First Baptist Church of Spring Hill The Messenger

July 2014

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> <u>Pastor</u> J. C. Christian

Youth Minister Josh Howland

Music Minister Nick Campbell

Ministry Assistant Paula Zimmer

<u>Pianist</u> Kaye Schneider

<u>Custodian</u> Rhonda Purtle This month we will celebrate Independence Day in this nation. Independence was declared on July 4th, 238 years ago. But that independence was bought with the blood of those who were brave enough to freely give their lives in order to establish and defend a nation like none the world had ever known. They had a dream that would be a city set on a hill that would

serve as a shining light to all the nations of the earth. They had a dreamthat justice and righteousness would reign from the White House to the State House to the individual family's house. And men were more than willing to let their blood be shed to keep that dream alive. After America declared her independence from Great Britain, John Adams shared the sentiments of the great majority of our forefathers when he said this in an address before the Continental Congress: "Live or die; sink or swim; survive or perish; I am committed to this Declaration of Independence. I am committed, and if God wills it, I am ready to die that this nation may be free." The sentiment echoed in that stirring speech reflected the national will well beyond those beginning days, well beyond the bitter Civil War of 1861-1865, and into this early part of the 21st century. And every year at this time we are reminded of that lofty dream, that national resolve, and whose noble sacrifices made to protect the dream and defend our freedom.

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Now over two centuries after America won her independence, we ponder what tomorrow will be like in America. Is there that same national will and selfless resolve that helped make us great to begin with? If our forefathers could somehow know what America would be like in July of 2014, would they be able to declare that their dream is still alive and well? Is the America we now know the America they had in mind? Could their cry for liberty have really included sanctioning marriage between two people of the same sex? Could their insistence on individual liberty actually have meant they wanted our society to claim the right to take the lives of millions of unborn children? And do we still have the national will and resolve to stand up for right and oppose evil; or are we now being so overrun with evil that those who oppose it find themselves in a swiftly shrinking minority? Is this America what they had in mind? I don't think so! We need to cry out to God as 2 Chronicles 7:14 says and turn from our wicked ways and ask God to forgive our sins and heal our land! Bro

Church Library News July Birthdays July-1 Curtis Delozier We read this in a Christian magazine and though you would also 3 Lorraine Brown enjoy it. It's a small part of the article. To help the church, Jude 5 Madison Bailey listed three (3) practical essentials for true Christians. They will help Chris Bailey you detect and avoid false teachers, and they are easy to remember. 8 Joe Stephens Ann Callis Essentials of the Faithful (Jude 16-25) Linda Poteete 1. Keep growing in God's Word. Roy Poteete 2. Keep praying as prayer is a powerful weapon against evil. 12 3. Keep trusting—The God of Scripture can keep us safe and Cindy Oakes secure (Romans 8:31) 17 Glenda White 19 Kimberly Pullen Nothing can destroy the truth about God and Jesus Christ. Faithful 20 Sharon Bobo Christians should keep growing, praying and trusting. These are the Jerry McLain essentials and they will give you the discernment to recognize and 23 Echan Groves resist false doctrine. 25 Allen Boshers

Here are a few books from our Library...

Prayer Does Make a Difference by Philip Yancey.

Is God listening?

Why should God care about me? Why do so many prayers go unanswered?

Does prayer really help with physical healing?

The author backs his answers with crystal clear insights into the importance God places on prayer and why we should value it.

Prayer by E.M. Bounds. Have direct communication with God...

Maintain a prayer life that produces results...Overcome Satan and his hold on prayer...Obtain all that God has for you...Discover all the possibilities of prayer.

Through his writings you will discover how you can have a totally effective prayer life and how you can know the fullness of divine power.

Yours in Christ,

Lorraine Brown, Mary Robertson, & Joan Frank

Worship Quote of the Month

26

31

Happy Birthday

To You!

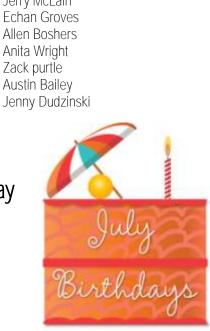
Place Your Life before God

There are many definitions of "worship" that are useful to us as we think about our appropriate response to God, both personally and corporately. "Worship as a lifestyle" is certainly one theme that the Apostle Paul highlights in the 12th chapter of Romans. Here's the way it reads in *The Message:*

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

-Romans 12:1-2, Eugene Peterson, THE MESSAGE: THE NEW TESTAMENT IN CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH, NavPress, 1993.

Bro. Nick, Minister of Music







Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 6:30pm Prayer Mtg.	3 9 am Sr. Adult Bible Study	4 INDEPENDENCE Church Office Closed	5
6 5 pm Church- wide Fellowship Deacons' Meeting	7	8	9 10:15 Cracker Barrel Fellowship 6:30pm Business Mtg.	10 9 am Sr. Adult Bible Study	11	12 8 am Men's Breakfast
13 4 pm Trustees' Mtg. YOUTH	14	15	6:30pm Prayer Mtg.	17 9 am Sr. Adult Bible Study	18 6:30 pm Family Connection	19 8:30 am Ladies' Breakfast
20 YOUTH	21 August Newsletter Articles due in office	22	2 <i>3</i> 6:30pm Prayer Mtg.	24 9 am Sr. Adult Bible Study	25	26
27 YOUTH SUPER Nghts 5-7PM	28	29	29 6:30pm Prayer Mtg.	30 9 am Sr. Adult Bible Study	31	
	Schedule of Services:Sunday (New Summer Schedule)Worship - 10:00 amSunday School - 8:45 amAdult Choir Rehearsal - 4:00 pmDiscipleship Training - 5:00 pmWorship & Youth Svc 6:00 pm					

The Church in Action

Church-Wide Fellowship Sunday, July 6th, 5 pm

Everyone is invited to a time of Fellowship and fun! Games inside and outside!

Hot dogs provided. Please bring chips and/or desserts to share.



Saturday, July 12 8:00 am

> Devotional by **Rodney Smith**

Please see Ben Barbre for more information.

Saturday, July 19 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

All ladies invited! Bring a breakfast dish to share.



Thank You for your response thus far!

In an effort to keep our records as up to date as possible, an update form is available to everyone. Forms have been emailed and are available on the table in the lobby. Please complete a form for each individual in your family; so if there is husband, wife, and 3 children, 5 forms should be completed. (Please note: You do not need to add your children and/or parents to the form unless they reside in your household) This information is used to update the church directory and contact information. All information is kept confidential and only shared per your permission. Please place the completed forms in the large envelope in the box on Paula's office door. Please return all forms by July 20th. Thank you for your assistance.

Future Growth Funding

140,620.14 in a Construction Acct. at First Farmer's & Merchant's Bank \$360,289.58 in a Building Fund at the Tennessee Baptist Foundation.



Family



Our next Family Connection is Friday, July 18th at 6:30pm in the fellowship hall. It has been almost a year since our first gathering. Come join us as we brainstorm ideas for the coming months and maybe play a board game or two! Bring a finger food to share and your favorite game. Drinks and dessert provided. Bruce Hull will give the devotion.



Cracker Barrel Fellowship Wednesday, July 9 10:15 a.m. Everyone is welcome (at The Crossings in Spring Hill)

Thank you to Patty Christian, Linda Bland and Rhonda Purtle for volunteering to assist once a month with Children In Action. We are so thankful for your willingness to be with us! We still need an adult to help (you do not have to teach) on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (6:30pm) as well as someone who children in action



would fill in when there are 5 Wednesdays and be a substitute helper (only happens a few times a year). Please consider giving one hour a month to love on these kids (elementary age and at this time, all girls). Contact Julie Hull at 615.476.9522 or juliemhull@live.com for more info.

10 Reasons to Go to Church...

- 1. To have fellowship with the crucified and risen Christ.
- 2. To worship.
- 3. To be forgiven.
- 4. To hear the voice of God.
- To grow in the knowledge of the Bible, God's Word. 5.
- To feed your soul. 6.
- To be prayed for. 7.
- To be loved and encouraged. 8.
- 9. To love and encourage your fellow Christians.
- 10. To promote the Gospel.

-Dr. Richard P. Bucher