

On July 4, 1776, we declared ourselves independent from Great Britain. That was a great and glorious day! The days that followed, however, were not all so great and glorious. We then had to fight for our independence. We declared it, but it was not freely given. Great Britain wanted to keep us.

As Christians we declare ourselves free. We accept the freedom that comes from God. What a great and glorious day! Then, as it was in the early days of our nation, comes the war. Satan, like Great Britain, does not give up easily. He has claimed us for so long he is not willing to give us up without a fight. Now if we try to defeat him alone, we are doomed. He is too crafty for any one of us! Together, however, we are the "body of Christ." We have Christ's power!

The problem that the church is having everywhere is that the concept of "body" is deteriorating. Christians are isolating themselves and failing to draw strength from the "body." It is self-amputation! No single member can live when separated from the "body." The gathering together for worship provides spiritual opportunity to help us remove the spiritual cholesterol build-up from the "body." It even seeks to sew some of the amputated members back onto the "body" so they can once again receive spiritual sustenance.

No one can win this spiritual battle all alone. We need each other! We Christians are "free indeed," but we must fight to remain free. Let's band together as our forefathers did and draw strength from one another. "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24-25)

THIS WEEKS CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JULY 5

9:00 a.m. Come AZUR Service
11:00 a.m. Traditional Service
11:00 a.m. Live Stream Worship
MONDAY, JULY 6
9-12 noon Methodist Market
SATURDAY, JULY 11
9-12 noon Methodist Market

Adult Sunday School Classes

Many of our adult members have expressed a sincere desire to begin having Sunday School again at the church. Adult classes are free to meet as they choose with proper distancing begining July 5, 2020. Children and Youth will not return until later.



- 5. Chat Phillips
- 6. Maddie Canard
- 11. Dee Webb



Truett Duncan

Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Jones, III Mr. & Mrs. Harry Simmons

Jeanne Santmyer

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Simmons

Kenneth Singleton

Jeanne Parker



This Sunday, July 5, we will have our regular services: Come AZUR at 9 a.m. and our traditional worship at 11 a.m. We hope you will join us. For those who are not yet comfortable in corporate worship, we will also have our live stream worship service Sunday at 11 a.m.

Our Scripture for this Sunday, July 5, 2020 is I Samuel 3:1-11. Sermon Title is "**Hearing the Father's Voice.**"



The next couple of weeks seem to be the time that everyone is squeezing in a vacation. Please be safe and enjoy time with your family. I also would like to wish everyone a happy 4th of July.

We will take a 2-week break on activities, but I am planning to organize a few more events in the last few weeks of July.

Daily Bible Readings

JULY

| 5. 5 th Sunday after Pentecost | Matthew 10:24-39 |
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| 6. God's desire to save | 1 Timothy 2:1-4 |
| 7. The LORD will provide | Genesis 22:1-14 |
| 8. My heart shall rejoice | Psalm 13 |
| 9. Judging prophetic words | Jeremiah 28:5-9 |
| 10. Rejoicing in God's faithfulness | Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 |
| 11. Choosing a master | Romans 6:12-23 |
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