



# The Beacon



The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Romans 13:12

July 2021

## DESTINATION



UNEARTHING THE TRUTH ABOUT JESUS  
JEREMIAH 29:13

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

SUNDAY, JULY 25<sup>TH</sup> - WEDNESDAY, JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>

VBS 2021 is headed to present-day Israel where discovery awaits at **Destination Dig**.

Kids will unearth more than dirt as they dig up exciting evidence that proves biblical events were not just stories.

As junior archaeologists, kids will explore real-life archaeological finds that have helped to uncover the truth about Jesus!

We need your help! Positions are listed on the sign up sheet in the Welcome Center. Please sign up where you feel led to serve.

Please see Kim Pearson for more information or questions.

We are asking the Adult Sunday School classes for help with providing supper for the attendees and workers on Sunday - Tuesday night (3 nights, Wednesday Night is taken care of) during VBS in the hopes to have good attendance! You can help with a meal or with a monetary donation. Please check with your S.S. class regarding the meals.

### RMBC On Missions!

- **Missions Night** - July 14th - 7p
- **Youth - MFUGE** - July 19 - 24  
North Greenville University, Tigerville, SC
- **Vacation Bible School** - July 25 - 28
- **West Virginia Mission Trip** - August 5 -8  
Once again, we'll be working with Resurrection Church in W.V. If you are interested in going, please sign up in the Welcome Center
- **Food Pantry** - July ~ September  
We will be collecting non-perishable items for the Yates Food Pantry. Please place your donations in the barrel located in the Welcome Center
- **First Responder Appreciation Dinner**  
Bahama - June; Timberlake - July; Moriah - August



As you can see from the list above, being "on missions" takes on many forms. All with the end result...sharing the gospel and showing the love of Christ. Let's ALL be on mission for Christ!

### FIREMAN AND FIRST RESPONDER APPRECIATION DINNER FOR THE TIMBERLAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

JULY  
20<sup>TH</sup>  
7:00 PM



HAVE  
FOOD AT  
FD BY  
6:30P

The Baptist women will provide the meat, however; we are requesting help with vegetables, desserts, and drinks. The sign up sheet is in the church foyer. You are also welcome to join us for dinner to show our appreciation to the TVFD. The sign up sheet will be in the Welcome Center.



**Pastor Dave's  
Message  
for the  
Month**

As you know, this month we celebrate our independence as a nation. Many will celebrate with cookouts, fireworks, days of vacation, family get togethers, and many other ways. As Americans we should celebrate and be thankful for the freedom that we enjoy every day. However, if we are not careful, we forget the cost of our freedom, and we live in such a way that we take our freedom for granted. Many have given their very lives to fight for and defend our freedom. So, as we celebrate the Fourth of July, don't forget to thank the Lord for the sacrifices of so many so we can enjoy our freedom.

As a Christian, we also have freedom. Galatians 5:1 says, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage." When you repent of your sins and trust Jesus Christ to be your Lord and Savior you gain freedom from sin. However, if we are not careful, we forget out that freedom, and we put ourselves in bondage to sin again. Paul tells us to stand fast in our freedom. In other words, we are to continually stand firm in our freedom. Don't let yourself go back to living in the habit of sin and put yourself in bondage once again. We don't have to give into temptation because Jesus has made us free. Therefore, we should live in that freedom every day and tell others how they can be free.

For His glory,

*Pastor Dave*

**Building  
Loan Balance**  
(as of 05/24/2021)  
**\$ 408,464**



**Tuesday, July 6<sup>th</sup> ~ 6:45p**  
(1st Tuesday of each month)

**'Job' by Lisa Harper**  
(Lesson 5)

**We'll meet in the Family Life Center**

**Ladies Night Out - July 16<sup>th</sup>**

Country Club Steakhouse 6:30p

Sign up in the Welcome Center



**Monday, July 19<sup>th</sup> ~ 7:00p**  
(3rd Monday of each month)

**"The Bondage Breaker"**

Overcoming: Negative Thoughts,  
Irrational Feelings, Habitual Sins

*"As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the  
countenance of his friend."*

*Congratulations to*

Chris and Vicki Turner on the birth of their daughter, Piper Ann Turner, born June 16, 2021. Also, congratulations to big brother Marshall and to the grandparents; Vann and Margaret Ann Marshall and Gina Simpson.



*We extend our sympathy  
and prayers to:*

- Wesley Davis and his family in the death of his step-sister, Amy Walters
- Lloyd Gresham and his family in the death of his cousin
- The Huff and Bowen families in the death of Mollie B. Huff
- Bobby Shull and his family in the death of his uncle, Pearly Shull



**We Received a  
Thank You Note From:**

James & Patsy Ellis • Wade &  
Garnet Ellis • Wanda Howerton  
Charlie Lunsford • Tara Oakley

**Fourth of July Thoughts. . .**

~Steven M. Sultanoff, Ph.D.

(I could not find the original source for this and I hope that it is accurate, but as so much that passes through the Internet, I cannot guarantee its truthfulness. Whether or not this piece is true, it does offer us the opportunity to reflect on the meaning of the Fourth Of July Holiday)

Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on August 2, but the last signature wasn't added until 5 years later.

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died.

Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured.

Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War.

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. What kind of men were they?

Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated. But they signed the of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKeam was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer,

Cont'd on back page

# JULY 2021

# BIRTHDAYS & EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Memory Verse</b> “Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.” Galatians 5:1				1  <i>Brenda Owens</i>	2	3
4  INDEPENDENCE DAY Family Worship Service 9a & 11a Sunday Sch. 10:15a <i>Beth Chambers</i> <i>Sue DeBlanc</i> <i>Phillip Ellis</i>	5  <i>Leigh Watson</i>	6 Women’s Bible Study 6:45p	7  <i>Dawne Lewis</i> <i>Tammy Ingram</i>	8	9	10
11 Family Worship Service 9a & 11a Sunday Sch. 10:15a	12	13	14 Missions Night 7p	15  <i>James Ellis</i> <i>Lane Ellis</i>	16 Ladies Night Out 6:30p	17  <i>Sheila Compton</i>
18 Family Worship Service 9a & 11a Sunday Sch. 10:15a  <i>Linda Weaver</i>	19 Men of Iron 7p  <i>Tracie Humphries</i>	20 Timberlake F.D. Dinner 6:30p	21	22	23  <i>Chris Turner</i>	24  <i>Hank Taylor</i> <i>Teresa Wrenn</i>
<b>Y O U T H F U G E M I S S I O N T R I P</b>						
25 Family Worship Service 9a & 11a Sunday Sch. 10:15a  <i>Lloyd Gresham</i>	26  <i>Greta Parker</i>	27  <i>Colton Watson</i>	28  <i>Lorri Dunn</i>	29	30  <i>Adelynn Glenn</i>	31
<b>V A C A T I O N B I B L E S C H O O L</b>						



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Rev. Dave Pryor - Pastor  
Rev. Cameron Lewis - Youth Pastor  
*Address Correction Requested*



## Fourth of July Thoughts. . . Cont'd from page 2

Walaton, Guinett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson Jr, noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a broken heart.

Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble-rousing ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more. Standing tall, straight, and unwavering, they pledged: "For the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."



They gave you and me a free and independent America.

The history books never told you a lot about what happened in the Revolutionary War. We didn't fight just the British.

We were British subjects at that time and we fought our own government!

Some of us take these liberties so much for granted, but we shouldn't. So, take a few minutes while enjoying your 4th of July holiday and silently thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid.

Remember freedom is never free!

<http://www.humormatters.com/holidays/fourthofjuly.htm>

## The Importance of Independence Day

~Lauren Abraham

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.” (James 1:17)

What comes to your mind when you think of Independence Day?

For many Americans, the Fourth of July serves as a day to watch fireworks, barbeque and have a good time with friends and family. While there is nothing wrong with having these traditions, it is important to remember the reason behind why we celebrate this holiday.

Samuel Adams, the father of the American Revolution, was bold in proclaiming his faith. To him, signing the Declaration of Independence meant no longer submitting to Great Britain, but rather, submitting to the Lord (Crowe, 2008). As a result, America would be free from the power of man and able to serve Christ. What a significant day in history!

It is important to remember what our duties are as Christians. We are called to serve Christ and Christ alone, and it is such a blessing that we can live in a country where we have the freedom to do so.

Oftentimes, the enemy will use distractions to keep us from fulfilling our duties as Christians. Being distracted by all that happens on the Fourth of July can cause us to lose sight of the true meaning of the holiday. This is dangerous, as it can ultimately cause us to stray away from Christ.

So, why is it important to acknowledge the significance of Independence Day, and how can we do so in today's world?

American liberty is a blessing from God. Because of our freedom, we can express our faith and boldly share it with others. It is important to recognize that in many other parts of the world, this is not the case. The cost of following Christ is much greater for our brothers and sisters across the globe.

With this in mind, I encourage you to not lose sight of why we celebrate Independence Day. Take time to reflect on the ways God has blessed you in your life, and make it a goal to not take the freedom we have for granted. As you spend this day with family and friends, I encourage you to celebrate the blessing of freedom that was given to us by Christ.

<https://www.gcu.edu/blog/spiritual-life/weekly-devotional-importance-independence-day>