

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

- Week of June 23, 2024 -

Sunday School	-----	16
Sunday Morning Service	-----	26
Sunday Evening Service	-----	16

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of June 23, 2024 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 1,116.47
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 06/23/24:	\$	1,116.47

- Week of June 16, 2024 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 1,417.21
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 06/16/24:	\$	1,417.21

- Week of June 9, 2024 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 853.31
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 06/09/24:	\$	853.31

- Week of June 2, 2024 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 3,169.51
Sign Repair	-----	\$ 2.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 06/02/24:	\$	3,171.51

- Week of May 26, 2024 -

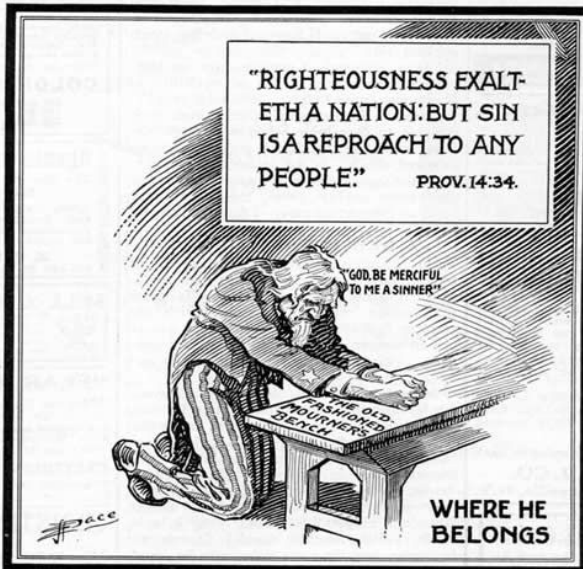
Undesignated Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 715.93
Sign Repair	-----	\$ 2.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 05/26/24:	\$	717.93

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed for church operating expenses EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,600.00



WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. Admit that you are a sinner.
2. Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.
3. Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.
4. You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).
5. By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, Who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.



REMINDER

Saluting 248 Years of Freedom



As we come to the nation's birthday on July 4th, may I suggest two things?

1. We should celebrate our freedom AND -
2. We should not forget how we got it.

- To the fifty-six brave men, including one preacher (John Witherspoon), who signed the Declaration of Independence, we owe a great debt.
- For the patriots like George Washington who went to war to secure our independence, we should be very thankful.
- For the hundreds of thousands of men and women who have put on the uniform and served in our military, let's give a fully whole-hearted salute.
- Those many thousands (approximately 1.1 million) of Americans who have died in battle—let's never ever fail to honor them.

From 1776 to this hour, we have much for which to be thankful and much reason to celebrate when July 4th arrives.

With abortion, alcohol and numerous other tragic issues always on the front burner of things that need to be halted, we know America has its problems. Our country is not perfect, but we will never stop in our pursuit of perfecting it.

When Jesus said, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32), He was advocating God's eternal values as the key to our spiritual well-being as well as our long-term eternal welfare.

God's truth offers us salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ whereby we are set free from the bondage of Satan and the condemnation of sin.

That same eternal truth and that same spiritual freedom are also at the foundation of a free society. When men build their lives on the value system of faith, they will reject totalitarianism in the pursuit of personal freedom.

Here in America the Bible, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution are the bases upon which our country was founded and upon which it has survived and thrived.

As we approach the nation's 248th birthday on July 4th, I am grateful for the privilege to live here and for the freedom I have enjoyed my entire life.

A CHRISTIAN AND A PATRIOT

I am a Christian—a fundamental, Bible-believing, Bible-toting, Bible-quoting, born-again, church-going, soul-winning, tithing, Heaven-bound, excited and happy Christian.

I am also a patriot. I love my country, its hills and valleys, its rivers and deserts, its natural resources and its fruitful fields. I

(continued inside)

LISTEN TO -

ABIDINGRADIO.COM



Church Directory

Todd W. White	-----	Pastor
Debra Carlton, Mickie Shatwell, Lois Mae Floyd	-----	Pianists
Derek Quinnelly	-----	Greeter
Kim Phillips; Shirley White/LeAnna White; Berdena Bergman/Debra Carlton; Daniel Avery/GiGi Avery; & Keith Shufelt	-----	Teachers
Larry & Mary Byars	-----	Outreach
Keith Shufelt	-----	Men's Prayer Group
GinaMarie Shufelt	-----	Ladies Bible Study/Flowers
Seth White	-----	Sound/Video
Larry Byars, Derek Quinnelly, David Smith	-----	Trustees

am a free enterprise, capitalistic, free-market enthusiast. I salute our soldiers and honor our veterans. I pay homage to our fallen heroes.

I salute the flag, say the Pledge of Allegiance and sing the “Star-Spangled Banner.” I back the blue. I vote every Election Day. I stand with those who are right and oppose those who are wrong. I am a peace-loving man; but if you threaten my freedom or my well-being, I will fight.

Yes, I am a Christian and I am a patriot. The two go hand in glove.

❑ **PATRIOTS OF THE PAST PAVED THE WAY FOR US**

Samuel Adams (1722–1803), one of America’s Founding Fathers, was one of the men who crafted the principles of our republic. A second cousin to President John Adams, he said,

“The liberties of our country... are worth defending at all hazards, and it is our duty to defend them against all attacks. We have received them as fair inheritance from our worthy ancestors...[who] purchased them for us with toil and danger.”

It was that same patriotic fervor that enveloped Patrick Henry (1736–1799) when he said, **“I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death.”**

Early in the twentieth century President Woodrow Wilson (1856–1924) said, **“Civilization itself seems to be in the balance, but right is more precious than peace.”**

When I was less than a year old my own dad joined the Army, sailed across the Atlantic and fought for two solid years to defeat Hitler and the Nazis. He came home with a purple heart, but he lived to be an aged man.

He taught us that he took the fight to the enemy so that we and all men could be free. As a young man, I often heard the cry, “Better dead than red” as communism threatened the world.

❑ **RED, WHITE AND BLUE: THE COLORS OF OUR FREEDOM**

Here is a clever piece that John J. Daly wrote (1917) that speaks for me.

**Old Glory Here’s to the Red of it—
There’s not a thread of it,
No, nor a shred of it
In all the spread of it From foot to head,
But heroes bled for it,
Faced steel and lead for it,
Precious blood shed for it, Bathing it Red.**

**Here’s to the White of it—
Thrilled by the sight of it,
Who knows the right of it
But feels the might of it Through day and night?**

**Womanhood’s care for it
Made manhood dare for it;
Purity’s prayer for it Keeps it so White.**

**Here’s to the Blue of it—
Beauteous view of it,
Heavenly hue of it,
Star-spangled dew of it, Constant and true.**

**Diadems gleam for it;
States stand supreme for it;
Liberty’s beam for it Brightens the blue.**

**Here’s to the whole of it—
Stars, stripes and pole of it;
Body and soul of it,
Oh, and the roll of it, Sun shining through.
Hearts in accord for it**

**Swear by the sword for it,
Thanking the Lord for it— Red, White and Blue.**

On this July 4th let’s continue to look to the Lord, pray for our nation, give voice to our values, stand up against the evil in our society, push back against all enemies foreign and domestic and stand tall to celebrate our freedom.

❑ **AN APPEAL TO GOD’S PEOPLE FOR OUR NATION**

I’m looking at three Bible statements that should provoke and prod the people of God. They are -

1. Proverbs 14:34: “Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.”

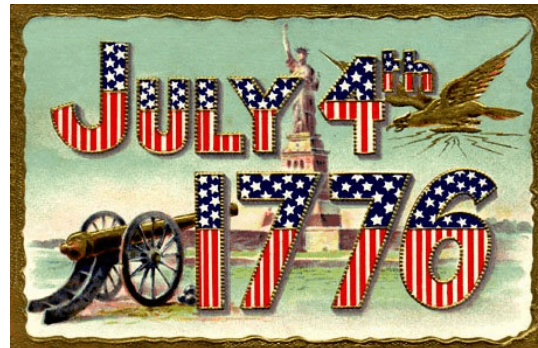
2. Psalm 33:12: “Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD.”

3. II Chronicles 7:14: “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”

What our nation needs is clearly presented in these great passages. What others do or do not do, we may not be able to determine; but like Joshua of old, we can say, **“As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD” (Josh. 24:15).**

Let’s celebrate our freedom this Independence Day and renew our resolve to give ourselves devotedly and boldly to the revival that our nation so desperately needs.

- Editor, Sword of the Lord



THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

Do you know all the words to **“The Star-Spangled Banner”**? Many people have difficulty memorizing the lyrics of the first verse of this song, which is commonly performed at sports events and other public gatherings. But did you know that there are three additional verses that we almost never hear?

In 1814, the poet and lyricist Francis Scott Key penned the lyrics to “The Star-Spangled Banner,” originally known as “Defense of Fort M’Henry.” During the War of 1812, Key witnessed the attacks on Baltimore and wrote the words based on his experiences this night. These lyrics were printed in local newspapers and set to the tune of an existing song called “Anacreon in Heaven,” and then officially arranged by John Philip Sousa. Key’s famous lyrics entered the world as a broadside ballad, or a song written on a topical subject, and printed for wide distribution.

More than a century later, in 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed an executive order designating “The Star-Spangled Banner” as the national anthem, and in 1931, the US Congress confirmed the decision. The tune has kicked off ceremonies of national importance and athletic events ever since.

While the first verse of “The Star-Spangled Banner” is widely known by the American public, the last three verses are generally omitted in performances. Here are all the four versers, as they were written 200 years ago by Key:

**O say can you see, by the dawn’s early light,
What so proudly we hail’d at the twilight’s last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight
O’er the ramparts we watch’d were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket’s red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave?**

**On the shore dimly seen through the mists of the deep
Where the foe’s haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o’er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning’s first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream,
'Tis the star-spangled banner—O long may it wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave!**

**And where is that band who so vauntingly swore,
That the havoc of war and the battle’s confusion
A home and a Country should leave us no more?
Their blood has wash’d out their foul footsteps’ pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave,
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave.**

**O thus be it ever when freemen shall stand
Between their lov’d home and the war’s desolation!
Blest with vict’ry and peace may the heav’n rescued land
Praise the power that hath made and preserv’d us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto – “In God is our trust,”
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave.**