

# The MacPherson Press

July 2024

*God calls MacPherson Presbyterian Church  
to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ,  
to make disciples, and to be His witness.*



## **This July, Settle In For . . .**

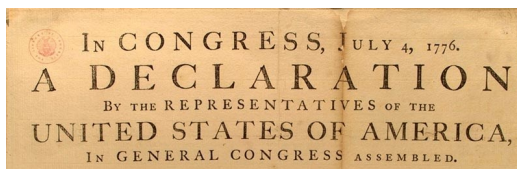
- . . . A history lesson from Pastor Jim (p. 2)
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**With So Much More!**

# *God, Jesus, and the Formation of the United States*

PASTOR JIM

For many decades, a debate has raged regarding whether or not the United States was formed upon Judeo-Christian principles. My assertion is the United States was indeed formed upon a sincere faith and reliance upon God and Jesus and His teachings. My contribution to this month's edition of the MacPherson Press will concisely present what I believe to be evidence supporting my assertion. I will do this through a judi-



cious use of the Declaration of Independence. Other documents where evidence of Judeo-Christian influence is witnessed are The Constitution, The Bill of Rights, and The Articles of Confederation, which were written in 1776-1777 and not ratified until 1781. This document was in essence a first attempt at developing a constitution for the United States.

In the Declaration of Independence there are four specific references to God. The first occurs in the opening paragraph and reads, "(...) The separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, (...)". This opening paragraph is expressing the necessity to separate from a government system which ignores the opinions and ideas of the people and therefore the people are "Impel[led] to them to the separation."

The second reference occurs in the second paragraph and is perhaps the most often quoted portion of the Declaration. This second reference asserts, “(…) That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; (…)”. This statement affirms all “Human rights” are established by God and not by governments. I believe governments have done more to strip away human rights throughout the course of history than to protect them. Nevertheless, the rights we receive from God our Creator are inviolable while those that governments “provide” end up being transient at best.

It is in the final paragraph of the Declaration where one will find the final two specific references to God. The third reference is an appeal to God as the “Supreme Judge.” The representatives to the Congress make an appeal to the “Supreme Judge” regarding the merits of their actions, hoping to become an independent and sovereign nation apart from the United Kingdom and King George III. Their collective belief was God alone would determine the correctness of declaring the colonies to be a free and independent nation.

The final reference to God in the Declaration of Independence is a part of one of the most profound statements ever made, and sadly this final statement is not well known by most American citizens. This final statement of the Declaration reads, “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

Continued next page →

fortunes, and our sacred honor.” Truly this is an amazing assertion. First, people today have become, by and large, exceedingly selfish and unwilling to help anyone unless they are able to derive personal benefit.

For the Colonists, they must have felt akin to Jesus’ earliest followers seeking to live in a land where they were free to worship God and Jesus in safety without fear of persecution for their religious beliefs. The realization of the freedom to worship God/Jesus did not come easily.

Religion, primarily Protestantism, was an integral part of the coming revolution. In the decades preceding the beginning of the American Revolution, revivals spread throughout the colonies. God used engaging and passionate revivalists such as Jonathon Edwards and George Whitfield to reignite passion for Jesus primarily in the New England Colonies and upper Midwest. It is debated as to what extent the Great Awakening had on the formation of the United States. For me, the influence is undeniable. The religious fervor in the years leading up to the writing of the Declaration of Independence, The Constitution, and the Bill of Rights in my estimation played an extremely significant role in the creation of these documents of immense importance, not only to the United States, but to the entire world.

The very first clause of the First Amendment lends credence to my position. The first clause

emphatically states, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; (...).” The beauty of this first clause of the First Amendment is that in order for it to be effective, it must apply equally to all faith traditions; this necessarily includes non-Judeo Christian faith traditions. Only in this way will it protect the religious freedoms of Catholics, Protestants, and Jews.

Each Sunday in July, the sermons will address an issue raised or set forth in the Declaration of Independence. In this way I hope everyone will come to understand just how important it was to those men and women of the Revolutionary period to include Jesus/God into the fabric of our nation.

If you’d like to learn more, below is a short list of some books you may want to read if you are interested in the religious history of the United States.

Until the nets are full,  
*Pastor Jim*

### **Selected Reading List**

**Ahlstrom, Sydney E.** *A Religious History of the American People*. New Haven: Yale UP, 1972

**Edwards, Jonathon.** *The Life and Diary of David Brainerd*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1989. First Printed in 1949 by the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.

**Gaustad, Edwin S.** *A Documentary History of Religion in America: 2 Vols.* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.

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## **Selected Reading List Continued**

**Handy, Robert T.** *A Christian America: Protestant Hopes and Historical Realities*. 2d ed. New York: Oxford UP, 1984

**Herberg, Will.** *Protestant-Catholic-Jew: An Essay in American Religious Sociology*. Chicago: Chicago UP, 1955.

**Marsden, George M.** *Understanding Fundamentalism and Evangelicalism*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991

**Marty, Martin E.** *The One and the Many: America's Struggle for the Common Good*. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1997

**Stout, Harry S. & D. G. Hart, Eds.** *New Directions in American Religious History*. New York: Oxford UP, 1997

## **July Sermon Information**

This month our sermons will center on four topics presented in the Declaration of Independence. We will examine self-evident truth, unalienable rights, The Supreme Judge, and sacred honor. We will define what each of these things are and delve deeper into their meaning, both the intended meaning and how they are being applied today. I hope you will enjoy this fascinating examination of one of the most important documents in human history other than the Bible itself.

**July 7:** Unalienable Rights

Isaiah 52:7-10, John 6:41-58, James 1:19-25

**July 14:** Self-Evident Truth

Judges 21:25, Psalm 25:4-11, John 16:5-15

**July 21:** The Supreme Judge

Joel 3:9-17, Revelation 20:11-15


**July 28:** Sacred Honor

1 Samuel 18:1-5, 1 Samuel 20:35-42

# Last-Minute VBS News!



☑ Haven't signed-up yet to volunteer? Just show up any night July 21-25 and we'll show you a place to help!

☑ Please continue to encourage neighbors, friends, and others to sign-up their kids/grandkids! They can use this  QR code, go to the MacPherson website for a link, or just call the church office!

☑ Remember that VBS will start with a pot-luck dinner the evening of Sunday, July 21. Plan to join us and bring your favorite dish to share.

☑ Watch your bulletins and e-mail for additional news on contributions needed for the nightly meals, especially a few nonperishable items.

☑ Last but not least: On July 20 we will decorate the church for VBS. Please come and help out if you are able.

# From Christian Education

*Tanya Anderson, Chair*



Thank you for your support for our two Spirit Nights at Sweet Frog and Dairy Queen in June. Our next Spirit Night will be Tuesday, July 9 at Jason's Deli. With a diverse menu of sandwiches, salads, soups, pastas,

and a salad bar, there's something for everyone! Watch your email for details about the event.

Thanks to the congregation's support, our volunteer numbers for VBS look great. If you haven't signed up or don't know what to sign-up for, just show up and you will be able to help out. Please continue to encourage neighbors, friends, and others to sign-up their kids/grandkids. We are also grateful for the supplies and funds that have been donated as well.

Remember that VBS will start with a potluck dinner the evening of Sunday, July 21. Plan to join us and bring your favorite dish to share. Also, on July 20 we will decorate the church for VBS. Please come and help out if you are able.

In other news, Christian Education is planning a confirmation class in August. Watch your bulletins and email for more information.

Sunday School is going well. The women's group will be starting a new six-week study from Right Now Media soon titled "Grace is Greater" by Kyleigh Laleman.



## From Congregational Care

*David Hesnard, Chair*

July is here and the summer heat is now officially with us! The mountains and beaches call us, family gatherings and reunions beckon, and there is more than enough to occupy our summer days. It seems the time for a bit of peace and rest with the Lord gets lost in the rush to go and do.

I'm reminded of several passages regarding rest and peace that each of us may find useful as we carve out some time with the Lord this season. Matthew 11:28 quotes Jesus saying, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." The Apostle John in 14:27 shares Jesus' comments, "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. The writer of Hebrews reminds us in 4:9 that, "So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God."

Each of these passages encourages us to take the time to pursue a bit of rest and peace with the Lord when we decide to restore, renew, and recharge



our spiritual lives in this rough and tumble life. Spend time sitting by a lake, or enjoying the local rose garden, or sipping a cool tea on the patio, but do not forget your Bible or devotional book. Set the priority to invest some quiet time with the Lord. It will energize your spirit and raise your outlook on life in so many ways. We must choose to make the effort to Just Do It!

Remember these dates in July: Men's Breakfast on the 13<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday Express Dinner on the 17<sup>th</sup>, and Vacation Bible School (VBS) on the 21<sup>st</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>. Be a Prayer Warrior and bathe in prayer our families, congregation, and leaders.

*~ ~ In Prayer and Service, David*

# Worship and Music

Mary Groening, Chair

What a beautiful morning in West Virginia! The Cabell-Lincoln Work Camp is slowly coming alive. The mist is rising, birds are singing, coffee is brewing, and campers are waking, slowly emerging from their cabins, gearing up for another day at their work site.



Each year the work camp provides an opportunity to reach out and truly become the hands and feet of God. Each year campers put aside this week to reach out and spread God's love through the work of their hands, living the camp motto that "Love Works." The Cabell-Lincoln Work Camp provides a tangible way to put into practice that which we profess to believe. It is an opportunity to reach out and be the laborers who are sent out to the Lord's harvest; it is an opportunity to put your faith into action. That harvest is the theme of the camp this year, taken from Luke 10:1-2.

*Now after this the Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them in pairs ahead of Him to every city and place where He Himself was going to come. And He was saying to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."*

This was a particularly appropriate theme for the year. There were 70 campers this year (up from about 40 last year) and all 70 were sent out as laborers. Whether we

were sent out to build a deck or install underpinning, the greater mission, of course, was to show God's love through our work.

And yet, Cabell-Lincoln Work Camp is not all about work. It is so much more than learning to measure a board, to use a drill, a circular saw, or a chop saw. It is also about the worship, the music, and the fellowship that we, the campers, share with fellow Christians. Our faith is renewed and strengthened as we fellowship with Christians who come from many different directions to share God's love. Campers often begin the week not knowing anyone on their work team and yet, by week's end, many lifelong friendships are formed. These strong bonds are renewed each year as the campers return to Cabell-Lincoln.

As an adult, I am always moved by the youth; they dispel the negative perceptions that we sometimes carry about the *"young people today."* What a blessing it is to watch our youth willingly give up a week of their summer to work in the hot sun (and it was really **HOT!**) building decks and installing underpinnings for complete strangers. How rewarding to see their faith in action. (You can see pictures from the week on the next page.)

Cabell-Lincoln Work Camp is a wonderful ministry and outreach. MacPherson has been supporting the work camp for many years, and I hope will continue to do so. Not everyone is in a position to be able to attend, but if you are, or if you would like to further explore what CLWC is all about, please reach out to me or to one of the other attendees. We love to share our experiences. Indeed CLWC lives out the words to one of the work camp's favorite songs:

***For they will know we are Christians by our love!***



# MacPherson at Cabell-Lincoln Workcamp June 2024



## Focusing Your Prayer Life

Nancy Hubbard Mabes

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. (Philippians 4:6, NIV)*

Is it hard for you to stay focused when you pray? It is for me! I sit down with the intention of praying and soon after starting my mind wanders. I think about my to-do list. I think about the person or situation I'm praying over, which starts a chain of thought, which then leads me to reminisce. Before I know it, there I am wandering down memory lane! Sometimes an "instant replay" of harsh words or hurt feelings gets me off track. It doesn't take much, and the 15 minutes that I set aside for focused and intentional prayer is swallowed up. Well...there is hope! I have found an easy thing to do that has truly helped my prayer life.

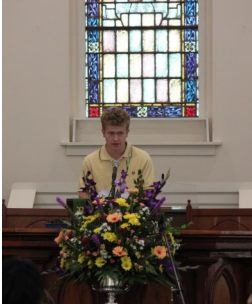


You know those little, inexpensive photo albums with the plastic sleeves, one photo per page? If you slip a photo of the people on your prayer list into each sleeve, then when you sit down to pray you pick up your photo album. As you look at each photo, you pray for that person. If your mind begins to wander, turn the page! If there is a specific mission, place, or situation that you've been asked to pray for (or feel led to pray for), find a photo to represent it. Praying for VBS? Take a clipping from the bulletin and give it a page! Tuck the "Keep In Prayer" page from the bulletin inside the back cover so you remember to pray for all those folks too.

It's a simple idea. Although I prefer having the actual, physical photo album in my hand, it would also be easy to create a digital one on your phone. Then it would always be with you, and could hold more than 24 photos! One thing to watch out for: Don't postpone praying for someone until you have a photo. This is meant to be an aid to prayer not an obstacle. Keep praying and praising!



# *Youth Sunday 2024 and . . .*



# *... Mary McArthur Picnic*



## *Behind the Scenes .....*



All you cat and dog lovers out there, this is your month at MacPherson: our annual Christmas in July to benefit the Fayetteville Animal Protection Society (FAPS).

MacPherson has supported FAPS in this way since Julie Bekkering was the team leader of Worship and Music, nearly 20 years ago! Julie and her dad, John Bekkering, have always loved dogs (and the occasional cat). Julie felt very strongly that while MacPherson supported many great “people” causes with our Christmas and Easter missions, we still needed to do just a little more. She realized that animal shelters sometimes hurt for donations during the summer months with school out and summer vacations. So what better time to add another worthwhile mission to MacPherson’s list?

The mission of FAPS is to provide a licensed, No-Kill shelter for homeless animals until they are adopted into a loving and caring lifetime environment. This helps reduce the population of stray animals and promotes responsible pet ownership. FAPS is the only No-Kill shelter in Cumberland County—and they need our help! The shelter is more full than anyone can remember, and many of the items on the wish list at right are always in short supply.

Starting July 7, look for the little red wagon in the front of the Sanctuary to leave your donation. If you would prefer to make a cash donation, please make the check out to MacPherson Presbyterian Church, noting that it is for the FAPS Christmas Drive. We will make one, we hope large, donation to FAPS. Thank you from all the shelter animals!



# CHRISTMAS *in July*

Donations for FAPS will be accepted July 7 through July 28, which is MacPherson's annual Christmas in July celebration. Look for the little red wagon in the Sanctuary to drop off your donation. FAPS is especially in need of the following items:

- ◆ Non-clumping cat litter
- ◆ Bleach & Odoban
- ◆ Paper Towels
- ◆ Dawn Dish Soap
- ◆ Baking Soda
- ◆ Liquid Laundry Detergent
- ◆ Contractor Trash Bags
  
- ◆ Nylabones & Kongs
  
- ◆ Diamond Naturals Skin & Coat
- ◆ Diamond Naturals Chicken & Rice
- ◆ Pill Pockets & Kong Cheese
- ◆ Purina One Cat Food
  
- ◆ Training Treats (NOT from China)
- ◆ Copy Paper & Stamps
  
- ◆ Used Towels and Sheets
- ◆ Blankets (no filled or comforters, please)



# From Evangelism & Mission

*Don Mollett, Chair*

It seems that these days we all need an extra helping of faith. So much of what we do as Christians is driven by our faith. It is by faith that we stand against the hardships of this life, and it is faith that strengthens us to endure so much. It is our faith that tears down the walls and differences that separate us and unifies us as one in Christ.

**Isaiah 41:10**—*Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

**Hebrews 11:6**—*And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.*

**Hebrews 11:1**—*Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.*

I have spoken many times about faith, and I want to say that the topic of faith is one of the most difficult things that we will ever consider in our lives. Today we have difficulty having faith in almost everything in our daily lives. It is spiritual faith we need to survive the challenges of this daily life on this earth. I don't have all the answers, but having faith in God is one answer I trust. Pray to the Lord to strengthen your faith daily, and may God smile down on you, your family, friends, and all who touch your life daily.

## Updates on Events

The Cabell-Lincoln Workcamp team enjoyed another wonderful experience. (See article on pages 10-12.) They went to experience the joy of God's giving hand, love, and joy. Pray that next year we have even more deciding to go and experience these gifts from God. My feeble words are not even close to describing the multitude of gifts of joy, fun, faith, and camaraderie experienced by those who went

this year. I can only hope that when they talk to others about their trip, it will inspire others to go next year and be disciples for God and represent the MacPherson Presbyterian Church family as so many before have done.

### Upcoming Events

The E&M Team will next meet at 6:00 pm, on July 11 in room #228 and all are invited to join us as we look to other opportunities to glorify God. This month we will begin planning for the Community FallFest in October. We are hoping and praying that this year will surpass last year in many ways. We will also be discussing additional ways to support Gate Beautiful. The Dessert Auction provided a nice beginning for providing support with needed goods. Megan and Sharon are working on providing these items so we can begin helping those who truly need these items and a great deal of prayer and blessings from God.

**July 7:** The Foster Care Back to School Drive begins. Please consider supporting this worthy mission. I will provide additional information about needs and collection points.

**July 19:** At 7:00 a.m., we will once again support Operation INASMUCH breakfast. Please prayerfully consider supporting with other members of MacPherson Church. I think you will find it very rewarding and it will leave you feeling a sensation of joy in your heart.

If you have ideas, concerns, or a passion for our outreach and mission efforts, please contact Megan Shoff, Sharon Mazingo, Barney Treneman, Bill Kern, or Don Mollett.



# MacPherson Presbyterian Church

## July 2024

| Sunday                                                                                                                           | Monday                                                                                                                     | Tuesday                             | Wednesday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Thursday                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Friday                                                                                                                          | Saturday                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                  | <b>1</b><br>7:30 am Monday Morning Prayer Meeting (FH)<br>7:00 pm Troop Meeting (FH)                                       | <b>2</b><br>6:30 pm Bible 01 (#215) | <b>3</b><br>9:00 am ESL Tutoring/Jackson (#233A)<br>4:30 pm McCrafters (FH)<br>5:00 pm Worship & Music (P)<br>5:00 pm APP (FH)<br>5:00 pm E M (#228)<br>6:00 pm BYOB B Bible Study (FH/K)<br>7:00 pm Freedom to Grow (#215)<br>7:00 pm IPI (#233A)<br>7:00 pm OCT (FH) | <b>4</b><br><b>OFFICE CLOSED FOR 4th of JULY HOLIDAY</b><br><br><b>HAPPY 4th!</b><br><br>6:00 pm Fireside Chat... (You/Tube)                                                                                                 | <b>5</b><br>9:00 am ESL Tutoring/Jackson (#233A)<br>7:00 pm SOS, Seekers of Sobriety (FH, K)                                    | <b>6</b>                                                                           |
| <b>7</b><br><b>Communion</b><br>12:15 pm Youth Fellowship (FH/K)<br><br><b>Foster Care</b><br><b>Back to School Drive Begins</b> | <b>8</b><br>7:30 am Monday Morning Prayer Meeting (FH)<br>6:00 pm BS Troop 621 (#228, #233A)<br>7:00 pm Troop Meeting (FH) | <b>9</b><br>6:30 pm Bible 01 (#215) | <b>10</b><br>9:00 am ESL Tutoring/Jackson (#233A)<br>4:30 pm McCrafters (FH)<br>6:30 pm BYOB B Bible Study (FH/K)<br>7:00 pm Freedom to Grow (#215)                                                                                                                    | <b>11</b><br>8:00 am Youth Trip to Ft. Fisher - <b>BUS RESERVED</b><br>9:00-3:00 pm CHA Staff (#233A)<br>6:00 pm Fireside Chat... (You/Tube)<br>7:00 pm Eagle Board of Review<br>7:00 pm Pastor's Book Study (#215/<br>Zoom) | <b>12</b><br>9:00 am ESL Tutoring/Jackson (#233A)<br>6:00 pm Parlor Reserved Pastor<br>7:00 pm SOS, Seekers of Sobriety (FH, K) | <b>13</b><br>7:30 am MacPherson Men (FH/K)<br>2:00 pm-6:00 pm AA Fellowship (FH/K) |

|                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                             |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <p><b>14</b>      <b>Centennial Offering</b><br/> 12:45 pm Youth Fellowship (FH/K)<br/> 12:45 pm Session (#2105)</p> | <p><b>15</b><br/> 7:30 am Monday Morning Prayer-Meeting (FH)<br/> 6:00 pm GS Troop B21 (#228, #233A)</p>                                                                                                          | <p><b>16</b><br/> 6:30 pm Bible 101 (#2105)</p>                                                           | <p><b>17</b>      <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b><br/> 9:00 am ESL Tutoring/Jackson (#233A)<br/> 4:30 pm McCreathers (FH)<br/> 6:00 pm Express Meal &amp; Prayer (FH/K)<br/> 7:00 pm Freedom to Grow (#2105)</p>                                                  | <p><b>18</b><br/> 9:00-3:00 pm Children's Hope Alliance Staff (#233A)<br/> 6:00 pm Fireside Chat... (You Tube)<br/> 7:00 pm Pastor's Book Study (#205/Zoom)</p> | <p><b>19</b><br/> 7:00 am OIAM Breakfast/Support<br/> 9:00 am ESL Tutoring/Jackson (#233A)<br/> 7:00 pm SDS Seekers of Sobriety (FH, K)</p> | <p><b>20</b></p> |
| <p><b>21</b><br/> 12:45 pm Youth Fellowship (FH/K)<br/> 5:00 pm VBS KickOff-8:00 pm</p>                              | <p><b>22</b><br/> 7:30 am Monday Morning Prayer-Meeting (FH)<br/> 5:00-8:00 pm Vacation Bible School</p>                                                                                                          | <p><b>23</b><br/> 5:00-8:00 pm Vacation Bible School</p>                                                  | <p><b>24</b><br/> 9:00 am ESL Tutoring/Jackson (#233A)<br/> 5:00-8:00 pm Vacation Bible School<br/> 7:00 pm Freedom to Grow (#2105)</p>                                                                                                                      | <p><b>25</b><br/> 9:00-3:00 pm Children's Hope Alliance Staff (#233A)<br/> 5:00-8:00 pm Vacation Bible School<br/> 6:00 pm Fireside Chat... (You Tube)</p>      | <p><b>26</b><br/> 9:00 am ESL Tutoring/Jackson (#233A)<br/> 6:00 pm Parish-Reserved Pastor<br/> 7:00 pm SDS Seekers of Sobriety (FH, K)</p> | <p><b>27</b></p> |
| <p><b>28</b><br/> <b>Food Drive</b><br/> <b>CHRISTMAS IN JULY</b><br/> <b>FOR PAPS</b></p>                           | <p><b>29</b><br/> 7:30 am Monday Morning Prayer-Meeting (FH)<br/> 6:00 pm GS Troop B21 (#228, #233A)<br/> 7:00 pm Troop Meeting (FH)<br/> <b>Bus Reserved Youth Depart for Whitewater Express Summer Camp</b></p> | <p><b>30</b><br/> 6:30 pm Bible 101 (#2105)<br/> <b>Bus Reserved Youth at Whitewater Express Camp</b></p> | <p><b>31</b><br/> 9:00 am ESL Tutoring/Jackson (#233A)<br/> 4:30 pm McCreathers (FH)<br/> 5:00 pm Finance (FH)<br/> 7:00 pm Freedom to Grow (#2105)<br/> 6:00 pm BYOB &amp; Bible Study (FH/K)<br/> <b>Bus Reserved Youth at Whitewater Express Camp</b></p> |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                             |                  |

## **July 2024 – We Find Rest in Jesus**

### **Verse 1 – We Rest In Jesus**

*Matthew 11:28*

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

### **Verse 2 – We Find Rest In Jesus**

*Matthew 11:29*

“Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

### **Verse 3 – Our Faith Rests in God’s Power**

*1 Corinthians 2:5*

“... so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.”

### **Verse 4 – Enter God’s Rest In Obedience**

*Hebrews 3:18*

“And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient?”

### **Verse 5 – Our Sabbath Rest is With God**

*Hebrews 4:9*

“So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.”

### **Verse 6 – Pray for the Leaders of Habitat for Humanity, Operation Inasmuch & Our City**

*Psalms 127:1*

“Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.”

# *July Birthdays*

See paper copy for this content

*Happy  
Birthday*

## *Thank You Girl Scout Troop 821!*



As their year ended, the girls of Troop 821 gifted MacPherson with a plant for the patio—a miniature orange tree! The girls planted and are tending the tree, which they hope will produce fruit to share with the congregation and community. The tree is already enjoying the summer heat! Thank you Troop 821 for the thoughtful gift!

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#### ***Pastor***

The Rev. Dr. James W. Randall, Jr.

#### ***Church Secretary***

René Bahrenfuss