



# THE VISION

July 2021

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them and...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you...”*

*Amen. Matthew 28:19-20*

## July 2021

### “Prayer of Encouragement”

A devotional article from Dennis DeHaan got me to thinking about prayer. As we celebrate our nation’s independence on July 4<sup>th</sup>, I encourage us to first pray for ourselves then let us lift up our nation in prayer. **Please read Psalm 51.**

DeHaan begins: When Robert Louis Stevenson was a boy, he once remarked to his mother, “Momma, you can’t be good without praying.” His mother responded, “How do you know, Robert?” He replied, “Because I’ve tried!”

DeHaan continued with an additional illustration: This brings to mind a story about another little fellow – one who had been sent to his room because he had been bad. A short time later he came out and said to his mother, “I’ve been thinking about what I did, and I said a prayer.” “That’s fine,” said his mother, “if you ask God to make you good, He will help you.” “Oh, I didn’t ask Him to help me to be good, I asked Him to help you put up with me.”

Perhaps we have prayed for the Lord to adjust our conditions or change people. I think, instead of asking our Lord to deal with situations or other people, we might

just want to pray asking Him to deal with us. DeHaan referenced a quote by A.W. Tozer: “Until man has gotten into trouble with his heart, he is not likely to get out of trouble with God.”

Praying for Spiritual Growth becomes effective only when we seek personal forgiveness with the Lord. David’s prayer in Psalm 51 is a wonderful example for where prayer is to begin. David asked for mercy (v.1), acknowledges his sin (v.3), sought a clean heart (v.10), and requested that the joy of his salvation be restored (v.12). I like the way DeHaan stated David’s prayer attitude: “David made no excuses.”

When we follow the Bible’s instructions for prayer to begin with ourselves, then we can pray for our nation’s needs. Through prayer, let us encourage our nation to seek God’s mercy, acknowledge our sins, seek to clean our hearts, and request restoration of our nation’s salvation.

I believe prayers based upon Psalm 51 will be an encouragement to all people and will bring glory to our Lord. Let us make “no excuses” to pray for ourselves and our nation!

Happy July 4<sup>th</sup>  
Pastor Bud Goude

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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# God Bless America!





# Deacon's Devotional

## The Preamble

While walking through our Gloucester Walmart parking lot this week I noticed a truck cab, it's back window decorated with our country's flag. In the forefront were those boldly scrolled words "We The People". These sacred words begin the preamble to the Constitution of the United States. Our forefathers penned this document 234 years ago, but it still applies to our precious country today.

"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."

I wondered what a Preamble statement for followers of Christ would look like today, in the face of controversy and pressure to assimilate to the current, ever changing and often immoral values. To disagree with popular opinion is matched with shaming and threats. Our national laws are changing quickly, and God's people are now being put to the test. How do we stand fast in the onslaught of cultural pressure to accept a "world view" the Word of God tells us is wrong?

Let me encourage you, my precious family with these words:

*We the People of Christ*, in Order to form a more perfect Union with Him, recognize that:

**Only God can establish true Justice.** Our lives are judged by our acceptance and adherence to Jesus. (John 3:18 "Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.") *ESV*

**Only God can insure genuine Tranquility.** (John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.") *ESV*

**Only God can provide for the common, (and supernatural) defense.** He fights for us (Joshua 1:9. "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.") *ESV*

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### Deacon of the Week

7/4—Seth Gandee  
7/11—Gus Saunders  
7/18—Al West  
7/25—Debra Wood

### Nursery Workers

7/4—Howard Warren/TBD  
7/11—L. Walton/B. DeRosa  
7/18—Jaime/Bailey Moore  
7/25—H. Warren/A. Zepeda

### July Ushers

Jimmy Diggs  
Gus Saunders  
Amy Jacobson

### July Tellers

Amy Jacobson  
Lynn Walton



## CHURCH WORKERS

**Sun. Sch. Nursery**  
Sharon/Howard Warren

### Older Children's Church

7/4—TBD  
7/11—J. Hall/S. McElfresh  
7/18—M. McNeil/D. Gandee  
7/25—Connie West

### Younger Children's Church

7/4—J. Lane/L. Walton  
7/11—S. Anthony/N. Dyson  
7/18—D. Goude/J. Marshall  
7/25—R. Wells/M. Wagner

### Youth Cookout/Pool Party Grades 6-12

Friday, July 23, 2021  
6:00pm-9:00pm

The Stewart's Home

RSVP to "Miss Connie" 815-7832 on or before July 21 if you plan to attend.

Permission slips are required!



### Children's Wacky Wednesday Pre K-Grade 5

Wednesday, July 21, 2021  
6:00pm-7:30pm

Gloucester Point Baptist Church

Relay Races, Corn Hole, Twister, Frisbee, Obstacle Course, Kickball, Jesus Says, Mini-Golf, and More!!

RSVP to "Miss Connie" 815-7832





# Vacation Bible School

**August 2-6, 2021**  
**6 PM - 8 PM**

Children ages 4 years to 6<sup>th</sup> grade



*What's Happening*  
*In The WMU*

The WMU will have their **Council Meeting**  
on **Monday, July 19** at **10:00 am.**



# Deacon's Devotional

(CONTINUED)

**Only God can promote general Welfare** (John 10:10b. *"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly"*.) *ESV*

**Only God can secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity.** (Psalm 103:17. *"But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them."*)

We recognize and vehemently adhere to the ordained, established, inspired, irrefutable, uncompromising, and everlasting Word of God. (Matthew 24:35. *"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."*). These words of truth therein we hold dear.

We will not be swayed or shamed by lesser values.  
We will not clam up, slow down or wash out.  
We will stand fast.  
We will love.

In His worthy and powerful name,

Sandy McElfresh



## Sunday Schedule

Sunday School (All Ages): 9:45 am  
 Worship Service: 11:00 am  
 C.A.R.E. Ministry: 2:00 pm



# July 2021

## Wednesday Schedule

6:00pm: Youth Bible Study  
 6:00pm: Children's Choir & Bible Study  
 6:30pm: Bible Study & Prayer Meeting  
 7:30pm: Choir Practice

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 A.A. Meeting 8:00pm	3
4 Lord's Supper 11:00 am <b>No C.A.R.E</b> <b>No Deacon's Meeting</b> <b>Independence Day</b>	5 Buildings & Grounds 7:00pm	6	7 Ladies Bible Study 10:30am	8	9 A.A. Meeting 8:00pm	10
11	12	13 Community Morning Out 10:00am	14 Ladies Bible Study 10:30am Children's Wacky Wednesday 6:00pm	15 Acree Circle 10:00am Vision Articles Due	16 A.A. Meeting 8:00pm	17 Emma Crawford Quilting 9am-4pm
18	19 WMU Council Meeting 10:00am	20 Community Morning Out 10:00am <b>NO Armstrong Circle</b>	21 Ladies Bible Study 10:30am	22	23 Youth Pool Party at the Stewart's 6:00pm A.A. Meeting 8:00pm	24
25	26	27 Community Morning Out 10:00am	28 Ladies Bible Study 10:30am Quarterly Business Meeting 6:30pm	29	30 A.A. Meeting 8:00pm	31

## July Birthdays:

Donnie Green	7/2
Pamela Hartman	7/3
Keith Belvin	7/6
Bailey Moore	7/10
Kristen Eifes	7/11
Amaris Black	7/18
Tracy Williams	7/19
Elaine Owens	7/20
Logan Hutson	7/21
Nancy Bolton	7/22
Ricky Green	7/23
Robbie English	7/25
Laraine Sentz	7/27



## Anniversaries:

Jeff & Linda Breaks	7/10
John & Alice Oldfield	7/14
Daniel & Krysten Eifes	7/19
Charles & Betty Duncan	7/20
Stewart & Debra Wood	7/28
Al & Martha West	7/30