

LITTLETON BAPTIST NEWS

A Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Congregation

"Our mission is to make Christ known, by providing spiritual nourishment, ministering to physical needs, and sharing the Gospel."

Rev. Tom Bodkin, Pastor in the Interim

Website: www.littletonbaptistchurch.org

email: littletonbaptistchurch@embarqmail.com

(252) 586-5330



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THOUGHTS ALONG THE WAY

FREEDOM

*Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,
The people whom he has chosen as his heritage!*

Psalm 33:12

We have a long-standing tradition at the Bodkin home. Every 4th of July, at 8:00 p.m., we watch PBS' *A CAPITOL FOURTH*. This thrilling one and one-half hour program is broadcast live from the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol. First of all, it is patriotic beyond words, and includes music to suit every taste. One staple is the *National Symphony Orchestra*, under the direction of Jack Everly. After many guest artists and a tribute to our Armed Forces, another staple is a stirring rendition of Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture*, with a backdrop of spectacular fireworks and booming cannons. I'm getting excited just writing about it. If you will be at home, or can record it, I heartily recommend it.

Patriotism is something that I was taught from early childhood. My father fought in World War II, and was involved in the liberation of Paris. My stepfather served as a communications sergeant in Alaska, where the snow got so deep that it almost covered a jeep. Both of them served proudly.

During my three years in the US Army, the war in Viet Nam had just begun to heat up. This country's involvement became greater after my discharge. I am thankful that my military experience never involved danger, though I was trained to handle many situations. Many others did encounter warfare and, throughout our history, our freedom has come at a very high price in human life. It is a price that is still being paid.

The 4th of July is about Freedom and the signing of the *Declaration of Independence*. At issue for America's 13 Colonies was the practice of "Taxation without representation!" The Colonists were forced to pay taxes to England's King George III, despite having no representation in the British Parliament. American dissatisfaction grew until British troops were sent in to put down an early movement toward rebellion. Repeated efforts by the Colonists to resolve the crisis without military conflict proved fruitless.


On June 11, 1776, the Colonies' Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia to form a committee whose sole purpose was to draft a document that would formally sever ties with Great Britain. The committee included such gifted men as Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston. Jefferson, who was considered the strongest and most eloquent writer, crafted the original draft document. A total of 86 changes were made to his draft and the Continental Congress officially adopted the final version on July 4, 1776. The *Declaration of Independence* has since become one of our nation's most cherished symbols of liberty.

It is with no small measure of pride that we sing such songs as: *America, America the Beautiful, The*

(Con't on page 3)



July 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:30 Outdr Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	3 8:30 Exercise	4  INDEPENDENCE Day	5 8:30 Exercise	6	7 8:30 Exercise	8
9 8:30 Outdr Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 6:00 Ice Cream Social 7:00 Deacons Mtg	10 8:30 Exercise	11	12 8:30 Exercise	13	14 8:30 Exercise	15
16 8:30 Outdr Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	17 8:30 Exercise	18	19 8:30 Exercise	20	21 8:30 Exercise	22
23 8:30 Outdr Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	24 8:30 Exercise	25	26 8:30 Exercise	27	28 8:30 Exercise	29
30 8:30 Outdr Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	31 8:30 Exercise					



Our Christian sympathy is extended to

Mabel Wilson in the death of her brother-in-law & Kay Tripp in the death of her uncle, Edward Lane

(Con't from page 1)

Star-Spangled Banner, *God Bless America*, and the Lee Greenwood favorite, *Proud to be an American*. Because I identify with the message of each one so very much, I close with a part of the last one.

And I'm proud to be an American,
Where at least I know I'm free,
And I won't forget the men who died,
Who gave that right to me.
And I gladly stand up,
Next to you and defend her still today.
Cause there ain't no doubt I love this land,
God bless the USA.

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY! Pause and give thanks.

Your friend and *Pastor in the Interim*,

Tom



I came across an article that gave examples of some typing errors in church newsletters. There were several dealing with music....let me share!

- Thursday night potluck supper...Prayer and medication to follow meal.
- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening. Special music will follow!
- The Adult Choir will meet at the home of the Kings for some fun, fellowship, and sinning!
- 8 new choir robes are needed due to the addition of several new choir members and the deterioration of some old ones.

Big shout out to Kay for always doing a great job with our bulletins and newsletters! None of these came from any of ours!

There will be no choir rehearsal in July! We will resume rehearsals on August 2nd! Come join us for some fun, fellowship, and SINGING!

Laura



Honoring the Littleton Police Officers

Our second Summer Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Sunday, **July 9**, at 6:00 P.M. We have invited the Littleton Police Department to this Ice Cream Social to honor and show the officers our appreciation for their outstanding service to our community. Everyone is invited to attend with a hungry appetite, and if you can, please bring a freezer of homemade ice cream or snacks to complement the ice cream. Hope you will join us and bring a friend to enjoy the Christian fellowship we will enjoy together!



LORD'S SUPPER

On Sunday, **July 2**, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper. At the conclusion of worship, you will be given opportunity to contribute to our church's Fellowship Fund. The offering collected this month will be donated to the local police department as a love offering.



I want to thank everyone for your cards, visits, phone calls, food, flowers and most of all your thoughts and prayer while I was in the hospital, rehab and since I have been home recovering from my fall.

I appreciate everything you have done so very much.

Gladys Pegram



QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

We will not have a Quarterly Business Meeting in July. Our next meeting will be in October unless business necessitates a special called session.

DEACONS MEETING



Our Deacons will meet on Sunday, **July 9**, at 7:00 P.M. in the annex.

PRAYER & Bible Study



There will be no Prayer & Bible Study during the month of July. Services will resume on **August 2**.



What a mission minded church you are. Thanks so much for helping to carry out the Great Commission as you help those close and far away. Every month we help those in our community that need food on their tables. YOUR Food Bank-Littleton Area Churches Together Serving (LACTS) provides a bag with three meals for the family. The faces of those we help are young and old but the smiles and thank yous are ageless. We also reach out to each person by asking if we can pray for them and what concerns they have. It is a very moving and rewarding experience as people ask for things that are close to their hearts and thank us for helping them. Many members in our church have helped fill the bags, pray with the visitors and carry food up the steps for those that need the extra help. Please continue to bring food items for the food box! Thanks!!

You also helped in making the Children's Carnival at the John 3:16 Center a great success. Without your willingness to volunteer and give of your time, the carnival would not have happened. Even though we had a cloudy, cool day, there were many warm smiles and hugs passed around. What a special, loving people Littleton Baptist Church members are. Thank you for taking part in a God filled experience.



The following is the flower schedule for the July:

July 2 Laura Kearney
 July 9 Available for Scheduling
 July 16 Mike & Ann Currin
 July 23 Available for Scheduling
 July 30 Available for Scheduling

Flowers are needed for July 9, 23 & 30. If you would like to place flowers on either of these dates, please contact Ann Currin (252-532-4881, email: anncurrin@embarqmail.com). When you place flowers in the sanctuary, please contact our church office by email - littletonbaptist@embarqmail.com or written note to show how you want it to be placed in the bulletin. Thank you for being so faithful in helping with flowers!



Our Outdoor World Services continue each Sunday through Labor Day weekend at 8:30 A.M. Please pray for this ministry and find a way in which you can be involved. Speak, sing, promote, pray! All are important. For more information contact Mike Crawley.



Prayers for Leadership Selection

Though decisions are still more than a month away, it's not too early for each of us to begin to pray. During the month of August our Nominating Committee will be working to nominate officers and teachers for the new church year. In addition, the process will begin to elect two persons to serve as deacons for a four year term to fill the terms currently occupied by Mike Blanton and David Tripp. David Tripp is completing an unexpired term and is eligible for re-election. Please be in prayer about these decisions as we seek to discern God's way in these matters.



Mission Opportunity

Mission opportunities are everywhere. Pray that God will lead you to where you can best serve. One opportunity is helping at the food pantry at the Littleton United Methodist Church. On Friday, **September 22**, we will host the food pantry. There are many in our community that depend on this gift of food, caring and prayer. Remember to mark your calendar and come help your fellow church members that morning from 9:30 A.M. until 12:00 Noon. Your help makes a big difference.



Psalms 33:12

HOW IT ALL STARTED

There is so much that is a part of the July 4th celebration that you wonder how it all began. I am indebted to the internet for the historical information that I am using. The author is not listed.

Instant communication was not available in the early days of our country. For that reason, on July 8, 1776 the first public readings of the Declaration were held in Philadelphia's Independence Square to the ringing of bells and band music. One year later, on July 4, 1777, Philadelphia observed the anniversary of Independence Day by adjourning Congress and celebrating with bonfires, bells and fireworks.

Like so many things, the custom spread to other towns, both large and small. The day was marked with parades, oratory, picnics, contests, games, military displays and fireworks. These festivities throughout the nation became even more common at the end of the War of 1812 with Great Britain.

We will gather with fellow church members and guests to give thanks for our heritage of independence during our service of worship on **July 2**. We hope to see you there.

Tom

Littleton Baptist Church
P. O. Box 216
Littleton, NC 27850



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<u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u>	<u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u>	<u>NURSERY WORKERS</u>
2 Clenel Prevals 6 Jim Phillis 7 Eric Hockaday 13 Matthew Council 13 Clyde Johnston 13 Roudley Prevals 14 Nichole Pitchford 17 Bonnie Currin Stallings 20 Josh Hall 21 Collin Merritt (7 yrs) 22 Lee Myrick 25 Ethel Hale 25 Emily Conner (1 yr) 28 Jimmy Kearney 29 JoAnn Barnard 30 Mary West (Tommy)	1 James & Virginia Kearney (67 yrs) 10 Don & Kay Beaver (23 yrs) 14 Earl & Mary Spivey (10 yrs) 19 Sid & Betty Anne Shearin (37 yrs) 30 Tom & Betty Bodkin (51 yrs)	2 Carol West/Carly West 9 Sarah Iles/Brenda Hudson 16 Melinda Harris/Jan Miller 23 Paula Burton/Kay Tripp 30 Brenda Hudson/Carol West
	<u>YOUTH MEALS</u>	<u>TRASH DETAIL</u>
	2 TBA 9 Ice cream Social 16 TBA 23 TBA 30 TBA	Matthew Council