



Christ Community Church of Blackstone

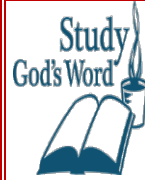
*Proclaiming Hope through the Good News
of Jesus Christ since 1822*

July 2024 Newsletter



A Message from Pastor Joe

John 8:31-32 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."



Tuesday morning bible study at 10 am via Zoom.com
Interested? Contact LynnePJ36@aol.com for a link.

Hello Everyone,

Independence Day, celebrated on the Fourth of July, marks the anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, declaring the thirteen American colonies as a new nation free from British rule. It's a day filled with patriotic fervor, marked by fireworks, parades, and gatherings that celebrate the freedom and independence of the United States. However, beyond the historical context, the essence of Independence Day resonates deeply with the concept of spiritual freedom found in Christianity.

In Christianity, the concept of freedom is profoundly rooted in the belief in Christ's sacrifice on the cross. Galatians 5:1 encapsulates this idea: *"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."* This verse emphasizes that through Christ's sacrifice, believers are liberated from the bondage of sin and can live freely in accordance with God's will.

Moreover, the Bible emphasizes the transformative power of this spiritual freedom. 2 Corinthians 3:17 states, *"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."* This verse underscores that true freedom is not merely the absence of external constraints but a state of being empowered by the presence of the Holy Spirit. It's a freedom that enables believers to live authentically, guided by God's truth and love.

Just as Independence Day celebrates the freedom of a nation, Christians celebrate their spiritual freedom in Christ. Romans 8:2 reaffirms this truth, stating, *"because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death."* This verse illustrates that the freedom found in Christianity transcends temporal constraints and offers eternal liberation from the consequences of sin.

In conclusion, while Independence Day commemorates the birth of a nation's freedom, it also serves as a poignant reminder of the profound spiritual freedom Christians experience through their faith in Christ. Just as Americans celebrate their independence from tyranny, Christians celebrate their liberation from sin through the redemptive work of Jesus Christ. As citizens of both earthly nations and the Kingdom of God, believers can find solace and inspiration in the parallel between the freedoms we cherish as citizens and the freedom we embrace as followers of Christ.

God Bless you all.
Pastor Joe



David – continued healing
Nancy's Friends: Beth has spot on her breast and Eileen – infection around heart

Families that are mourning the loss of a loved one Jackie (Washington) has headaches, may have to have surgery

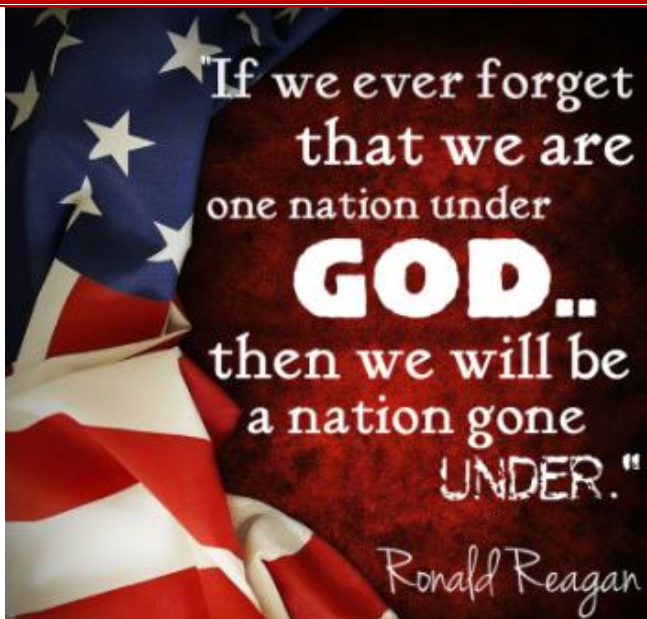
Please continue to pray for those diagnosed with cancer – Norma and her sister Susan

Sandy – knee and back
Andrea – seizures
Jeff – headaches
Mary – fainting spells

Our Church
Our Country
That God will give wisdom to our leaders
War in Israel & Ukraine
World Spiritual Revival

Praises!

Michelle is doing much better as she recovers from back surgery
Kit – post cancer surgery, doing better
Barbara – post chemo and surgery – doing well
Dennis – post stroke is doing well



A Fourth of July Prayer

Heavenly Father,
 We thank you for this Nation.
 We thank you for the freedom we enjoy daily.
 May we never take for granted the liberties we have been given.
 May we remain humble and conscious of the blessings we enjoy
 because of the sacrifices made by countless men and women.
 We thank you for the abundance we enjoy.
 May we be sensitive to those around us who are in need,
 and may our hearts be quick to help
 when we have the means to do so.
 We pray for our leaders.
 For those placed in authority over us,
 Father, we ask that you guide every decision they make.
 May they lead us with wisdom, humility, and grace.
 Father bless our Nation with Your peace.
 May Your love flow through each one of us,
 and may we never forget to give You thanks, always.
 May you receive the glory, honor, and praise.
 In Jesus Name we pray,
 Amen.

STAR-SPANGLED 4TH OF JULY FRUIT PLATTER

Ingredients
for 4 servings

- 1 pt blueberry
- 2 cups watermelon, cubed
- 1 bag yogurt covered pretzel

Preparation

- 1 Put blueberries in a bowl or square container and place on top of a rectangle food tray.
- 2 Place watermelon in a row, and then the pretzels until you fill up the platter, alternating red and white.
- 3 Bring to your party, serve and, enjoy!



STAR-SPANGLED FRUIT SKEWERS

Ingredients
for 8 skewers

- 2 cups strawberry, halved
- 5 bananas, sliced into 1-inch pieces
- ½ cup blueberry

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT
8 wooden skewers

Preparation

- 1 For 3 of the skewers add one strawberry and one banana, alternating colors until you have about 2 inches left on the end of skewer. To represent the flag, start with a strawberry and end with a strawberry. Then add 5 blueberries to the end. Set on the left side of a platter or tray.



CHILDREN'S DAY AND PICNIC

Children's Day was celebrated on Sunday, 6/23. Pastor Marc and Pastor Joe gifted Abby Lenahan with a bible for her graduation from high school. The children received certificates for their Sunday School attendance and they presented the teachers with flowers and a gift.

The festivities continued with a BBQ and Abby's grad was acknowledge with a beautiful cake by Julie and gifts from well-wishers. It was a good time of fun, food and fellowship.

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.
Proverbs 22:6



David, Teen Teacher, Abby, Adrianna and Hope gave a reading

Proud Mom, Jessica looks on as Abby receives her bible from Pastor Joe and Pastor Marc.

Sunday School is Cool



L-R: Joyce, David, Sheila, Nova Lee, Gracie, Ashley, Lucie and Zach



Thank you to our Sunday School Superintendent, Sheila Robeau who sets up the curriculum for the elementary class and for her devotion to keeping the Sunday School running smoothly. Also thanks to Lynne Cignarella, Julie Wronski, and Mary Hoyle our Elementary Class Teachers for their commitment. And thank you to David Baisley, our Teen Class Teacher, who also sets up the Teen's curriculum. Without these people, we would not have a place for our children to learn and grow up in the knowledge of God.

Thank God for You!!

Tracie (Robeau) Pye



1974 – 2024

It is with sadness that we report that on June 2, Tracie lost life's battle and passed away after a stroke.

Tracie started attending Christ Community Church of Blackstone in the 1990s and her children were dedicated here. She was a quiet lady with a pleasant smile and helped her Mom, Sheila, with Sunday School and was present at many of our events. Our hearts and prayers go out to the family.

She was the daughter of Sheila and the late Richard Robeau. She leaves five children, Kitiara of Woonsocket, Alex, Caleb, Hope and Adrianna of Blackstone. She was also the grandmother of three.

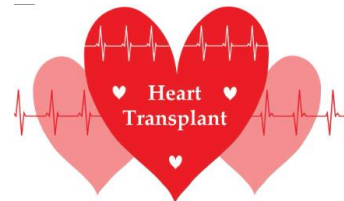
Happy Birthday to



Bob St. Jean - July 2
Abby Lenahan - July 3
David Baisley - July 4
Marc Greenwald - July 16
Mary Hoyle - July 31

Baptism

Barbara Greenwald - July 7, 1991



Happy Anniversary

Madeleine Guilbeault - July 6, 2013

We'll Get Through This

By Joanna Fuchs

*Trust in the Lord
with all your heart*
Proverbs 3:5

*Thy Word is a
lamp unto my feet*
Psalms 119:105

Lord, our troubles are so great, we don't know what to do;
The price for our iniquity is finally coming due.

The world is crumbling all about; no safe place can be found.
Right is wrong, wrong is right; the change is quite profound.

Lord, we need your guiding light to lead us out of here;
We'll focus on your Word, and prayer, to take away our fear.

Temptations of this dying world, we'll rule out and let go;
Give our burdens all to you, shed all worldly woe.

That's how we'll get through this, Lord, fixed on heaven above,
Assured of your protection, help, and everlasting love.

*The Truth will
set you free*
John 8:32

*Casting all your cares
upon Him because He
cares for you*
1 Peter 5:7

About us:

We are a bible-based, Christ-centered Christian church, located at 31 Church Street, Blackstone, MA. We are affiliated with the 4Cs – Conservative Congregational Christian Conference.

Senior Pastor: Rev. Joseph Overly

Associate Pastor: Rev. Marc Greenwald

Visit our website at www.cccob.org to listen to our sermons and to find out more about us.

We also "live stream" our Sunday services at 9:30 am on You Tube. Type in Christ Community Church of Blackstone or visit our Facebook page.



~ July 2024 ~
 Christ Community Church of Blackstone
 (508) 883-7885
"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."
Psalms 33:12

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Second Half of the Year Day	2 I Forgot Day Bible Study 10 am via Zoom	3 National Chocolate Wafer Day Prayer Meeting 7pm via Zoom	4 	5 National Graham Cracker Day	6 National Fried Chicken Day
7 Strawberry Sundae Day Sunday Service @ 9:30 am	8 Be a Kid Again Day or National Blueberry Day	9 National Sugar Cookie Day Bible Study 10 am via Zoom	10 Pina Colada Day	11 All American Pet Photo Day	12 National French Fry Day And Eat Your Jello Day	13 Embrace your Geekness Day
14 National Mac & Cheese Day Sunday Service @ 9:30 am	15 Give Something Away Day or Orange Chicken Day	16 National Cherry Day Bible Study 10 am via Zoom	17 National Hot Dog Day	18 National Sour Candy Day	19 National Stick Out Your Tongue Day	20 National Toss Out the "Would've" and "Could've" Day
21 National Junk Food Day Sunday Service @ 9:30 am	22 National Mango Day	23 National Peanut Butter & Chocolate Day Bible Study 10 am via Zoom	24 National Cousins Day	25 International Red Shoe Day & National Chili Dog Day	26 National Do What You Want Day	27 National Love is Kind Day & Chicken Fingers Day
28 National Milk Chocolate Day Sunday Service @ 9:30 am	29 National Lazagna Day All Church Mtg 7 pm	30 National Friendship Day Bible Study 10 am via Zoom	31 National Cheesecake Day & National Mutt Day	Special Holidays in July As you read the calendar this month, you will note that I've added some special holidays that are celebrated on those days in our country. Just thought you might enjoy the list. You can be creative and celebrate some of them just to add a little whimsy to the Hot, Steamy July Days. Have fun!!		