

July 1, 2021

### THE COST OF FREEDOM

The fourth of July is a day that holds a great significance to all Americans. A day that, all the way back in 1776, marks the signing of our Declaration of Independence. A day that America declared to Britain that we were truly going to be free. But how free was our freedom? It has always seemed ironic that the day we celebrate our independence was, more or less, one of the last days some of our founding fathers would truly be celebrating anything major in their lives. Of those 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence, five were captured by the British and tortured before being executed. Twelve of them had their homes raided and burned.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr. had his house taken over by General Cornwallis and used as his headquarters. Nelson secretly sent news to George Washington to open fire on his house. The home was completely destroyed and Nelson died bankrupt. Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed and his wife was captured and put in jail by the British. She died in prison a few months later. Carter Braxton of Virginia was a wealthy planter and trader. He saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. In order to pay off his debts, he sold his home and properties, and died penniless and in rags. Two other signers lost their sons in the Revolutionary Army. Another had two sons captured. In the end, nine of the fifty-six fought and died from wounds or hardships of the war.

When we put all of this in the proper perspective, we begin to see how our freedom wasn't all that free in the end. It is important for us, as Americans, to never forget that because of the sacrifices made by many others, we have the freedom that we celebrate today. Although this is an important sacrifice to remember, I would like for us to take a moment and think of a sacrifice that is even greater than those of our forefathers. A sacrifice that, in the end, only one man could make. Jesus explained this freedom in **John 8:31-32**, when He says, "If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." When Jesus first said this, the crowd around Him was confused. After all, they were Jews, the offspring of Abraham, and weren't slaves to anyone. What did they need to be free from? Jesus goes on to say in **John 8:34-36**, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

Just as the Jewish crowd thought when Jesus said these things, as Americans, it is easy for us to forget that just because we live in the land of the free, we can still be held

back by sin in our lives. Paul said in **Galatians 5:1**, "For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." On the night when Christ was betrayed, when He went through the unfair trials, the mocking, beatings, torture, and ultimately His death on the cross, He paid a debt that each one of us owed. He paid a debt to set us free from sin. Just like the freedom of our nation came with a cost, so does the freedom from sin.

Imagine on September 3, 1783 when the peace treaty was signed and marked the end of the Revolutionary War, that those in charge of America at the time simply went to King George and asked him to take the colonies back under British rule. It would make no sense to do such a thing. All the fighting, all the battles, and all the hardships would have been for nothing. All the progress that was made for freedom would have been for nothing. That is the same thing that happens when someone who has been baptized into Christ, decides to return to a life of sin. Peter says in **1 Peter 2:16-17**, "Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor." We cannot use our freedom in Christ as an excuse to continue in sin. **Romans 6:1-4** says, "What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in the newness of life."

As we celebrate the fourth of July this coming week and we think of all the sacrifices made for the freedom of our great nation, let us not forget the greatest sacrifice of all, the sacrifice that Jesus made for each one of us to set us free from sin. The promise made that when we are baptized into His death, we too can have a new life, a free life. And let us also remember the life that we must live, to no longer submit to the yoke of sin in our lives and to share the good news of Jesus and the freedom that is only found in Him. **Andrew Spivey**

**"For you were called to freedom, brothers.**

**Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."**

**Galatians 5:13**

### COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – Joshua 23  
Wednesday Read – Joshua 24

#### BIBLE STUDY



Questions for last week's reading of Joshua 20-21 & Joshua 22.

1. What is the purpose of the cities of refuge?
2. Name the cities of refuge.
3. How many cities with their suburbs did the Levites receive?
4. What does Joshua 21:45 say about God's promises to Israel?
5. What did the tribes of Reuben and Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh build by the Jordan River?
6. What was the reaction of the rest of the tribes?

#### POTTER CHILDREN'S HOME

Potter Children's Home needs our help with the daily needs of the children. They will be in our area to pick up items from our church on July 11<sup>th</sup>. The following is what they could use; yellow cake mix, all purpose flour, pancake syrup, canned vegetable soup and peanut butter & cheese crackers. If you would like to donate, please bring in the items by July 10<sup>th</sup> to the office or fellowship room.

#### GUEST SPEAKER IN JULY

**Sellers Crain** will be our guest speaker for Sunday July 4<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday July 7<sup>th</sup>.  
*Sunday Bible Class--Study of Hebrew 10:22-31*  
*Sunday morning worship--Who Made You Judge? Romans 14:1-10*  
*Sunday evening worship--They Did Not See Him John 1:11-16*  
*Wednesday Bible class- Is There an Unpardonable Sin? Matthew 12:31-32*

#### GOD BLESS AMERICA

**"God bless America, land that I love  
Stand beside her and guide her  
Through the night with a light from above  
From the mountains to the prairies  
To the oceans white with foam  
God Bless America, my home sweet home  
God bless America, my home sweet home."  
Irving Berlin**

### ORDER OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

July 4, 2021

9:00 AM

#### BIBLE STUDY

**(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)**

Song.....Jonathan Senn  
Opening Prayer.....Fate Evans  
Auditorium Lesson.....Sellers Crain

#### 10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Jim Cherry  
Song Leader.....Alexander Sherrill  
Opening Prayer.....David Thompson  
Sermon.....Sellers Crain  
Lord's Supper.....Allyn Hosman  
Closing Prayer.....Brent Smith  
Ushers.....R. Buck/C. Suddarth

#### 5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....Jim Cherry  
Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn  
Opening Prayer.....Bob Sever  
Sermon.....Sellers Crain  
Lord's Supper.....Tim Cummins  
Closing Prayer.....Ken Veale

### WEDNESDAY

July 7, 2021

7:00 PM

Welcome.....Jim Cherry  
Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn  
Opening Prayer.....Adam Williamson  
Lesson.....Sellers Crain  
Closing Prayer.....Tony Butler  
Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Anita Turner

#### IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL

Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935  
Church Office.....615-452-3431

Nashville Road Church of Christ  
 1883 Nashville Pike  
 Gallatin, TN 37066  
 Web Site: [nashvilleroad.org](http://nashvilleroad.org)  
 E-mail: [nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net](mailto:nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net)

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

### SICK LIST

Charles Simmons is home and doing better. No surgery was required. Penny Campbell has returned home and is doing well. Bill Johnson is home recovering from having a pacemaker put in. He is doing well. Faye Hart continues with therapy. Pat Wilson mother of Don Wilson had a stroke and is now at NHC. Ty Tyler, son of Ann Tyler continues with health issues. Ron Kloes step son of Sue Kloes has been diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer. Allen Plunk, cousin of Donna Jennings, colon cancer that has spread to his liver. Ricky Cantrell has been diagnosed with melanoma. Ronnie Love, cousin of Pam Newby, has been diagnosed with bone cancer. Donny Pedigo, friend of Tim Cummins has been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. Jerry Ladd, Sr. has been diagnosed with CLL Leukemia. Craig Sweeney, son of James & Doris Sweeney, continues cancer treatments. John Arnold, father of Brenda Veale is homebound and dealing with serious health issues.



### PRAYER LIST

Linda Wesbrooks; Maxine Cothron; Gerald Miles, The Waters of Gallatin, 555 E. Bledsoe Drive, Room 213; Jim Sweeney; J.H & Frances Catron; Melba Hill; William Dunn; Presley Fitts; Jean Deaton; Ricky Cross, friend of Betty Buttrey; Ida Lou Sherrill, mother of Alex Sherrill; Will Flowers, brother-in-law of Grace Bracey; Lawrence Redding, son-in-law of Betty Melcher; Taylor Lackford, niece of Brenda Veale; Dustin Lackford, nephew of Brenda Veale; Janice Haskins, sister of Jim Cherry; Larry Conley, friend of Wanda Proctor; Wayne Holt, nephew of Grace Bracey; John Gregory, brother of Bob Gregory; Pam Flory, friend of Sherry Sever; Harold Cole, friend of Lena Baggett; Bobbie Carter, sister of Janice Johnson; Betty Billingsley, sister of Wanda Proctor; Walter Wooten, brother of Wanda Sherrill.

### SHUT-INS

Ilene Kinney; Marliee Frederick, Gallatin Rehab, Room 305A; Jane Hughes, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; Cathy Henderson; Penny Campbell, The Village of Bellevue, Room 417, 8118 B Sawyer Brown Road, Nashville, TN 37221; Dorothy Sullivan, Front Porch Senior Living 115 Sunset Pl. Portland TN, 37148.

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes

### OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	92
Morning Worship.....	151
Sunday Evening.....	81
Wednesday Evening.....	81
Contributions.....	\$7,716.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$7,031.56

### Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621
Jerry Watson.....	615-461-8137

### Deacons

Carl Newby Brent Smith  
 Ken Veale Adam Williamson



# Nashville Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

1883 Nashville Road  
 Gallatin, TN 37066

Phone (615) 452-3431

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30. p.m.

Web Site: [www.nashvilleroad.org](http://www.nashvilleroad.org)

Email: [nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net](mailto:nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net)

ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister  
 TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister