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Our Saviour's Good News

Volume XVII, Issue VII

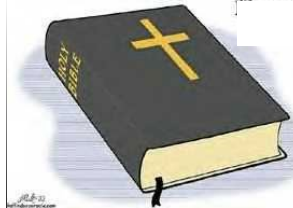
July 2022

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Saviour Lutheran Church welcomes all people to a safe place to grow in faith and serve the Lord Jesus Christ

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The Bible's Influence on The Founding Fathers

In 1984, political scientists Donald Lutz and Charles Hynerman at the University of Houston wrote a paper regarding the research they had done to determine the sources that most influenced the development of American political thought during our nation's founding period. Over the course of ten years, they analyzed some 15,000 itmes of American political commentary published between 1760 and 1805, the Founding Era. This research paper, "*The Relative Influence of European Writers on Late Eighteenth-Century American Political Thought,*" was published in *The American Political Science Review*, 78 (1984)

The researchers isolated 3,154 direct quotes made by the Founders over this period of time and identified the source of those quotes. The researchers discovered that 34 percent of the Founders' quotes come directly out of the Bible. Baron Charles de Montesquieu, a French legal philosopher, quoted 8.3 percent of the time, Sir William Blackstone, a renowned English jurist whose *Commentaries on the Laws of England* were highly accepted in America, was nest at 7.9 percent of the Founder's quotes, and John Locke, an English philosopher, was fourth with 2.9 percent.

While it is true that three-fourths of the biblical citations in the 1760 to 1805 sample came from reprinted sermons (one of the most popular types of political writing during these years), and only 9 percent of all citations come from secular literature, it is a reflection of the powerful role of the Bible upon the thinking of the Founding Fathers..

The Dignity of Human Life

Our Founding Fathers held to the biblical principle that human life is precious and created equal. In the Declaration of Independence, it is God the "*Creator*" who endowed every man, woman, and child with the right to "*life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.*" The signers called them **self-evident truths**. Each life has inherent dignity and matchless value, apparently from conception until death.

The Founding Fathers knew that if God the "*Creator*" is taken out of the national value system, our rights as citizens are no longer absolute and become subject to the relative values of those who are in position to make or change the laws. In truth, we are no longer equal in value as people, and typically it is the weakest and most vulnerable members of society who are the first to pay the price as others take the role of determining what right we do and do not have. Universal moral laws that promote the good of all people and protect the innocent and vulnerable give way to the selfish pursuits of those who demand the moral license to do what they want.

The dignity of human life is not just a biblical principle, it is a principle of a decent life. Every human being, born or unborn, deserves the equal protection of the law, and the value of life is not conditional upon it usefulness to others or the state. Neither scientific progress nor the desire to help others can justify the sacrifice of any human being's life or inherent dignity, whether it take the form of abortion, euthanasia, or any of the may new forms of biotechnology. We must reaffirm our steadfast determination to defend the sanctity of human life.

The Story of Independence Day and America's Birthday



Independence Day is the national holiday of the United States of America commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

At the time of the signing the US consisted of 13 colonies under the rule of England's King George III. There was growing unrest in the colonies concerning the taxes that had to be paid to England. This was commonly referred to as "Taxation without Representation" as the colonists did not have any representation in the English Parliament and had no say in what went on. As the unrest grew in the colonies, King George sent extra troops to help control any rebellion. In 1774 the 13 colonies sent delegates to Philadelphia Pennsylvania to form the First Continental Congress. The delegates were unhappy with England, but were not yet ready to declare war.

In April 1775 as the King's troops advanced on Concord Massachusetts Paul Revere would sound the alarm that "The British are coming, the British are coming" as he rode his horse through the late night streets.

The battle of Concord and its "shot heard around the world" would mark the unofficial beginning of the colonies war for Independence.

The following May the colonies again sent delegates to the Second Continental Congress. For almost a year the congress tried to work out its differences with England, again without formally declaring war.

By June 1776 their efforts had become hopeless and a committee was formed to compose a formal declaration of independence. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Robert R. Livingston and Roger Sherman. Thomas Jefferson was chosen to write the first draft which was presented to the congress on June 28. After various changes a vote was taken late in the afternoon of July 4th. Of the 13 colonies, 9 voted in favor of the Declaration, 2 - Pennsylvania and South Carolina voted No, Delaware undecided and New York abstained.

To make it official John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence. It is

said that John Hancock signed his name "with a great flourish" so "King George can read that without spectacles!."

The following day copies of the Declaration were distributed. The first newspaper to print the Declaration was the Pennsylvania Evening Post on July 6, 1776. On July 8th the Declaration had its first public reading in Philadelphia's Independence Square. Twice that day the Declaration was read to cheering crowds and pealing church bells. Even the bell in Independence Hall was rung. The "Province Bell" would later be renamed "Liberty Bell" after its inscription -

Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land Unto All the Inhabitants Thereof

And although the signing of the Declaration was not completed until August, the 4th of July has been accepted as the official anniversary of United States independence. The first Independence Day celebration took place the following year - July 4 1777. By the early 1800s the traditions of parades, picnics, and fireworks were established as the way to celebrate America's birthday. And although fireworks have been banned in most places because of their danger, most towns and cities usually have big firework displays for all to see and enjoy.



The below appeared in the Beetle Bailey's comic strip in June 13, 2010, for Flag Day. I do not know if you saw it but I think it is worthy while showing what it was. Our National Anthem is about **OUR FLAG** and the comic strip is about **OUR FLAG**.

Beetle Bailey, along with another soldier, were watching Plato write something on a wall. Beetle exclaims, "*You'll get in trouble writing graffiti on that wall, Plato!*" The other soldier saw the General coming and said, "*Oh-oh! Here comes the General!*" The General comes up to the wall and reads what was on the wall. He then orders, "*Tear that wall down!*" Then it shows the General carrying the **OUR FLAG** and the other soldiers carrying the WALL.

The below is what Plato wrote on the wall.....

THIS FLAG

This Flag... The symbol of the hopes of man. This cloth of dreams for Freedom, Justice, and Opportunity.

Its Stars are like beacons guiding us through the shoals of adversity.

Its Red Stripes like wounds of struggle. The Good in it cannot be had for nothing....

Like any garden, it must be tended....

Like any loved one, it must be held.

Hold **THIS FLAG** high and keep its promise bright,

For in it lies the best hope for all of us.



CHRISTIANITY AND THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

As the American Frontier opened up between 1776 and 1850, American colonist first expanded out as far west as Appalachia, then pushed the frontier to the Mississippi River. By 1850, America pioneers pushed the edge of settlement to Texas, the Southwest, and the Pacific Northwest, seeking cheap land and inspired by the belief that they had a “*manifested destiny*” to stretch across the continent.

In 1835, Alexis de Tocqueville, a French historian, traveled America as it was coming into its own as a nation. He wrote down his observations in *Democracy in America*. This classic book provides unique insights into what made America such a rapid success, which clearly he believed to be Christianity. One of his observations describes what he saw happen as the American settlers spread across the continent: “*I have known of societies formed by the Americans to send out ministers of the Gospel into the new Western States to found schools and churches there, lest religion should be suffered to die away in those remote settlements, and the rising States be less fitted to enjoy free institutions that the people from which they emanated. In met with wealthy New Englanders who abandoned the country in which they were born in order to lay the foundations of Christianity and of freedom on the banks of the Missouri or the prairies of Illinois.*”

Following the migration west from the Appalachian cabins to settlements along the Oregon Trail, the American Sunday School Union (ASSU) undertook a great campaign to establish a Sunday School in every new community on the western frontier and sent out a large number of Sunday school missionaries. Thousands of churches eventually sprang up from these Sunday schools.

One example of the tremendous influence the Sunday school movement had in American frontier life was the Mississippi Valley Enterprise (MVE) which was a missionary enterprise of the ASSU to “*establish a Sunday school in every destitute place where it is practicable throughout the Valley of the Mississippi.*” The MVE established over 61,000 Sunday school and enrolled 2,650,000 pupils in fifty years. Remarkably, one missionary, Stephen Paxson, who was born with a speech impediment and later nicknamed “Stuttering Stephen,” started 1,314 Sunday schools with 83,000 students during his twenty years of service with the mission.

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Also following the expansion west were the Methodist circuit riders, preachers on horseback who braved the cold weather and lack of roads and danger of Indian attacks to bring the Gospel to the pioneers. Led by the colossal efforts of Francis Asbury, who traveled nearly 300,000 miles on horseback and preached more than 16,000 sermons from 1771 to 1816, an army of circuit riders were inspired to go where the pioneers went. In that span of time, the Methodists grew in number from only 300 members with four ministers to over 200,000 with 2,000 ministers, many with little formal education but who spoke the language of the frontier fold. The Methodist also gave unprecedented freedom to both men and women and African-Americans to participate and made a significant contribution.

Simultaneously, the Baptist sent out their “farmer-preachers.” as was true of the Methodists, the Baptist developed systems that made it easy for committed laypeople to enter the ministry and to be deployed quickly where the greater opportunities were. Most of their preachers had little education and were poorly paid, but they were in touch with the pioneers’ lives. With an emphasis on the need for a personal conversion and salvation from sin through faith in Jesus Christ, these ministries spread the Gospel far and wide.

As was true in the founding of the American colonies, Christians planted many of America’s colleges as the nation moved west, including such notable institutions as Northwestern University in Chicago, which was founded by the Methodists, and the University of California at Berkeley, which was founded by the Presbyterians before becoming a state university.



Founding Fathers of the United States

The Founding Fathers of the United States (also known as the Fathers of Our Country, or the Founders) are the political leaders who signed the Declaration of Independence or otherwise participated in the American Revolution as leaders of the Patriots, or who participated in drafting the United States Constitution eleven years later. During the American Revolutionary War, the Founders were opposed by the Loyalists who supported the British monarch and opposed independence (though most Loyalists remained in the U.S. after 1783 and supported the new government).

Some authors draw a distinction between the Founders, who signed the Declaration of Independence in 1776 or participated in the Revolution, and the Framers, who drafted the United States Constitution, to replace the Articles of Confederation, in 1787. This article does not make that distinction. The term "founding fathers" was first used in 1916 by then-Senator Warren G. Harding in his keynote address to the Republican National Convention; he did not distinguish between founders and framers. He had used the phrase "founding American fathers" in his 1912 speech nominating William Howard Taft for a second term during that year's Republican National Convention; between 1912 and 1916 he dropped the middle word "American." He used the term again in a 1918 address to a Washington's Birthday joint meeting of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution; he used it twice in his 1920 acceptance speech before the Republican National Convention; and he used it in his inaugural address on 4 March 1921. Harding's well-known liking for alliteration in his political speech-making suggests that he indeed deserves credit for coining the phrase "founding fathers." Collective biography of the Framers of the Constitution

The 55 delegates who attended the United States Constitutional Convention represented a cross section of 18th century American leadership. Almost all of them were well-educated men of means who were dominant in their communities and colonies, and many were also prominent in national affairs. Virtually every one had taken part in the Revolution; at least 29 had served in the Continental Army, most of them in positions of command. Scholars have examined the collective biography of them as well as the signers of the Declaration and the Constitution.

Post-convention careers

The 1787 delegates' subsequent careers reflected their abilities as well as the vagaries of fate. Most were successful, although seven (Fitzsimons, Gorham, Luther Martin, Mifflin, Robert Morris, Pierce, and Wilson) suffered serious financial reverses that left them in or near bankruptcy. Two, Blount and Dayton, were involved in possibly treasonous activities. Yet, as they had done before the convention, most of the group continued to render public service, particularly to the new government they had helped to create.

- Washington, John Adams, Jefferson and Madison each served as President of the United States, and King and Charles Cotesworth Pinckney were nominated as candidates for the office.
- Declaration of Independence Signers John Hancock, Richard Henry Less, and Samuel Huntington went on to become Presidents of the United States in Congress Assembled.
- Article of Confederation Signers John Hanson and Thomas McKean went to become Presidents of United States in Congress Assembled.
- United States Constitution Signers Nathaniel Gorham and Thomas Mifflin were Presidents of the United States in Congress Assembled.
- Gerry served as Madison's Vice President. John Adams served as Washington's.
- Hamilton, McHenry, Madison, and Randolph attained Cabinet posts.
- Nineteen men became U. S. Senators: Baldwin, Bassett, Blount, Butler, Dayton, Ellsworth, Few, Gilman, Johnson, King, Langdon, Alexander Martin, Gouverneur Morris, Robert Morris, Paterson, Charles Pinckney, Read, Sherman, and Strong. Thirteen served in the House of Representatives: Baldwin, Carroll, Clymer, Dayton, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Gilman, Madison, Mercer, Charles Pinckney, Sherman, Spaight, and Williamson. Of these, Dayton served as Speaker.
- Four men (Bassett, Bedford, Brearly, and Few) served as federal judges, five more (Blair, Chase, Paterson, Rutledge, and Wilson) as Associate Justices of the Supreme Court. Rutledge and Ellsworth also held the position of Chief Justice.
- Seven others (Davie, Ellsworth, Gerry, King, Gouverneur Morris, Charles Pinckney, and Charles Cotesworth Pinckney) were named to diplomatic missions.

Many 1787 delegates held important state positions, including governor (Blount, Davie, Franklin, Gerry, Langdon, Livingston, Alexander Martin, Mifflin, Paterson, Charles Pinckney, Spaight, and Strong) and legislator. And most of the delegates contributed in many ways to the cultural life of their cities, communities, and states. Not surprisingly, many of their sons and other descendants were to occupy high positions in American political and intellectual life.

Demographic information

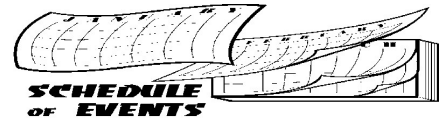
- Most of the 1787 delegates were natives of the 13 colonies.
- Only eight were born elsewhere: four (Butler, Fitzsimons, McHenry, and Paterson) in Ireland, two (Davie and Robert Morris) in England, one (Wilson) in Scotland, and one (Hamilton) in the West Indies.

continued on page 11..careers

July 2022



Sunday School: 9:45 pm
Church Service: 11:00 pm



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 4th Sunday after Pentecost	Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9
10 5th Sun.	11 Team Mtgs.	12	13	14	15	16
17 6th Sun after Pentecost	18 Council Mtg.	19 Prayer Group	20	21	22	23
24 7th Sun after Pentecost	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 8th Sun after Pentecost						Food Collection

- July 3— 4th Sunday after Pentecost— Communion
- July 4—INDEPENDENCE DAY Firework Display & Concert(see page 7)
- July 10— 5th Sunday after Pentecost
- July 11—Team Meetings: 7:00 pm
- July 17— 6th Sunday after Pentecost
- July 18—Board Meeting 7:00 pm
- July 19—Prayer Group at home of Shirlee Marazza at 1:00 pm
- July 24—7th Sunday after Pentecost
- July 31—8th Sunday after Pentecost



FOOD FOR THE MONTH:

- Pinto Beans, Canned Meat, Pork-n-Beans**

Holy Communion Schedule:
All Sundays



Worship Service Assistance:

- Acolyte: Nora Cole
- Communion Asst: Nora Cole
- Lay Reader: Yvonne Finger
- Worship Asst: Yvonne Finger
- Greeters: OSLC Members
- Ushers: OSLC Members

Board Devotions July 18:
Teri Trudnak

Stewardship Collector:
Teri Trudnak



NO Choir practice in July

FLOWERS

Flower Schedule:

- July 3 Nick Vlaservich
- July 10 OPEN
- July 17 John Patton
- July 24 OPEN
- July 31 OPEN

Please sign up to place flowers on the altar in the glory of God and in honor or memory of your love ones.

MANY OPENINGS



Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 10 Marsellus Sanchez | Anna D. Cole |
| 16 Stephen Digh | Chas Messick |
| 18 Joe Finger | Bo Messick |
| 19 Henry Clemmer | Chris Messick |
| 21 Nation Finger | Yvonne Finger |
| 22 Jason Spurrier | Garrett Lowery |



22ndBo & Raygan Messick



DON'T TAKE A
VACATION
FROM CHURCH



725 Gastonia Technology Parkway
Post Office Box 475
Dallas, North Carolina 28034
Phone: 705-922-4648
Email: oslcdallas@aol.com
Website: dallas-nc.org

OUTREACH MISSION

SHUT-INS ***NURSING HOME RESIDENTS***

Please remember our church members who are shut-ins or reside in a senior living/nursing home* and visit them.

Jill Petzold*

Brookside Senior Living Rm 44
1680 S. New Hope Rd
Gastonia, NC 328054

(If others, please let the church office know)

<><

EVENTS for Agrape/Kure Beach

Contact Camp Agapé:

Telephone: 919-552-9421

e-mail: agape@agapekurebeach.org

Contact Kure Beach Lutheran:

Telephone 910-458-0783

e-mail: kurebeach@agapekurebeach.org

Web site: www.agapekurebeach.org

Directions to Camp Agapé are on the web site.

Please see calendars and other information on the bulletin board or go on-line

Events For Lutheridge - Lutherock- Lutherspring- Lutheranch

Web site: www.NovusWay.com



Food Collection

Help fill the pantry
at the
Dallas-High Shoals Christian Ministry.

Food items they need for the month are **crackers, instant potatoes and soup.** Let us over fill the basket in the hallway. This is a great outreach program.

God will bless you for your generosity



GO OUT ON A LIMB **GET INVOLVED**

BE A WORSHIP ASSISTANT

Positions are still open.

Participate in the service of the Lord and sign-up
Sign up sheets

for the 2022 calendar year are on the wall in the Education wing.
THANK YOU!



A Stewardship Minute

A 12th century young Italian man named Giovanni de Bernadone had a wealthy father, who often went to France and nicknamed his son Francis. Young Francis could wear the finest of clothes, have an expensive carriage and go to parties where the rich frolicked together. In short, he could have whatever money could buy. Young Francis, however, began to mature, spiritually speaking, and helped the poor have food, clothing, and other needs met. He worshipped regularly, prayed deeply and wore a

common brown robe in contrast to the finely tailored clothes he had worn before.

He became so devout, loving, and good-hearted that other men began to join him in his ministry. Their Christian work was so important that the pope allowed them to become an order of monks known as the Franciscans. After the pope's blessing was given to them, the order began to spread across the world and is still an effective order to this day. The lesson we learn from Francis is that the stewardship of one's talents, time, and resources of whatever sort are greatly

important in living the Christian life. To be a Christian is not only to believe in Christ, but to serve him by serving others in his name.

Prayer: O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, not so much to be understood as to understand, not so much to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, it is in dying, that we awake to eternal life.
Amen



2022 Court Square Summer Concert

(presented by the Town of Dallas)

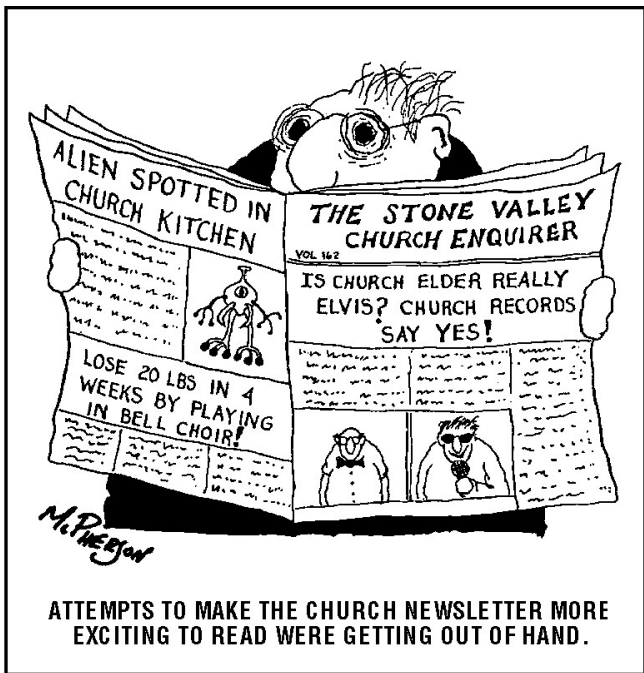
Held on the Dallas Historic Court Square, from 7:00—10:00 pm, each FREE concert will feature amazing talent (rain or shine). Enjoy the concerts.

- ◆ **Sunday, July 4—Concert at Cloninger Park with *Image & G-Town* (7pm-9pm)**
Fireworks Show at Cloninger Park begins at dark. Bring your lawn chair.



- ◆ **Saturday, August 13th— Concert**
Gary Lowder and Smoking
- ◆ **Saturday, September 10— Concert**
Daniel Jeffers

Church News



ATTEMPTS TO MAKE THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER MORE EXCITING TO READ WERE GETTING OUT OF HAND.

One Nation Under God



Just Born

Henry Richard Dease was born on June 20 to the proud parents of Brooklyn and Caleb Dease.

Henry weighed 8 lbs and 1 oz. and 20 inches long.

(Grandparents are Jeff and Shana Dease and great-grandmother, Shirlee Dease). Both Henry and mother are doing well.

- If you need a Pastor, please contact Pastor Pete Feige at 704-516-2805 or our office at 704-922-4648.

WELCARACHEL GROUP

The CLW Group will not meet again until September. Have a safe summer!



PRAYER GROUP

Will meet at the home of Shirlee Marazza
on
July 19 at 1:30



LET US PRAY... "Are any among you suffering? They should pray...The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up." (James 5:

PRAYER CONCERNS: MARGARET Addington, SETH Alexander, AMANDA (friend of the Penley's), MARVIS Anderson, WHITNEY Auten (breast cancer), KELLY Ballard (friend of Shana Dease), ADDISON Blanton (friend of Dease's), KATHY Bohanan (cancer), MARTHA JO Bonnett (friend of Alice Vlaservich - cancer) KAREN Brady, BOB Clemmer (friend of Brady Ratchford), SYLVIA Cloninger (friend of Nick Vlaservich), MIKE Coffey (Robbie Wooten's uncle), STEVE Cloninger (friend of Brady Ratchford-cancer), BEVERLY Copeland (friend of Robbie's-cancer), STEVE Digh (cancer), RENEE Falkenberg (shoulder), HARDY Feige (Pete's dad - chronic back pain), GLEEN Fraizer (friend of Steve & Julie Digh [cancer]), NANCY Friday, BECKY Goodwin (friend of Brady's - cancer), JAMES Goudelock (cancer), JASON Hames (friend of the White's), GRACE Harbin (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), JEAN Huffstetler (two broken wrist), JEFF Lineberger (stroke), JOYCE in Morganton (Nick & Alice Vlaservich's acquaintance-cancer), DANA Kirshman (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), JACK Lonon (Kasey Digh's step-father-cancer), MARINA Marazza (Shirlee Marazza's granddaughter-Covid19), BO Messick (foot), FRANCIS McAllister (broken hip), CHRIS Messick (recovering back surgery), JERRY Miller (friend of Vlaservich family-eye cancer operation), JASON, ALLISON & LEX Murray, ELLEN & ED Pfeiffer (Keenan Gordy's Parents - Heart issues), GARY Neal, (friend of Caleb Dease), SONDRRA Phillips (friend of Melinda White), TERI Trudnak, RONNIE Shiles (friend of Brady Ratchford-declining health), MARTHA Surratt (friend of Alice Vlaservich-cancer). TONY Trudnak (cancer reoccurring), GARY Turner (father of Jason Murray), JOE White (stroke), NANCY Wilson, REESE Wilson (blood cancer). MARY BETH Wright (cousin of Nick Vlaservich -cancer). Dawn Wooten (Sarah Wooten's great grandmother-Shingles),



THE AMERICAN'S CREED



I BELIEVE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS A GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE; WHOSE JUST POWERS ARE DERIVED FROM THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED; A DEMOCRACY IN A REPUBLIC, A SOVEREIGN NATION OF MANY SOVEREIGN STATES; A PERFECT UNION, ONE AND INSEPARABLE; ESTABLISHED UPON THOSE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM, EQUALITY, JUSTICE, AND HUMANITY FOR WHICH AMERICAN PATRIOTS SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES AND FORTUNES.

I THEREFORE BELIEVE IT IS MY DUTY TO MY COUNTRY TO LOVE IT, TO SUPPORT ITS CONSTITUTION; TO OBEY ITS LAWS; TO RESPECT ITS FLAG; AND TO DEFEND IT AGAINST ALL ENEMIES.

The Creed was written in 1918 by William Tyler Page of Friendship Heights, Maryland in the course of a nationwide contest on the subject. Page was a descendent of President Tyler, and Representative John Page, who served in the Congress from 1789-97.

William Tyler Page began his government career as a Congressional page in December of 1881. In 1919, he was elected Clerk of the House of Representatives, and held that position until December of 1931. a new post, Emeritus Minority Clerk, was then created for him which he occupied until his death on October 20, 1942.



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

"I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL."

The Pledge of Allegiance received official recognition by Congress in an Act approved on June 22, 1942. However, the pledge was first published in 1892 in the Youth's Companion magazine in Boston, Massachusetts to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America, and was first used in public schools to celebrate Columbus Day on October 12, 1892.

In its original version, the pledge read "my flag" instead of "the flag of the United States." the change in the wording was adopted by the National Flag Conference in 1923. The rationale for the change was that it prevented ambiguity among foreign-born children and adults who might have the flag of their native land in mind when reciting the pledge.

The phrase "under God" was added to the pledge by a Congressional act approved on June 14, 1954. At that time, President Eisenhower said:

"in this way we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America's heritage and future; in this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country's most powerful resource in peace and war."



Anarchy in Your Head .com

by Dale Everett

The Boston Tea Party of December 16, 1773, took place when a group of Massachusetts Patriots, protesting the monopoly on American tea importation recently granted by Parliament to the East India Company, seized 342 chests of tea in a midnight raid on three tea ships and threw them into the harbor.

This action, part of a wave of resistance throughout the colonies, had its origin in Parliament's effort to rescue the financially weakened East India Company so as to continue benefiting from the company's valuable position in India. The Tea Act (May 10, 1773) adjusted import duties in such a way that the company could undersell even smugglers in the colonies. The company selected consignees in Boston, New York, Charleston, and Philadelphia, and 500,000 pounds of tea were shipped across the Atlantic in September.

Under pressure from Patriot groups, the consignees in Charleston, New York, and Philadelphia refused to accept the tea shipments, but in Boston, the chosen merchants (including two of Governor Thomas Hutchinson's sons as well as his nephew) refused to concede. The first tea ship, *Dartmouth*, reached Boston November 27, and two more arrived shortly thereafter. Meanwhile, several mass meetings were held to demand that the tea be sent back to England with the duty unpaid. Tension mounted as Patriot groups led by Samuel Adams tried to persuade the consignees and then the governor to accept this approach. On December 16, a large meeting at the Old South Church was told of Hutchinson's final refusal. About midnight, watched by a large crowd, Adams and a small group of Sons of Liberty disguised as Mohawk Indians boarded the ships and jettisoned the tea. To Parliament, the Boston Tea Party confirmed Massachusetts's role as the core of resistance to legitimate British rule. The Coercive Acts of 1774 were intended to punish the colony in general and Boston in particular, both for the Tea Party and for the pattern of resistance it exemplified.

(Did you know? It took nearly three hours for more than 100 colonists to empty the tea into Boston Harbor. The chests held more than 90,000 lbs. (45 tons) of tea, which would cost nearly \$1,000,000 dollars today.)



I am

I AM YOUR FLAG



your flag.

I was born on June 14th, 1777.

I am more than just a cloth shaped into a design.

I am the refuge of the World's oppressed people.

I am the silent sentinel of Freedom.

I am the emblem of the greatest sovereign nation on earth.

I am the inspiration for which American Patriots gave their lives and fortunes.

I have led your sons and daughters into battle from Valley Forge to the deserts of Iraq
and the mountains of Afghanistan.

I walk in silence with each of your Honored Dead, to their final resting place
beneath the silent White Crosses, row upon row.

I have flown through Peace and War, Strife and Prosperity, and amidst it all I have been respected.

My Red Strips ... symbolize the blood spilled in defense of this glorious nation.

My White Strips ... signify the burning tears shed by Americans who lost their love ones.

My Blue Field ... is indicative of God's heaven under which I fly.

"Old Glory" is my nickname, and proudly I wave on high.

Honor me, respect me, defend me with your lives and your fortunes.

Never let my enemies tear me down from my lofty position, lest I never return.

Keep alight the fires of patriotism, strive earnestly for the spirit of democracy.

Worship Eternal God and keep His commandments.

And I shall remain the bulwark of peace and freedom for all mankind.

When you fold me—this is what each fold means.

The first fold is a **symbol of life**.

The second symbolizes **belief in eternal life**.

The third is made in **honor of veterans**.

The fourth reminds us that **humans are weak and in need of divine guidance**.

The fifth is a **tribute to our country**.

The sixth represents the **love in our hearts for America**.

The seventh is a **tribute to the armed forces**.

The eight **honors mothers**.

The ninth **honors all women**.

The tenth **honors fathers**.

The eleventh symbolizes the **God of the Old Testament**.

The twelfth represents the **Christian belief in the Trinity**.

When I am completely folded,

The stars are uppermost,

A reminder of the motto,

"In God We Trust."

A well-folded flag also appears a bit like a cocked hat,

Symbolic of the head-wear of our Founding Fathers.

I Am Your Flag!

By Lois Hoops

Continued from page 4...carriers

- Many of them had moved from one state to another. Sixteen individuals had already lived or worked in more than one state or colony: Baldwin, Bassett, Bedford, Dickinson, Few, Franklin, Ingersoll, Livingston, Alexander Martieno, Luther Martin, Mercer, Gouverneur Morris, Robert Morris, Read, Sherman, and Williamson.
- Several others had studied or traveled abroad. The Founding Fathers had strong educational backgrounds. Some, like Franklin, were largely self-taught or learned through apprenticeship. Others had obtained instruction from private tutors or at academies. About half of the men had attended or graduated from college in the colonies or Britain. Some men held medical degrees or advanced training in theology. For the most part, the delegates were a well-educated group. A few lawyers had been trained at the Inns of Court in London, but most had apprenticed to an American lawyer.

Political experience

The signers of the Constitution had extensive political experience. By 1787, four-fifths, or 41 individuals, were or had been members of the Continental Congress. Practically all of the 55 delegates had experience in colonial and state government, and the majority had held county and local offices.

- Timothy Mifflin, Pierce Gaithe, and James Gorham had served as president of the Continental Congress. The ones who lacked congressional experience were Bassett, Blair, Brearly, Broom, Davie, Dayton, Alexander Martin, Alexander Hamilton, Luther Martin, Mason, McClurg, Paterson, Charles Pinckney, Strong, Washington and Yates.
- Eight men (Clymer, Franklin, Gerry, Robert Morris, Read, Sherman, Wilson, and Wythe) had signed the Declaration of Independence.
- Six (Carroll, Dickinson, Gerry, Gouverneur Morris, Robert Morris, and Sherman) had affixed their signatures to the Articles of Confederation.
- Two, Sherman and Robert Morris, underwrote all three of the nation's basic documents.
- Dickinson, Franklin, Langdon, and Rutledge had been governors.

The 1787 delegates practiced a wide range of high and middle-status occupations, and many pursued more than one career simultaneously. They did not differ dramatically from the Loyalists, except they were younger and less senior in their professions. Thirty-five were lawyers or had benefited from legal education, though not all of them relied on the profession for a livelihood. Some had also become judges.

- At the time of the convention, 13 men were merchants: Blount, Broom, Clymer, Dayton, Fitzsimons, Shields, Gilman, Gorham, Langdon, Robert Morris, Pierce, Sherman, and Wilson.
- Six were major land speculators: Blount, Dayton, Fitzsimons, Gorham, Robert Morris, and Wilson.
- Eleven speculated in securities on a large scale: Bedford, Blair, Clymer, Dayton, Fitzsimons, Franklin, King, Langdon, Robert Morris, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, and Sherman.
- Twelve owned or managed slave-operated plantations or large farms: Bassett, Blair, Blount, Butler, Carroll, Jenif-

er, Mason, Charles Pinckney, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, Rutledge, Spaight, and Washington. Madison also owned slaves, as did Franklin, who later freed his slaves freed his slaves and became an abolitionist.

- Broom and Few were small farmers.
- Nine of the men received a substantial part of their income from public office: Baldwin, Blair, Brearly, Gilman, Jenifer, Livingston, Madison, and Rutledge.
- Three had retired from active economic endeavors: Franklin, McHenry, and Mifflin.
- Franklin and Williamson were scientists, in addition to their other activities.
- McClurg, McHenry, and Williamson were physicians, and Johnson was a college president.

Prayer of*Saint Francis of Assisi***Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace;**

*where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy*

O Divine Master,

*grant that I may not so much seek to be
consoled as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born
to Eternal Life.*

Amen

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02-18-2005

GOOD THING I FOUND YOU GIDEON ... IT SEEMS SOMEONE HAS BEEN HIDING ALL YOUR BIBLES IN HOTEL ROOMS

As Americans I think we need to read some of our history to understand who we are and how we started our beginning to become one of the greatest, if not the greatest nation in the world. If you have a chance read our Constitution. (editorial)

The Declaration of Independence of the Thirteen Colonies

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776

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. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed.

But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.

Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present **King of Great Britain [George III]** is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained, and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the meantime exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers.

Independence cont'd from page 12

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies, without the consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

- For protecting them by a mock Trial from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:
- For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:
- For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:
- For depriving us in many cases of the benefits of Trial by Jury:
- For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences:
- For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:
- For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:
- For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms. Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren.

- We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us.
- We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here.
- We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence.

They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by the authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare.

Independence cont'd from page 13

That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown,

and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is and ought to be totally dissolved;

and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce,

and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do.

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

The signers of the Declaration represented the new States as follows:

New Hampshire:

Josiah Bartlett, William Whipple, Matthew Thornton

Massachusetts:

John Hancock, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, Elbridge Gerry

Rhode Island:

Stephen Hopkins, William Ellery

Connecticut:

Roger Sherman, Samuel Huntington, William Williams, Oliver Wolcott

New York:

William Floyd, Philip Livingston, Francis Lewis, Lewis Morris

New Jersey:

Richard Stockton, John Witherspoon, Francis Hopkinson, John Hart, Abraham Clark

Pennsylvania:

Robert Morris, Benjamin Rush, Benjamin Franklin, John Morton, George Clymer, James Smith, George Taylor, James Wilson, George Ross

Delaware:

Caesar Rodney, George Read, Thomas McKean

Maryland:

Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, Charles Carroll of Carrollton

Virginia:

George Wythe, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Nelson, Jr., Francis Lightfoot Lee, Carter Braxton

North Carolina:

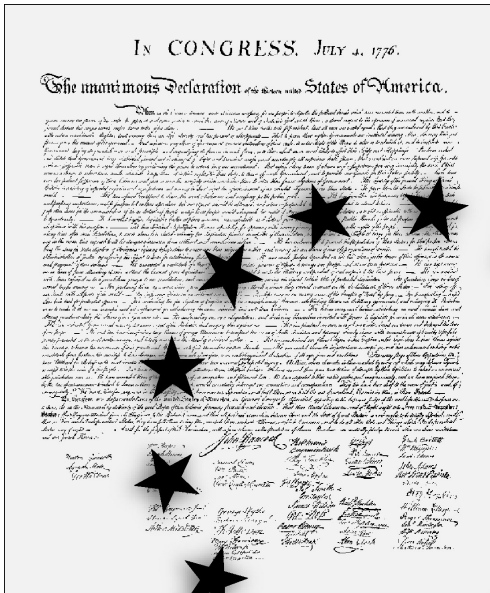
William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, John Penn

South Carolina:

Edward Rutledge, Thomas Heyward, Jr., Thomas Lynch, Jr., Arthur Middleton

Georgia:

Button Gwinnett, Lyman Hall, George Walton



America the Beautiful

"**America the Beautiful**" is an American patriotic song. The lyrics were written by Katharine Lee Bates and the music composed by church organist and choirmaster Samuel A. Ward. Bates originally wrote the words as a poem, *Pikes Peak*, first published in the July 4th edition of the church periodical *The Congregationalist* in 1895. The poem was titled *America* for publication. Ward had originally written the music, *Materna*, for the 1600s hymn *O Mother dear, Jerusalem* in 1882. Ward's music combined with the Bates poem was first published in 1910 and titled *America the Beautiful*. The song is one of the most beloved and popular of the many American patriotic songs. From time to time it has been proposed as a replacement for *The Star-Spangled Banner* as the National Anthem.

Popularity of the song increased greatly following the September 11, 2001 attacks; at some sporting events it was sung in addition to the traditional singing of the national anthem. During the first taping of the *Late Show with David Letterman* following the attacks, CBS newsman Dan Rather cried briefly as he quoted the fourth verse.

When Richard Nixon visited the People's Republic of China in 1972, this song was played by Chinese as the welcome music. Interestingly, the Chinese characters for United States literally mean "Beautiful Country."

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet
Whose stern impassioned stress
A thoroughfare of freedom beat
Across the wilderness!
America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife.
Who more than self their country loved
And mercy more than life!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness
And every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!



SALVATION ARMY

The Salvation Army began in 1865 when William Booth, a London minister, gave up the comfort of his pulpit and decided to take his message into the streets where it would reach the poor, the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.

His original aim was to send converts to established churches of the day, but soon he realized that the poor did not feel comfortable or welcome in the pews of most of the churches and chapels of Victorian England. Regular churchgoers were appalled when these shabbily dressed, unwashed people came to join them in worship. Booth decided to found a church especially for them - the East London Christian Mission. The mission grew slowly, but Booth's faith in God remained undiminished.

In May 1878, Booth summoned his son, Bramwell, and his good friend George Railton to read a proof of the Christian Mission's annual report. At the top it read: THE CHRISTIAN MISSION is A VOLUNTEER ARMY. Bramwell strongly objected to this wording. He was not a volunteer: he was compelled to do God's work. So, in a flash of inspiration, Booth crossed out 'Volunteer' and wrote 'Salvation'. The Salvation Army was born.

ONE ARMY: We see a God-raised, Spirit-filled Army for the 21st century - convinced of our calling, moving forward together: We will...deepen our spiritual life, unite in prayer, identify and develop leaders, increase self-support and self-denial

ONE MISSION: Into the world of the hurting, broken, lonely, dispossessed and lost, reaching them in love by all means : We will...emphasize our integrated ministry, reach and involve youth and children, stand for and serve the marginalized, encourage innovation in mission

ONE MESSAGE: With the transforming message of Jesus, bringing freedom, hope and life

We will... communicate Christ unashamedly, reaffirm our belief in transformation, evangelize and disciple effectively, provide quality teaching resources.

The local chapter of Salvation Army is located: 107 South Broad Street, Gastonia, NC 28052-4101. Their motto: Doing the most good.

Open letter from: Mark Hunter, Corps Officer, Salvation Army, Gastonia, NC

One of my favorite songs as a youngster was *Jesus Loves Me*. Those three simple words assured me that if I was frightened, He would look out for me. If I was lonely, He would be by my side. If I was confused, He would guide me. If I made a mistake, He would forgive.

Though I've kept that song in my heart all my life, it was especially important to me as I struggled through the challenges and frustrations of adolescence. Today, the number of boys and girls I meet who are lonely, frightened and confused because they don't know about God's Love saddens me. They don't believe anyone cares for them. That is why Salvation Army in the Gastonia area does everything possible to demonstrate God's Love, protection, and direction to disadvantaged children. Through the year, we open our doors to young people of all ages.

During the summer, we offer camp activities at Camp Walter Mattson that help 25 youngsters develop their talents and self-confidence, as well as strengthen their relationship with Christ. And during the year, The Salvation Army's Boys and Girls Club provides 100 kids every day with supervised alternatives to going home to an empty house while their parents are still at work. Our Club has educational programs in areas such as literacy (through our R.E.A.C.H. program – reading, education, attendance, conduct, honors), health, the arts, careers, leadership development and athletics. We also make sure children are receiving the food, clothing and care they need to be healthy and strong.

Like all of our services for the poor, our children's programs are possible only because others care. Little ones are searching for something to believe in and cling to. Together, we can help them grow in the knowledge that Jesus Loves them, and will instill a lasting song of hope in their hearts. Hundreds of boys and girls will participate in our programs this year alone. We believe that the camp experience makes a difference in the lives of underprivileged boys and girls who need a safe place to explore and learn while strengthening their faith in God. Your support is very important.

OUR SAVIOUR'S MISSION EMPHASIS FOR JULY is Salvation Army of Gaston County. This is an opportunity for us to pray for them, to volunteer, and give to a mission in our own area. They are helping the poor and disadvantaged in many ways. Their emphasis for this summer is to help children get to their summer camps. For those who would like to give through Our Saviour Lutheran Church, you can put a check in the offering any Sunday during July.

2022 is half way done. Have you participated in some of the Mission Emphasis opportunities? Some of us have. Some of the opportunities are in our own area and other opportunities are for ministries around the world. Be encouraged to seek the Lord as to how you can participate this month and each month.

Here is a new way to look at a deck of cards!



It was quiet that day, the guns and the mortars, and land mines for some reason hadn't been heard. The young soldier knew it was Sunday, the holiest day of the week.

As he was sitting there, he got out an old deck of cards and laid them out across his bunk.

Just then an army sergeant came in and said, "Why aren't you with the rest of the platoon?"

The soldier replied, "I thought I would stay behind and spend some time with the Lord."

The sergeant said, "Looks to me like you're going to play cards."

The soldier said, "No, sir. You see, since we are not allowed to have Bibles or other spiritual books in this country,

I've decided to talk to the Lord by studying this deck of cards."

The sergeant asked in disbelief, "How will you do that?"

"You see the Ace, Sergeant? It reminds me that there is only one God.

The Two represents the two parts of the Bible, Old and New Testaments

The Three represents the Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost.

The Four stands for the Four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John .

The Five is for the five virgins there were ten but only five of them were glorified.

The Six is for the six days it took God to create the Heavens and Earth.

The Seven is for the day God rested after making His Creation..

The Eight is for the family of Noah and his wife, their three sons and their wives -- the eight people God spared from the flood that destroyed the Earth.

The Nine is for the lepers that Jesus cleansed of leprosy He cleansed ten, but nine never thanked Him..

The Ten represents the Ten Commandments that God handed down to Moses on tablets made of stone.

The Jack is a reminder of Satan, one of God's first angels, but he got kicked out of heaven for his sly and wicked ways and is now the joker of eternal hell.

The Queen stands for the Virgin Mary.

The King stands for Jesus, for he is the King of all kings.

When I count the dots on all the cards, I come up with 365 total, one for every day of the year.

There are a total of 52 cards in a deck; each is a week - 52 weeks in a year.

The four suits represent the four seasons: Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter.

Each suit has thirteen cards -- there are exactly thirteen weeks in a quarter.

So when I want to talk to God and thank Him, I just pull out this old deck of cards and they remind me of all that I have to be thankful for.."

The sergeant just stood there. After a minute, with tears in his eyes and pain in his heart, he said, "Soldier, can I borrow that deck of cards?"

Please let this be a reminder and take time to pray for all of our soldiers who are being sent away, putting their lives on the line fighting

Prayer for the Military. Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them. Bless them and their families I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

