

THE LAMPLIGHT

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"
(Psalm 119:105 - NKJV)

*"For the commandment is a lamp, and the law a light;
Reproofs of instruction are the way of life"*
(Proverb 6:23 - NKJV)

MESSAGE FROM:

THE PASTOR

Last year we opened the new academic year with a solid affirmation to raise and improve TBI. We started this year with that same affirmation as was reflective in the August edition, our first Lamp Light of the school year. Dr. Richardson's article entitled "*Why Taking a Course in English is Relevant*" speaks to the need in ministry to become better communicators both in writing and in speaking. In the January 2011, Deaconess Thomas-Cross' article "*A Spirit of Excellence*" admonished us with these words:

We discredit ourselves when we use poor public speaking habits such as incorrect grammar, mispronunciations, bad body language and a monotone voice. We disrespect our audience by showing them that we did not care enough to properly prepare. Certainly not least, we disrespect God by being distractions to His message, by misusing the gift He gave us and by offering Him something less than excellent.

We are still pushing towards excellence with a steady pace. For instance, in the August edition we highlighted our four prone approaches to study:

- (1) Class room
- (2) Self-Paced Survey
- (3) Independent Research
- (4) Independent Study

We are still pursuing virtual 'on-line' study classes that will further help our prospective students consider enrolling at TBI. Our library is up and running with over 500 books for biblical reference and research. We have activated our internal Local Area Network (LAN). TBI's website is soon to come! We are still actively engaged with the State Council on Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) regarding affiliation and accreditation.

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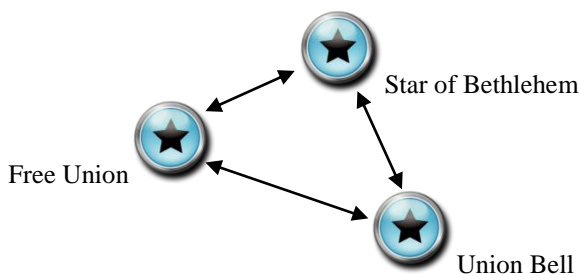
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As I've tirelessly reiterated in our Wednesday night bible studies, the challenges before post-Christianity are multifaceted and we will need all of our participants, including you our church friends and brethren, our students, and our alumni, to be fully engaged in the process of enhancing and sustaining our beloved TBI. I urge you to examine all the ways in which you can best serve TBI and take the steps to ensure that you are making a difference. Join that spirit of excellence.

The Executive Director

Triangulation is a navigation technique that uses the trigonometric properties of triangles to determine a location or course by means of compass bearings from two points a known distance apart. Space-age global positioning systems enable people to triangulate their location relative to the known position of Earth-orbiting satellites. TBI has triangulated itself with three locations as depicted below:



As TBI continues to add campuses to its orbit of biblical/theological influence, each new location will add to an ever growing scholarly sphere that is centered on our Lord and Savior. It's so amazing how God has used a dynamically simple triangle to convey "HISTORY." 'His Story' begins in the triune, continues in three couplets of days culminating with His greatest creation: triune mankind (body, soul and spirit). In a broader mathematical sense, Triangulation (Trigonometric) functions like a spinning circular right triangle containing the sine, cosine, tangent, cotangent, and secant. And it is the secant that cuts deep into the soul of triune man. In this three-dimensional space that has been created for His three-dimensional man, TBI exist to aid in 'training up His children.'

The Dean

It is with a grateful heart that I honor and acknowledge three individuals who donated money to the school for the purchase of books.

1. Rev. V. Buffington.
2. Bro. A. Webster.
3. Bro. G. Scott.

On behalf of TBI, I also thank Rev. F. Coaxum, Sis. P. Gordon and Rev J. Johnson for their donation of books. By their actions, they, and many other unknown donors, have joined the spirit.



THE LAMPLIGHT

Paraclete

Have you been regenerated?

If so, this is what you should have experienced. First of all, regeneration is the work of the Holy Spirit through which He initially brings individuals into living union with Christ, changing their hearts so that they who were spiritually dead become spiritually alive, now able and willing to repent of sin, believe the gospel, and serve the Lord. Secondly, that our regeneration hinges on our conception of our human condition – totally depraved; that is, totally unable to turn to God in faith without a special working of the Spirit. Finally, that as a fallen man, regeneration must be understood, not as an act in which God and man work together, but as the work of God alone.

I say again, have you been born again?



Portals

We welcome the Falmouth Campus to TBI's orbital sphere of biblical and theological influence as our campuses steadfastly "rightly divide the Word of truth." We send our blessings to Pastor Mays and to all his current and future students. We especially want to thank Rev. Dr. F. S. Jones for his faithful assistance in this matter.

Student Activity

(Exerts from "Liturgy and Worship" papers)

Debra Wilson - Advent begins on the 4th Sunday before Christmas Day, which is the Sunday nearest November 30, and ends on Christmas Eve. If Christmas Eve is a Sunday, it is counted as the 4th Sunday of advent with Christmas Eve proper beginning at sundown. The word 'advent' means "coming" or "arrival." The focus of the entire season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ in his 'first advent,' and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his 2nd advent. The beginning of Advent is a time for the hanging of the green, decoration of the church with evergreen wreaths, boughs, or trees that help to symbolize the new and everlasting life brought through Jesus the Christ.

Rev. Karen Burton – Christmas is normally observed on December 25, as the day that we commemorate the birth of Jesus, our Lord and Savior, and the central figure of Christianity. Jesus' actual date of birth is not accurately known, however, most orthodox churches concede that the date corresponds with the nine months after Christians believe that Jesus was conceived. Christmas is central and significant to Christianity, but is increasingly celebrated by non-Christians as well.

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Student Activity (Con't)

Rev. Cora Brooks – Christ’s birth, or nativity, was said by His followers to fulfill the prophecies of Judaism that a Messiah would come, from the house of David, to redeem the world from sin. Early Christians celebrated more the subsequent Epiphany, when the baby Jesus was visited by the Magi. Christmas is a contraction of “Christ’s Mass,” derived from the Old English ‘Cristes Messe.’ It is often abbreviated Xmas possibly because the letter “X” resembles the Greek letter Chi (X), which is the first letter of Christ, as spelled in Greek *Xpioto*.

Brenda Messiah Fortune – The Christmastide is another name for the Christmas season, and currently extends from the first Vespers of Christmas Eve, including January 1 (known as Holy Name) which commemorates Jesus’ circumcision and when He was given His name, until the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord which is recognized as the Sunday after January 6th. This season is also known as the *Twelve Days of Christmas*. Old Testament typology foreshadowing Christmas includes the flowering of Aaron’s rod, the creation (birth) of Eve and Moses in the Ark of bulrushes.

Rev. Herman Hill – Lent is the forty-day-long liturgical season of fasting and prayer before Easter. The forty days represent the time Jesus spent in the desert enduring temptation by Satan. The purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer through prayer, penitence, almsgiving and self-denial for the annual commemoration during Holy Week of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Holy Saturday. The six Sundays in Lent are not counted among the forty days because each Sunday represents a “mini-Easter,” a celebration of Jesus’ victory over sin and death.



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