



Piedmont Baptist Witness

Serving the Churches of the
Piedmont Baptist Association
www.piedmontbaptist.com

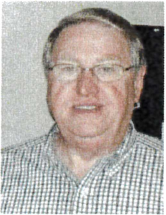
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July 2020

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Where Does Your Freedom Lie?

Many of you can remember
Kate Smith singing "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.*

This song came just after WWI and in the depth of the Great Depression. It became more famous and well known during WWII. No one could know what the outcome of that war would be. It was a dark, fearful time. To that generation, this song brought comfort and hope.

July 4, 1776. We celebrate that date. Well, most of us do. Our forefathers fought a revolution to give us this nation called The United States. It seems impossible that we are living during the middle of a cultural and societal revolution. Like that heroic generation, we don't know what the outcome will be.

There is one thing I do know, however. I love this country, but my hope is in Christ. It reminds me of another song that could offer hope for our generation.

Statue of Liberty

*In New York Harbor stands a lady
With a torch raised to the sky
And all who see her
Know she stand for
Liberty for you and me
I'm so proud to be called an American
To be named with the brave and the free
I will honor our flag
And our trust in God
and the statue of liberty*

*On lonely Golgotha stood a cross
With my Lord raised to the sky
And all who kneel there live forever
As all the saints can testify*

*I'm so glad to be called a Christian
To be named with the ransomed and free
As the statue liberates the citizen*

*So the cross liberates the soul
I'm so glad for that rugged cross
It was there that my soul was set free
Unashamed I'll proclaim that old rugged cross
Is my statue of liberty*

Robert



Things Learned

Here we are with half of 2020 in the books... and it has proven to be quite an interesting year. It has been a year that will probably change the way we do ministry for years to come. The church has encountered moving to an online presence, ministering during a pandemic, and reopening while trying to ensure social distancing. Through it all, God is faithful. Allow me to share a few things we have learned from the first half of 2020.

- ★Virtual and Drive-in services are the next best thing to being there.
- ★We need to remain connected with brothers and sisters in Christ.
- ★Socially engaging our community is essential.
- ★Ministry does not stop for a pandemic.
- ★Fewer meetings are necessary.
- ★The new normal will require various forms of online presence (Facebook, YouTube, Online Giving).
- ★Zoom fatigue will set in, so make sure your online connections are quality over quantity.
- ★Isolation protects and hurts at the same time.
- ★The building is not the church.
- ★Pastors have been forced to become not only spiritual leaders but epidemiologists, racial reconciliation experts, and sanitation experts, so offer them some grace when things don't go according to plan.

My prayer is that God has taught us about His faithfulness during this time of trial and challenged us to reach out into new areas as we move through these trying times. If we can assist you in any way, please give us a call.

Blessings:
Chris



Treasurer's Report May 2020

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Contributions from Churches | 18,291.17 |
| Other | 7,500.54 |
| Total | 25,791.71 |
| Total Spent in May | 20,216.43 |
| Difference | 5,575.28 |

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Monthly Budget Required | 25,484.00 |
| Budget Required thru May | 127,420.00 |
| Receipts to date | 116,741.45 |
| Budget Deficit | -9,106.48 |

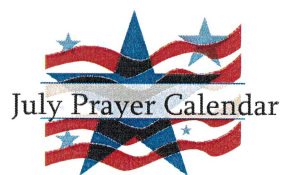
Contributions from Churches (Note: Some churches give quarterly)

| | <u>Jan-May 2020</u> | <u>Jan-May 2019</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Agape | 1,708.79 | 1,751.29 |
| Arial | 1,294.00 | 1,547.00 |
| Bishop Branch | 2,580.15 | 5,146.65 |
| Brushy Creek | 5,000.00 | 5,000.00 |
| Calumet | 200.00 | 861.00 |
| Calvary Hill | 3,368.72 | 4,631.80 |
| Cannon Memorial | 1,250.04 | 1,041.70 |
| Catechee | 2,145.45 | 2,174.00 |
| Cedar Rock | 917.21 | 1,641.44 |
| Central First | 2,193.00 | 1,896.00 |
| Connection Fellowship | 325.00 | 318.75 |
| Corinth | 600.00 | 1,217.58 |
| Crosswell First | 1,833.32 | 400.00 |
| Easley First | 3,583.35 | 3,583.35 |
| East Clemson | 1,038.39 | 1,035.57 |
| East Side | 1,875.00 | 1,875.00 |
| Elljean | 506.35 | 578.90 |
| Enon | 562.62 | 828.58 |
| Esperanza | .00 | .00 |
| Faith | 200.00 | 200.00 |
| *Fellowship Comm | .00 | 100.00 |
| Flat Rock | 2,878.85 | 3,243.94 |
| Geer Mem. | 1,939.88 | 1,643.62 |
| Georges Creek | 371.02 | 788.67 |
| Glenwood | 1,304.11 | 1,327.44 |
| Graceway | .00 | .00 |
| Hunt's Mem. | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 |
| Jones Ave. | 3,199.43 | 3,289.68 |
| Liberty First | 1,750.00 | 1,500.00 |
| Mountain Springs | 4,198.63 | 3,299.53 |
| Mt. Airy | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 |
| Mt. Carmel | 3,840.96 | 3,105.78 |
| Mt. Moriah | 1,250.00 | 1,250.00 |
| Mt. Pisgah | 5,000.00 | 5,000.00 |
| Mt. Tabor | .00 | 87.00 |
| Norris First | 3,750.00 | 3,666.69 |
| Park Street | 56.00 | 155.00 |
| Pendleton St. | 242.34 | 288.50 |
| Powdersville First | 5,000.27 | 4,974.68 |
| Refuge | 833.30 | 1,000.00 |
| Rice's Creek | 919.93 | 738.57 |
| River Road | 223.16 | 794.16 |
| Rock Springs | 26,573.04 | 18,284.64 |
| Ruhamah | .00 | .00 |
| Siloam | 6,107.34 | 4,737.12 |
| Six & Twenty | 700.00 | 700.00 |
| Slabtown | 1,321.00 | 1,381.00 |
| Smith Grove | 600.00 | 500.00 |
| The Neighborhood | .00 | 200.00 |
| Trinity Point | .00 | .00 |
| Wren | 499.35 | 395.95 |
| Total | 109,240.00 | 103,680.58 |

*Not a member of PBA



**The PBA Office will be closed Monday,
July 6th in observance of
Independence Day.**



July Prayer Calendar

Birthdays:

- 2 Tina Smith, wife of Pastor, Pendleton Street
- 12 Regina Olson, wife of Min. of Music/Education, Siloam
- 13 Randy Smith, Pastor, Pendleton Street
- 16 Jeff Whiten, Assoc. Pastor/Min. of Music, Bishop Branch
- 16 Paige McKnight, wife of Pastor, Central First
- 23 Scotty Hendricks, Pastor, Enon
- 27 Dianna Sanders, wife of Pastor, Wren
- 27 Brian Mahon, Pastor, Mt. Tabor
- 27 Jenny Mahon, wife of Pastor, Mt. Tabor
- 28 Ashley Hall, wife of Minister of Music, Trinity Point

Wedding Anniversaries:

- 12 Bobby & Donna Brock, Min. of Education, Brushy Creek
- 14 Keith & Alicia Harvell, Minister of Music/Youth, Calumet
- 14 David & Shirley Gallamore, Pastor, Rock Springs
- 21 Brian & Jenny Mahon, Pastor, Mt. Tabor
- 23 Troy & Jennifer Harrison, Pastor, Siloam

Staff Anniversaries:

- 1980 George Tate, Pastor, Slabtown
- 1995 Keith Harvell, Minister of Music, Calumet
- 1998 Don Gibson, Minister of Music, Rock Springs
- 2012 Dave Shorter, Pastor, Calvary Hill
- 2012 Benjamin Smoak, Pastor, Mountain Springs
- 2014 Zach Shaw, Pastor, Jones Avenue
- 2018 Miles Bridges, Pastor, Powdersville First



PBA News

Refuge has called Jamie McMahan as pastor. We welcome Jamie and his family to PBA.

Paul Mullinax has a portable miniature golf course that is available for our churches. It can be used inside or outside. paul.c.mullinax@gmail.com or text/call 864-360-7029.

2020 Christmas Backpacks

PBA WMU is again sponsoring Christmas Backpacks that will be delivered to Jenkins and Corbin, KY. Information sheets have been mailed to our churches. We have also posted this information on our website under Resources. You may drop off the backpacks at the PBA office no later than October 15. Questions? Call JoAnn Thornton at 864-420-7234 or 864-294-6905 or email thorntonja@bellsouth.net.

