



The Messenger



Westside Christian Church

June 30, 2019

Parsons, KS

www.westsideatparsons.com

620-421-3533

Future Events

July 7-12- Hidden Haven Middle School Camp

July 14- Elders Meeting

July 14-18- Hidden Have Grade 5&6 Camp

July 14-20- CIY

July 24- Water Wars 1-6

July 21-26- Hidden Haven Highschool & Wilderness Camps



Get out your swimsuits kids! Water wars for grades 3-6 are happening on July 24th at Big Hill lake. We will be having a cookout and worship after swimming. Meet up is at the church at 1pm; Pick up is at 6pm.



Hidden Haven camps are ongoing! See Sidebar for camp dates and grades through July! Registration needs to be done two weeks in advance to avoid a \$25 late fee. Contact the church or look up www.hiddenhaven.org for camp details and registration.

Leadership at Westside

Ministers

Doug Baty 778-3919

Chris Ferguson 778-4110

Elders

Jeff Ferguson 778-8911

Ralph Heady 421-0447

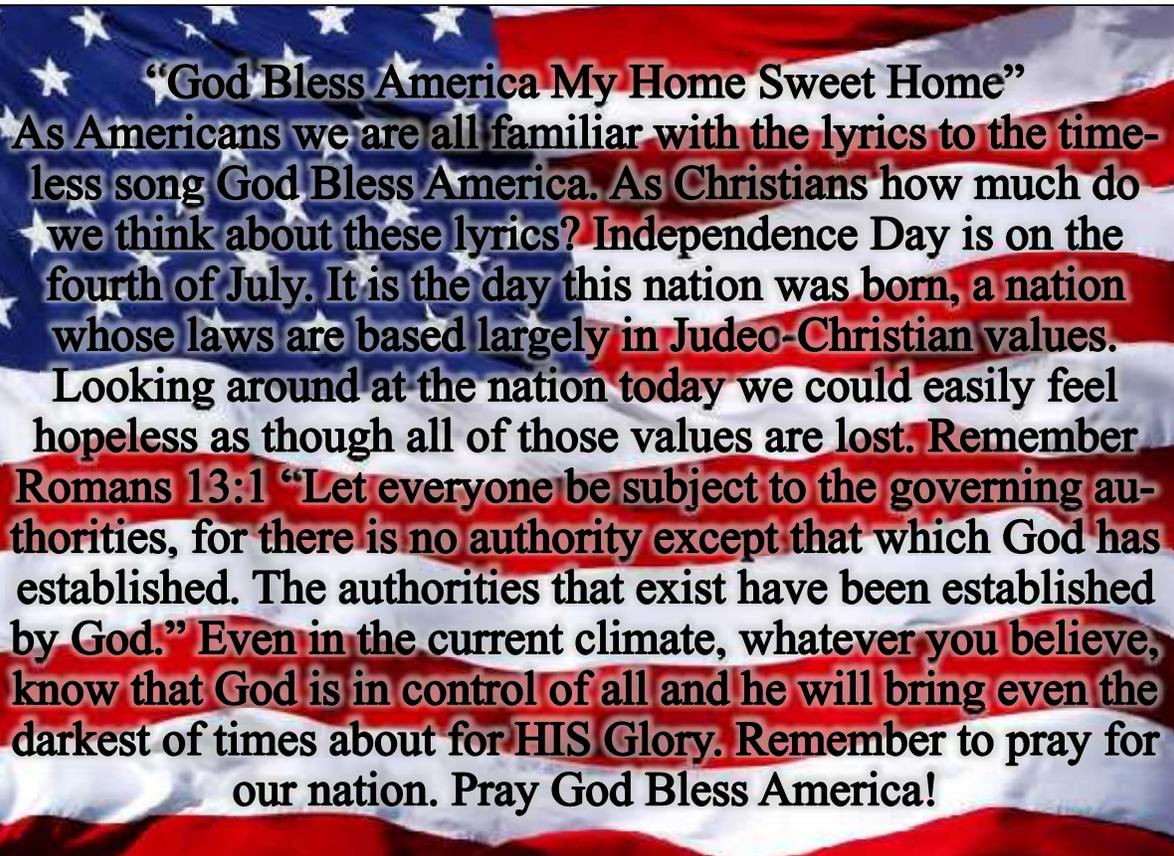
Thad Osgood 421-0793

Contact us by mail:
5100 W. Main St.
Parsons, KS 67357

Contact us by email:
parsonswestside@yahoo.com

Contact us by phone:
Office 620-421-3533

Follow us on Twitter
[@WestsideParsons](https://twitter.com/WestsideParsons)



“God Bless America My Home Sweet Home”

As Americans we are all familiar with the lyrics to the timeless song God Bless America. As Christians how much do we think about these lyrics? Independence Day is on the fourth of July. It is the day this nation was born, a nation whose laws are based largely in Judeo-Christian values.

Looking around at the nation today we could easily feel hopeless as though all of those values are lost. Remember Romans 13:1 “Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.” Even in the current climate, whatever you believe, know that God is in control of all and he will bring even the darkest of times about for HIS Glory. Remember to pray for our nation. Pray God Bless America!

DOUG'S DESK



from your
**YOUTH
MINISTER**

The cross, what a complex symbol. For the Romans it was a sign of torture, for Christians it is memory of what was done to Jesus. For the first century onlooker the cross was an illustration of capital punishment, humiliation, fear, death and destruction to those who opposed Rome, a fatal end. But what is the cross a symbol of now in the mind of the public? I can only guess that they recognize it as representation of Christianity as a whole. Maybe they see it as a symbol of the teachings of the church. Paul says the message of the cross is foolishness to those that are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

In the first century I guess the common citizen might have seen the cross as power, but it would have been the power of Rome to exercise punishment to rebels, which happened a lot. The cross served as a reminder that Rome was in charge and that if you opposed Rome, humiliation, pain, and a slow death was your fatal end.

For those living before and during Jesus' life, the cross didn't speak of God's power but of man's power to destroy life. The cross then was a sign of hate and torture whereas today it is seen as a sign of love, purity, and hope. Let me explain from God's perspective.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have everlasting life, Jn. 3:16. This is a wonderful passage that is often not thought of in relation to the cross. Yet Jesus' reason for coming to earth and becoming one of us was at least in part to give his life as a ransom for us, Mt. 20:28. Jesus knew he was going to die and I think he knew how it was going to happen. He told his followers about this to their dismay, see Mt. 16:21-23, 17:22-23, and 20:18.

The cross represented death and destruction, Roman governmental power and possibly a deterrent to future wrongdoers it has become a symbol of peace, love, the power of God, and digging deeper the message of cross is about humility, obedience, righteousness, justice, the power of God and hope. Jesus died for a specific purpose to atone for sin, take on God's wrath for sin, bring to us a new covenant and to make us pure so that we can fellowship with God.

The message of the cross is a stumbling-block to the Jews, even blasphemous to think that the Messiah would have to die, and in such a cruel manner. To those who don't believe or accept the message

We have some big events coming up this month! First of all there's CIY running from July 14th to 20th. We will be going to Cleveland, Tennessee and learning about the life of the prophet Elijah. Speakers will include Jonathon Rivera, Matt Tibbit, Justin Knowles, Vanessa Serano, and Chad Ragsdale, who is one of my old professors at Ozark Christian College. I'm really looking forward to this event, and I know the students are as well. We have three students attending CIY this year. Please pray that they grow from the lessons learned this year and become even closer to Christ. Also pray that the leaders (myself included) will be granted patience and wisdom in handling and counseling the students.

The week after CIY, on July 24th, we will have a day at the beach with the Junior high and under students. All students from 3rd grade to 6th grade are welcome to attend. We will be meeting at the church at 1 pm and going to Big Hill from there. After that, we will spend time at the beach using water guns and water balloons. Dinner of grilled hotdogs will be provided. Students will return to the church at 6 pm to be picked up by parents.

-Chris-

—Continued from previous column—

the cross is certainly foolish. They would be thinking how could a cross, so disdainful, could take such a prominent place in a religion promoting love and faithfulness.

If Jesus hadn't died on the cross, God would have been unfaithful. If Jesus hadn't died on the cross, our sins wouldn't have been atoned for. For those who are being saved the cross is the power of God and the wisdom of God, 1 Cor. 1:24.

The cross has provided us a wonderful thing through Jesus' sacrifice upon it. Don't let it lose its power by dismissing it or forgetting its value. The cross of Jesus is powerful and gives us hope for eternity. The cross is a symbol of God's eternal wisdom by turning a symbol of something so fearful and dreadful into something so hopeful and meaningful.

Doug Baty

Called to Serve-July

July	7	14	21	28
Communion Preparation	Randee Baty	Randee Baty	Randee Baty	Randee Baty
Greeters	Clarinda O'Brien	Gene Robinson	Annette Robinson	Judy Wells
Nursery	Shirley Lunday	Randee Baty	Karen Osgood	Clarinda O'Brien
Communion	Doug Baty	Howard Weidert	Jeff Ferguson	Chris Ferguson
Ushers	Howard Weidert Jeff Ferguson	Steve Passwater Thad Osgood	Kenneth Lunday Joel Ferguson	Howard Weidert Jeff Ferguson
Serving the Lord's Supper	Bill Longfellow Josh Passwater Steve Passwater Thad Osgood	Jeff Ferguson Alan Meier Jeff O'Brien Chris Ferguson	Howard Weidert Seth Weidert Chris Ferguson Bill Longfellow	Josh Passwater Steve Passwater Joel Ferguson Thad Osgood
Benediction	Thad Osgood	Jeff Ferguson	Doug Baty	Tim Ren
Shut-Ins	Jeff Ferguson	Lunday's	Thad Osgood	Doug Baty
Nursing Home				Presbyterian Manor 2:30

JULY 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 2 3 4 5 6

Juanita Walker



12 Virginia Ferguson



7 Mike May
8 Cherie Ferguson
9 Hidden Haven Camp Middle School



14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Hidden Haven Camp 5th & 6th grad



21 22 23 24 25 26 27



Hidden Haven Camp Highschool & Wilderness camp

28 29 30 Betty Heady 31

