



July News



Sunday Mornings

9:45 am : Sunday School

11:00 am : Morning Worship

Pastor's Note

**A Not-so-perfect People
A Not-so-perfect Nation
But a Perfect God!**

³¹ *As for God, His way is perfect;*

The word of the Lord is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.

³² *"For who is God, except the Lord? And who is a rock, except our God?"*

2 Samuel 22:31-32

This is the season when we look at the birth of our nation. While we celebrate 250 years of independence, it is good to look at the circumstances surrounding that declaration. We are in a short series of messages on *The American Christian Heritage* where we look at our founding documents and quotes from our founding fathers, but more importantly, our responsibility as Christians to be a witness to our nation.

To begin, we look at the Declaration of Independence which states: *"The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America, When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation."*

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..."



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July Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 – Don Wirt
- 2 – Frances Gardner
- 6 – Paul & Laura Wills**
- 7 – Connie Moore
- 10 – Aubrey Conner, Kathie Dickenson, Jackson Surface
- 12 – Kirk & Jessica Powell, Janette & Fred Newhouse**
- 13 – Kay Franks, Eddie Baker
- 14 – Bobby Parker
- 16 – Chad James
- 18 – Stephen Hill, Kai Powell
- 19 – David Dove
- 20 – David & Carrie Bradshaw**
- 22 – Brian Thompson, Carolyn Plaster
- 23 – Robert Dove, Jim Woolwine
- 24 – Martha Sykes
- 27 – Emery Warner
- 30 – Karley Drake, Wayne Horney

Pastor's Note, Continued

This was a serious document that came about without many incredible challenges. It was not as if the gathering of the colonies were totally in agreement from their first meeting. Quite the opposite. There was a continual struggle to come to terms with separation from England.

But without going too deep into that process, note the first words in the title: *The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America. It took months for the convention to come to that unanimous decision.*

Note that the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God and endowed by their Creator statements would have been an affront to atheists. But these are just a sampling of evidence of the faith background of our founding fathers. Some were Deists, some were Agnostic, many were Christians, but regardless of their religious background, Biblical Scripture was evident and used even in the writings and correspondence of non-believers.

What does this mean? From the title of this article, a not-so-perfect people were appealing to a perfect God for guidance!

But these not-so-perfect people were also about the task of building a nation. There are many things about our founding that had to be established, and so the constitution needed to be formed because the experiment with the Articles of Confederation left the national government too weak.

The Constitution was adopted September 17, 1787, eleven years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and five years after the ending of the Revolutionary War (September 3, 1783).

In the Preamble to the Constitution: *"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."*

Think about the statement *"in Order to form a more perfect Union"*. *This is important because the founders knew the nation in its infancy was not perfect. The Constitution was a foundational document that defined our structure, but the wisdom of the document was that it allowed flexibility for the future. That flexibility would prove to be critical as the nation grew.*

What does all of this mean for us today? We are in the midst of celebrating 250 years as a nation. We must come to terms that we are a not-so-perfect people, who have formed a not-so-perfect nation, but regardless of our status, we at least had the wisdom to appeal to a perfect God!

Benjamin Franklin was the oldest delegate to the Constitutional Convention. He was also considered perhaps the least Christian of the assembly.

After weeks of struggle, as delegates were leaving in frustration over political differences, and it appeared the young nation would crumble before it even began, Franklin rose to his feet and addressed George Washington, the leader of the convention.

Pastor's Note, Continued

"I have lived, Sir, a long time, and 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 without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid?"

"We have been assured, Sir, in the sacred writings, that 'except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain who build it.' I firmly believe this."

Ben Franklin then called for a halt to the proceedings and a time of prayer and a church service across the street, that they might readjust their focus, and that God might show them the way to rightly build a nation.

The rest, as they say, is literally history.

Yes, that was "the least Christian" guy there, quoting scripture twice in one paragraph and calling for prayer. Can you imagine the devotion of the rest of them?

Ours is a nation specifically founded on the idea that we are all created by God, endowed by Him with "certain unalienable rights," and that the U.S. government exists to "secure those rights."

It would be odd to never publicly acknowledge our Source.

On a personal level, it would be odd to never publicly acknowledge your Source of security, provision, peace, hope and love. You are a not-so-perfect person who lives in a not-so-perfect world appealing to a perfect God!

Romans 12:1-2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. ²And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

- Pastor Keith Crowgey



A Word From Our Music Ministry

Every Tuesday morning I make a habit of viewing our online service from the previous Sunday. Generally I feel mostly positive about what I observe, but there's often little issues that motivate some minor adjustments moving forward. This routine offers me the opportunity to look at the details more objectively. However, not long ago after I watched the video, I longed for a "redo." For starters, 2 of my Team members I expected to participate could not make it. For me, that was disappointing before the service ever started, but then there were a lot of little things that were less than ideal.

We have musicians and a tech team that give it their best effort every week, but this particular Sunday, there were a lot of mistakes. At one point the pastor's mic was not on for a couple minutes, and then he briefly got a little tongue tied, which we all can do. A little detail on the sound board was overlooked and the choir balance was not good. I think live was much better. The piano could barely be heard during the congregational singing, and I regret not placing the singers differently. One singer was not holding the mic close enough and then I forgot to sing the last song in our song set. It dawned on me after I invited everyone to sit down. Oops.

It's certainly not the first mistake I've ever made, but never this particular one. I sent Monica a brief text message after watching the video and she responded, "In the end, you have to ask yourself was the name of Jesus lifted up? That's all that really matters." She made a good point. Was Jesus lifted up? That simply means the melody and lyrics point us to Him.

Let's think about that. If someone watched our service online for the first time, they might have not had a great 1st impression, but fortunately, true worship is not based on our perfection. Even if we sing off key, it doesn't change who Jesus is or what He has done for us. Our lives are certainly less than perfect. I think Jesus is more concerned about our heart than our performance. We've got to keep that in mind. I think about that song, "The Heart of Worship." In that song Matt Redman says:

*When the music fades
All is stripped away
And I simply come
Longin' just to bring
Something that's of worth
That will bless Your heart
I'll bring You more than a song
For a song in itself
Is not what You have required
You search much deeper within
Through the ways things appear
You're looking into my heart
I'm comin' back to the heart of worship
And it's all about You
It's all about You, Jesus
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it
When it's all about You
It's all about You, Jesus*

Announcements

VBS – Summer Storytime

Join us as we explore the Bible through games, crafts, and great fun this Summer! Kids of All Ages. See Paula Midkiff with questions or to volunteer!

Mark your calendars for the following dates...

- July 15th, 5:30-7:00pm - Cambria Baptist Church
- August 2nd, 5:30-7:00pm - Linden Green Apartments
- August 23rd, 3-5pm - Family Lake Day at Claytor Lake Baptist Camp (in conjunction with our Annual Church Picnic, which is 3-7pm)

Ladies Lunch Bunch

Please join us for a time of fellowship and food at Sandro's on Wednesday, July 1st at 11:30am. All ladies are welcome to attend. If anyone has any questions, please contact Lois Banyai at 540-998-3376.

Independence Day Luncheon

Please join us for our Independence Day Luncheon on Sunday, July 5th following worship service! You can sign up in the welcome center to help us know how much food to provide. Please bring a dessert to share.

Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast meets the second Wednesday of every month at Country Kitchen in Christiansburg. This month they will be meeting Wednesday, July 8th at 8:30 am. All men are welcome!

Big Splash Field Day

Ready to beat the heat with some water play?! Join us here, at the picnic shelter on Saturday, July 11th from 1-4pm! Bring a friend and towel. See Kaitlyn Showman with questions and to volunteer to help.

Wednesday Night Prayer Meetings

On Wednesday evenings we come together to pray for each other at 6:30pm in the upstairs chapel (formerly called the Dorcas room). We welcome anyone and everyone who would like to join.

Family Cookout/Campout

Fri/Sat July 24th-25th, any time after 5pm on Friday at Claytor Lake Baptist Camp. Friday we will have a cookout, bonfire, and s'mores; everyone is welcome, even if you do not plan on overnight camping. On Saturday there is a good possibility we will be fishing and tubing! See Gary Smith with questions.

Joint Service with Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church

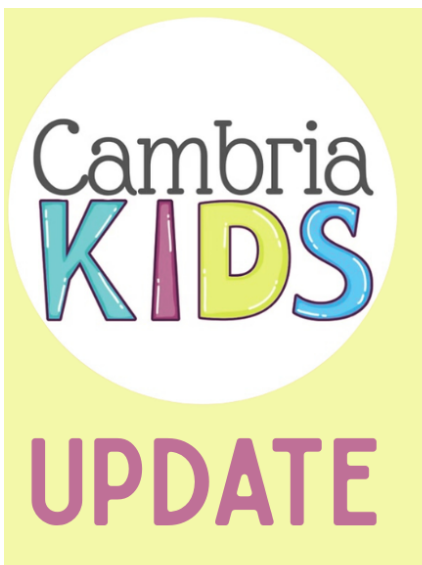
Sunday, July 26th at 4 pm at Cambria Baptist we will have our annual joint service with Schaeffer Memorial! There will be a meal to follow at 5pm.

Wedding Shower

Please join us for a couples shower for Hunter Shelton and Lucy Bowman on Monday, July 27th at 7pm in the fellowship hall. Hunter and Lucy are registered at Amazon.

Annual Church Picnic

Save the date for our annual church picnic, Sunday August 23, 3-7pm at Claytor Lake Baptist Camp. We will be able to share food and fun on the lake for the evening!



EVENT HELP

Our first event in July is the Big Splash Field Day. This is an event for our kiddos and those in the community who want to beat the heat with some fun water activities! There will be different stations set up for kids to play and explore such as a water wall, magnet fishing, a bubble pool, possibly a slip n' slide or DIY splash pad, and whatever else we can dream up. Help will be needed with putting up shade tents and supervising water play. If you would like to donate to the event we will definitely need soft sponges/or small pool balls the kids can toss around and items that can be used with the water wall such as small funnels, pitchers, beach toys, etc. if you have any questions, Kaitlyn's contact info is below and please add your name to the sign up sheet if you plan to attend!

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's Church is in full swing! For our first series we are exploring classic bible stories such as David and Goliath and Noah's Ark and we focus on one big theme from each story. Each week the kids receive a take home page that includes that big theme focus, our bible verse, a prayer prompt, and ideas to keep the lesson going at home throughout the week. Kiddos are welcome to sit with me during service but are not required to, I will make sure everyone who wants to join us is able to before we leave the sanctuary. Also if you hear us upstairs during the sermon we're probably marching around Jericho, imitating God's awesome animal creations, or taking an extra potty break!

OUTREACH IDEAS

One of my goals for our kids ministry is to find ways to help it grow. To do that we need to get out of our comfort zone and get into our community!

TRINKET TRADING

I would like to build a trinket trading box up by the pavilion. Trinket trading is a global hobby and trinket boxes can be found all over the country. The closest one to us is in Roanoke so I believe this would be a great opportunity for us to connect with new families and share the gospel. Trinkets are small items, usually smaller than the palm of your hand, that bring joy such as small toys, tiny figurines, pretty rocks, trading cards, stickers, friendship bracelets, etc. The idea is that people would come to the box to take a trinket and leave one of their own. We could include small bibles, bible verse stickers and I think it would be cool to add a prayer request box to see how we can help meet the needs in our community.

COLLEGE CONNECTION

I have been noticing a lot lately that college and young adult aged people are searching for genuine community. Our younger generations have practically grown up behind a screen so it can be intimidating to get involved. Our church has an amazing heart for young people but it's hard to see until they've come through our doors. To help remedy that I plan to attend Virginia Tech's BCM worship nights. Not every week, but once a quarter or more, just to join in and get to know the kids there. It would be great to get a small group of men and women to go that are interested in mentoring. These kids need mentorship and connection. The Banyai's were that for me when I was a part of Cambria's college group and I will forever be grateful for that guidance at such a formative time in my life. The first 6:33 worship service is August 25th!

IDEAS OR QUESTIONS?

Contact Kaitlyn Showman by email: kaitlynkracke@gmail.com or by text: 757-788-9010

DON'T FORGET!

JULY 11	BIG SPLASH FIELD DAY
JULY 15	SUMMER STORYTIME
JULY 24	ALL ABOUT JESUS COOKOUT & CAMPING
AUG 02	SUMMER STORYTIME @ LINDEN GREEN
AUG 23	FAMILY LAKE DAY
AUG 30	ALOHA SUMMER BINGO NIGHT
SEPT TBD	FARM FIELD TRIP

Missions Mosaic

Serving with Humility By Liz Cuenin

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

—*Philippians 2:3*

Do you remember a time when you went out of your way to meet someone else's needs? How did that make you feel? My guess is your answer is the same as mine: Knowing I helped someone else without getting something in return brought me joy, *but it also* ushered in a small puff of pride, *Look how selfless I was*. Just like that, my initially humble spirit has become polluted by my selfish pride.

In his letter to the church in Philippi, Paul, who was writing while imprisoned (Phil. 1:7), had a clear and helpful message for this beloved church he considered a true partner in gospel work (vv. 3-5). Paul urged them to live lives worthy of the gospel and to stand united in "the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel" (v. 27). In chapter 2, Paul specifically addressed the believers in how to live lives of humble service. Let's read Philippians 2:1-11 to better understand what Paul advised.

THE INGREDIENTS OF A HUMBLE SERVANT

Paul began with a slightly unusual phrase, "Therefore if you have any" (v. 1). He then listed the qualities that should be evident in the lives of Christ followers: "encouragement from being united with Christ," "comfort from his love," "common sharing in the Spirit," "tenderness," and "compassion" (v. 1). Though verse 1 may seem like Paul was doubting whether these qualities were alive in the believers making up the church at Philippi, the opposite is actually true! These "if" statements can be best understood as "since" or "because" statements.¹ Paul saw these qualities and mentioned them in order to help the believers understand the things that unified them in Christ.

COMPLETE MY JOY

Paul also gave an imperative: "Make my joy complete" (v. 2). To accomplish this, he explained believers should strive to be "like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind" (v. 2).

Paul was not suggesting believers should forego their uniqueness and individuality. (In fact, he celebrated individual giftedness in 1 Corinthians 12.) Rather, he urged each individual believer to maximize his or her giftings for the good of the collective body within the church and also to strive for unity in Christ through humble service.

MOTIVES MATTER

Sometimes, we may outwardly serve others, but inwardly our motives are anything but selfless. These selfish tendencies are not something we have to be taught. Just spend any amount of time with a couple of toddlers who want the same toy, and you'll discover that even at a very young age, the human heart is primarily motivated by "me, myself, and I." Despite our human tendency to look out for self, Paul reminded the believers in Philippi that those who would claim to follow Christ are called to a new way of living: "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others" (Phil. 2:3-4). Easier said than done, right?

Western culture teaches that our worth is found in what we do and in the praise we receive from others. We are often applauded for our achievements, status, wealth, good looks, and even piety toward God. Even if we don't like to admit it, we love to win, to achieve, and to be praised by others.

Missions Mosaic continued

THE ARCHNEMESIS OF HUMILITY

All humans have a pull toward affirmation by others. It's a desire born out of selfish pride, a need to "look good" in others' eyes. This is a subtle yet stubborn problem for followers of Christ, especially for those of us who have been believers for a while.

This is why Paul pointed believers toward the only perfect example of humility: Jesus. He is our model of how to live and love like a humble servant, the antithesis of self-seeking pride.

LOOKING TO CHRIST

In Philippians 2:5-11, Paul launched into what has been referred to as the "hymn of Christ." In beautiful language, these verses capture the details of Jesus' divine existence, earthly Incarnation, sacrificial death, mighty Resurrection, and triumphant ascension. Christ is the ultimate servant who humbled Himself in every way through putting on flesh and making "himself nothing" (v. 7). Paul urged the church at Philippi to remember and follow the example Christ set by radically humbling Himself for humanity's sake.

Although we won't be perfect, with God's help we can spend our lives trying to imitate Christ in such a way that we truly live as humble servants. What a joy that we don't have to do this alone! As one body, Christ followers can spur one another on (Heb. 10:24) in love to work, serve, and show compassion to those around us with humble, Christlike hearts.

1. Tony Merida and Francis Chan, *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in Philippians* (B&H Publishing Group, 2016), 84.

For more from *Missions Mosaic Magazine*, check out the latest editions by borrowing a copy from the welcome center, or on their blog at www.wmu.com/blogs

July 2026 Prayer Guide

Thank God for Praises and Blessings!
Doug Frasier (L. Wills Father) Recovered from Pneumonia. Moving to Heritage Hall.

Pray for the Lost / Unspoken:
Phillip Caulder – Gary Smith's cousin

Prayer for Revival! Ministries of the Church
Children's Activity Coordinator Kaitlyn Showman
All About Jesus Boy's Ministry
VBS in the Park! **Cambria 7/15**, 8/2, 8/23
Communion Team – Need team members!

Pending /recovering surgeries / Treatments
Candy Woolwine, Brain cancer treatment
Prayer for the Brokenhearted / Down in Spirit
Pray for spiritual warfare against evil spirits.
Frances Gardner – Loss of Olen 6/20/26

Prayer for Shut-ins / Widows / Widowers
Bob Pohner, Aubry Conner

Prayer for Local / State / Nation
Peace for Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Iran and the innocent citizens affected by the war.
First Responders, Police, EMS, Fire
Medical Staff, Doctors, Nurses, Technicians
East Lake Community Church, Moneta. Tent collapse, one member died.

Prayer for the sick and afflicted
Cindy Gentry – Skin Cancer
Melissa (Iris Mullins Niece) Breast Cancer
Novel Martin (Woolwine) Throat Cancer – Duke.
Completed Chemo – awaiting surgery
Cassie Baker (J.Rivers G-Granddaughter) (Mother Karley) 4 year old. Lemierres Syndrome. Home.
Linda – 8 wk old. Critical – NICU
Harper Grey – UVA Surgery 6/16. Doing well
Kathy Rumble (G. Smith cousin) Heart Transplant list
Carolyn Winters – 2 Falls. Home.

Prayer for Missionaries:
Brandon Brooks – Student ministry.
Graham Rogers – Europe, unreached people
Jeff and Becky Hrubik (Lois' brother) Brazil.
Hrubik Family – Missionaries to Tokyo, Japan.

Needing Employment: Jenna McKendrick (G. Smith)
Brady Baker (Eddie/Judy); Kirk Powell
T.J. Ramey – In Grundy, VA. Needs car repaired.