and mercy.
Let my eyes be Your eyes,
Let my ways be Your ways.

Help me love like You love me – completely.
When I go anywhere -
To church or the store,
I want my eyes
To see people like Yours.

Help me to learn
To be like You each day,
So people can see You.
I continue to pray:

Let my hands be Your hands,
Let my feet be Your feet.
Make my heart beat with love and mercy.
Let my eyes be Your eyes,

Loving Like Jesus

DIVE DEEPER BIBLE STUDY

By Pastor Dennis Felder



If Jesus were the President of the United States of America, what would His political agenda look like? On September 17th, immediately following our Sunday morning worship, we will be having our *Dive Deeper Bible Study*. The topic for this intriguing

study is entitled, "*Jesus' Political Agenda*".

During this study, we will evaluate the social positions, the political positions, and religious positions that Jesus displayed and how these positions would be reflected in our governmental system today. So, join us on September 17th for our *Dive Deeper Bible Study* and for a delicious lunch.

PRELUDE TO OCTOBER

By Pastor Dennis Felder



Although this is September's Newsletter, it would be remiss of me not to inform you of the exciting events that will be taking place in October. It will be a busy October, but the rewards will be unending.

October 7th – Church Yard Sale

October 15th – Church Celebration Service
(Lunch following Sunday's service)

October 21st & 28th – Pumpkin Give-A-Way