



JOHN'S PAGE: The Cost of Freedom

As we approach July 4, Independence Day, we think of lots of things such as picnics, family gatherings, fireworks, etc. Nearly every job or profession allows some time off to commemorate this special day in our nation's history. Yet, for all the celebrating we do, far too many of us take the time to appreciate the price that was paid by those who took the first steps to ensure that we, as a nation, would always have the freedom we now enjoy.

Our freedom cost dearly. Fifty-six men chose to sign the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776 with the full knowledge that they were signing their own warrants for high treason. Consider the fates of some of these heroes:

- Five were captured and tortured by the British before they died.
- Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned to the ground.
- Two lost their sons in the way.
- One had two sons captured.
- Nine fought and died from wounds sustained in battle.
- Carter Braxton, a wealthy Virginia trader, saw his ship destroyed, and had to sell his home to pay his debts. He died in poverty.
- Thomas McKean had to constantly move his family because of British harassment. He served in Congress without pay and died in poverty.
- Thomas Nelson urged General Washington to destroy his home when it was taken over by the British and used as a command post. He died bankrupt.

These men were willing to pay the expensive price of freedom for you and me. However, they are not alone. Throughout the years, men and women have fought and served to secure and protect the blessing of liberty for all of us, even for those who don't appreciate their efforts. On Sunday, we will honor those who have served and are currently serving in our armed forces. I hope that each of you will take the time to be here to support them and to thank them.

Call me when you need me.

In His Name,

John



MUSIC NOTES:

ATTENTION: After the brief break Sunday evening choir rehearsals will resume at the regular 6:00 o'clock hour on Sunday, July 18.

However, please meet in the choir room any and every Sunday thirty minutes prior to the 10:55 service to prepare for our worship.

This Sunday, July 4th, we will celebrate with some patriotic favorites. Rick McManus will present a mini-organ concert, followed by a flag procession by the children.



Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar this week are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dorothy Hightower, given by George Hightower Jr. and Jane Hightower Tippet.

Now is the time to request hymns for Camp Meeting in August. Please let Joan or Rick or Pat know your favorites.

VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE July 4, 2010

10:55 Service Greeters
United Methodist Women
Grace Circle

10:55 Service Ushers
Al Brannon, Don Jimerson,
Gerald Holloway,
David Sandlin

Acolytes
Alyssa Rawls
Parker Perry

| <u>ATTENDANCE June 27, 2010</u> | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| 8:30am Worship | 16 |
| Contemporary Worship | 52 |
| 10:00 Sunday School | 91 |
| 10:55am Worship | 97 |
| Total Morning Worship | 165 |

| <u>STEWARDSHIP June 27, 2010</u> | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| General Budget | \$12,391.75 |
| Specified | 1,336.00 |
| Total | \$13,727.75 |

| <u>BUDGET REQUIREMENTS '10</u> | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Weekly Bud. Req. | \$10,692.98 |
| Bud. Req. to date | \$277,987.48 |
| Bud. Giv. to date | \$250,438.09 |
| Yearly Budget | \$556,305.04 |



EXCITING DAY - JULY FOURTH – (note time changes)

- 9:30am - Sunday School
- 10:15am - Mini-Organ Concert in Sanctuary
- 10:30am - Combined worship
- 11:30am - Church-wide Celebration luncheon

If you'll bring the salads and desserts,
we'll have all kinds of good sandwich makings.



IMPORTANT MEETING FOR EVERYONE in the congregation who wants to help plan for a Community Luncheon to be served here on Thanksgiving Day. You are invited and **URGED** to **ATTEND** this initial planning meeting **JULY 11**, at 2:00pm in the library. It will take the efforts of many to see this mission project to fruition in November. Plans need to **START NOW!** Thanks.

ADULT TRIPS:

July 22: Macon Theatre for the production of the Broadway musical - *1776*. Tickets \$18 – leaving 6:00pm.

July 29: TO ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDENS' NEW EXHIBIT - *Tiptoe Through the Tree Tops*. \$15 per person. What about dinner at Merri-Macs and the 7:00 – 10:00pm tour? Or the day time tour 10:00-1:00pm with cafe luncheon or a picnic at Piedmont Park? Call if you are interested in either time.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUMMER SUPPERS:

NO SUPPERS: June 30 and July 7

JULY 14 – Youth Fundraiser for their gym renovation.

JULY 21 – Group cooking – Menu TBA

JULY 28 – Group cooking – Menu TBA

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES SUMMER SUNDAY

SCHOOL is a study on the Conversion of Saint Paul and the beginnings of the first Christian Churches. Join the fun at 9:30 on July 4th and at 9:45am through the summer.



FOURTH OF JULY SPECIAL:

Children's Processional at 10:30am service with flags & more. Every child is invited to participate.

*****SPECIAL SUMMER TRIPS:** All children are invited to participate in these once-a-week trips. Scholarships are available for large families or folks who just need help. We want every child to be able to go when possible. Please talk with me, if you are interested – it is always confidential.***

JULY 7 - Get ready to "GO BUGGY" as we view

"THE WORLD of GIANT INSECTS" coming to the Macon Museum of Arts and Sciences. \$5 plus sack lunch.

JULY 15 - Atlanta History Center – Interactive exhibits of the Indian tribes of Georgia. \$11 – Picnic lunch plus a stop at the Wren's Nest, home of Joel Chandler Harris

JULY 21 - Tiptoe through the treetops at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens – parents are always welcome to come along.

ACOLYTES

NEWACOLYTE SCHEDULE:



July 4 - Alyssa Rawls & Parker Perry

July 11 - Caroline Irvin & Mary Catherine Head

July 18 - Montana & Robbie Schug

July 25 - Mary Grace and Stella Johnson



da newz – june 30 – july 7

/// a special thanks to the people of thomaston first for helping our kids go to river of life /// not only did we raise enough to pay for the kids to go to camp but we also had enough for the kids to have spending money as well /// thanks for all the hard work from the youth and their parents ///

/// june 30 – july 9 ///

///no youth activities scheduled ///

/// july 10 – 11 girls retreat ///

**/// our summer girls retreat will be july 10 –11 at the boatright home
/// be there on saturday afternoon at 1:00 and back for church @
9:00 on sunday am /// more details to come soon /// those interested
in chaperoning or volunteering their home for the retreat let me
know.**

/// july 11 myf ///

**/// myf swim @ the castleberry's /// meet at the church @ 3:00 ///
bring a change of clothes /// 4:00 – 7:00 ///**

/// july 13 myf ///

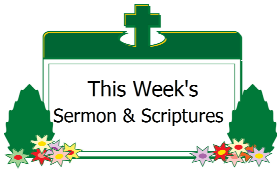
**/// religious graffiti / swim at john and juliette's house /// meet at
the church @ 1:00 /// bring a change of clothes /// 2:00 – 5:00**

/// july 18 myf ///

**/// myf @ the neil and mary's /// lake swim / slip n slide /// meet at the
church @ 3:00 /// bring a change of clothes /// 3:00 – 7:00**

**/// any wednesday or sunday you want to help or just want to see
what's going on in youth, feel free to drop in /// also if you are
interested in helping, we can always find room for one more person
///**

blessings,
Michael



"Bragging Rights"
Galatians 6: 1-10,14
Dr. John Page, Jr.

ONE SERVICE THIS SUNDAY
AT 10:30AM

Sunday School is at 9:30am
Cold Plate Luncheon Follows the Worship Service

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

July 1, 2010- July 7, 2010

Please let us know if we do not publish your birthday.

July 2: Katie Ellington; **3:** Mary Johnson, Lacy Barnes; **4:** Sue Estes; **5:** Julie Mallory, David Castleberry; **6:** Frank Varner, Jane-Asher English; **7:** Laura Johnson



Bryson Holloway, son of Paige and Dana Holloway and grandson of Gerald and Kay Holloway, will be starring as John Adams in 1776 the Musical. This Broadway musical tells

the story of what happened at the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, leading up to the signing of the United States Declaration of Independence. It accurately portrays the personal and political issues at stake...it remains a musical comedy. The performance dates are July 9-24 at Theatre Macon, this includes one Sunday Matinee. Tickets are available at 478-746-9485.

Prayer Concerns

Please call to make us aware of those in need of prayer. Thank you.



OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL: around the world

OUR MISSIONARIES: Ron and Belinda Tyler-Africa, Arthur and Mary Alice Ivey-Peru, Datwyler Family-Ecuador, George and Martha

Mixon-Kenya

CURRENT REQUESTS: Hazel Howell, Margaret Culverhouse, Anita Fillingim (released Tues. to sister's home % Linda Barnes, Box 5, Minneola, KS 67865), John Hayes, Margaret Moseley, Dianne Jimerson.

FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES IN NEED OF PRAYER: Christy Drawdy-ministry trip to Russia, the David King family, Elizabeth Burch, Sue Lewis, Patti Odom, Elaine Holloway, Hope Blackstock, Bo Storey, Bill Dallas, Sam Haygood, Dylan Brown

OUT-OF-TOWN: Luella Boyers, Jean Raines, Elizabeth Storey, Opalene Woodson, Rev. Timothy Green, Marion Berry

AT HOME: Chessie Rogers, Frankie Oxner, John Chatfield, Mary Owen, Arva Holliman

PROVIDENCE: Carolyn Bowen, Elsie McKinley, Doris Woodall

RIVERSIDE: Dot Humphries, Lafayette Short, Hilda Koch

WEST VILLAGE: Betsy White, Gertrude Taylor, Katie Nell Pinkard, Carolyn Knight, Robert Cravey, Angie Hightower

CALENDAR

JULY



01: THURSDAY

9:00am Mother's Morning Out

02: FRIDAY

9:00am Aerobics

04: SUNDAY

9:30am-Sunday School

10:15am Mini-Organ Concert

10:30am Combined Patriotic Service

12:00 Noon-Church wide Sandwich Luncheon

05: MONDAY

Office Closed/July 4th Holiday

06: TUESDAY

No Mother's Morning Out Today

07: WEDNESDAY

No Activities Today or This Evening

NO SUPPER ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT

June 30, July 7

July 14th Youth Fund Raiser



Independence Day

www.thomastonfirstumc.org

email: office@thomastonfirstumc.org

Office: 706-647-3335

Fax: 706-648-2658

CHURCH STAFF

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Dr. John Page | Pastor |
| Pat Dodson | Director of Ministries |
| Michael Jarrell | Praise Leader/Youth Minister |
| Joan Thomas | Music Director |
| Sherry Rawls | Admin. Assistant |
| Henrietta Johnson | Financial Secretary |
| Rick McManus | Organist |
| Anita Fillingim | Pianist |
| Anita & Claude Fillingim | Church Hosts |
| Rosa Smith | Housekeeping |

OUR MISSIONARIES

Ron and Belinda Tyler-Africa
 Arthur and Mary Alice Ivey-Peru
 Datwyler Family-Ecuador
 George and Martha Mixon-Kenya

227 years ago...on July 4th, 1776

This great nation, the United States of America,

In a struggle for what was right and free,

Was proudly born...

May we celebrate that precious freedom

For which our forbears fought so bravely...

The freedom that is inherent

In the Stars and Stripes, our revered flag...

Celebrate Freedom This Fourth of July!



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