

Wildwood Church of Christ

Theme for 2021

Step By Step: Grow With Jesus

July 4, 2021

Welcome & Announcements

Song #808 We're Marching To Zion
Song #797 Hilltops Of Glory
Prayer
Song #333 Years I Spent In Vanity
The Lord's Supper

Song #790 When We All Get To Heaven
Sermon – Living Godly: Where Do You Start?
Song #920 Just As I Am
Song #5 Step By Step
Prayer



"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." 2Corinthians 3:17

Prayer List

~ **John Workman** has been in the hospital now for 47 days. He continues to slowly improve but his blood pressure is still not stable. If the tear in his esophagus has healed, the doctors will be taking the stent out this Wednesday and they will let John begin to have liquids.

~ **Sister Edra Nell Courtney** is in the hospital but may go home today. She was having some health issues and was dehydrated.

~ **Judy Glenn** continues to recover at the rehab after her hip replacement surgery. She has been having some trouble with gout but is recovering well and hopes to go home soon.

~ **Loraine daSilva** had a fall a few weeks ago and broke her knee that she had replaced many years ago. The doctor put a brace on it and she has to use a walker. She will have to have surgery sometime in the near future but right now she is in Huntsville, Al. with her sister (and Marlin Kilpatrick's sister) who has had a stroke and is not doing well. Please also remember **John daSilva** while Loraine is away.

~ **Marlin Kilpatrick** is going to have knee surgery on July 12th.

~ **Sam & Mary Costa** are away in North Carolina. Their cousin passed away last week and they are there for the funeral. Remember them in prayers and especially having to traveling this holiday weekend.

Remember: John daSilva; Loraine daSilva; Martha Pope; Jeanette Harris; Alicia Barrett; Linda Grove; Millie Tudor; Peggy Murphy; Shirley Threet; Dale Jones; Marlin Kilpatrick; Charlotte Martin; Ken Scott; Richard Menninger; Joyce Albert; Larry Hyder; Joyce Freeman; David Deason; Teresa Broyle

Announcements

~ **Attention All Ark Trip Members** - Our trip is coming up soon! The price for the trip will be as follows per person: \$100 age 18-59; \$90 age 60 and up; \$75 age 11-17; \$65 age 5-10, and \$50 for age 0-5. This will cover your lodging, admission to the park and transportation. Please have your money turned in by TODAY. If you have any questions, please contact Mike.

~ Congratulations to **Andy and Angela McKay!** They were married last week in Georgia. Their address is: 9741 County Road 209, Wildwood, FL. 34785

~ **JAMAICA:** If you would like to help purchase **school** backpacks for the children in Jamaica, you can give your money to Mike or David. The backpacks are pre-filled with the required items for the children by the Jamaican school system. Thank you so much!

Pantry Items

Canned Sweet Potatoes

July Birthdays

Harper Williams-2; Logan Pickron-3; Lois Babbitt-3; Jamie McCartney-4; Alyssa Pickron-6; Barbara Barden-6; Martha Rushmore-12; Jon Bratcher-12; Linda Grove-13; Garrett Cook-17; Ashlynn Vernon-17; Don Albert-18; Dorcas Faulkner-20; George Barrett-20; Irma Bottorff-20; Pat Ponsford-21; Joyce Albert-23; Dawn Creekmore-24; David Myers-25- Greg Pope-25; Sarah Alls-28; Jeanette Harris-28; John Workman-28

July Anniversaries

Fred & Marilyn French-3; Mike & Meagan Whisenant-14; Ronnie & Cecelia Strickland-15; Don & Joyce Albert-28
church website: www.hischurch.faith



Celebrate The 4th Of July For All The Right Reasons

Here in the United States, today, Sunday, July 4, 2021 is our nation's 245th birthday, and as Christians, we have the opportunity to reflect on our birth and life as a nation.

As Englishman G. K. Chesterton rightly said, *"America is the only nation in the world that is founded on a creed."* Other nations were founded on the basis of common ancestry, geographic boundaries, or by the power of kings and emperors. But America is different. It was founded on a shared belief. Or as Chesterton said, on a creed. And what is that creed that is distinctive?

It is the eloquent, profound, and simple statement penned by Thomas Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

The Christian influence in the birth of the United States is inescapable. Early inhabitants of our country were Puritans, who emigrated from England to gain the freedom to worship God as they saw fit.

As our nation began to grow and form a united government among the original thirteen colonies, reliance on Scripture and the Christian faith was unconcealed. Here are just a few of the many quotes that are available to validate this observation:

- **George Washington:** *"It is impossible rightly to govern the world without God and the Bible."*
- **Thomas Jefferson:** *"The Bible is the cornerstone of liberty."*
- **Benjamin Franklin:** *"The longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: 'that God governs in the affairs of men.' And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid?"*
- **Patrick Henry:** *"It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great Nation was founded not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religion, but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For that reason alone, people of other faiths have been afforded freedom of worship here."*
- **John Jay:** *"Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian Nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers."*

Our nation is no happy accident. It is evidence of what God will do through a people willing to follow the truth He revealed in Scripture.

Certainly, our nation is now in a major battle for the soul of our country, a battle that is shared by other nations of the world. There are secular and other forces eroding and diluting our memory of, and commitment to, the biblical principles that once dominated western culture.

But as Christians, it is important to remember our Christian heritage, and to work for the advancement of it. Guided by Scripture, we can serve our God by serving our country well, and we can serve our country well by serving our God.

President Ronald Reagan, who was devoted to our Christian heritage and the faith on which it was founded, once wrote:

The day of our nation's birth in that little hall in Philadelphia, [was] a day on which debate had raged for hours. The men gathered there were honorable men hard-pressed by a king who had flouted the very laws they were willing to obey. Even so, to sign the Declaration of Independence was such an irretrievable act that the walls resounded with the words "treason, the gallows, the headsman's axe."

Benjamin Franklin said, as he prepared to sign the Declaration, "we must all hang together, or most assuredly we will all hang separately."

[On that day] 56 men, a little band so unique we have never seen their like since, had pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. Some gave their lives in the war that followed, most gave their fortunes, and all preserved their sacred honor.

But they sired a nation that grew from sea to shining sea. Five million farms, quiet villages, cities that never sleep, three million square miles of forest, field, mountain and desert, 300 million people with a pedigree that includes the bloodlines of all the world."

Let the Fourth of July always be a reminder that here in this land, for the first time, it was decided that man is born with certain God-given rights... We sometimes forget that great truth, and we never should."

When the fireworks go off in celebration of our Independence Day, let them remind you to be grateful to God for the freedom and opportunity we have in our country. And let them remind you to be grateful to the men and women of our armed services who serve this country tirelessly to protect those freedoms.

But also, let them remind you that freedom on this earth, while indeed so very precious, is nothing compared to the spiritual freedom which we have forever in Jesus. His work in the hearts of humanity is what brings true freedom to nations. Let your celebration transcend the 4th of July, to include a celebration of your freedom in Christ.

(author unknown)