

WOODLAWN WINDOW

Woodlawn Baptist Church

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FROM THE PASTOR

As we enter the month of July, our hearts naturally turn toward celebration—family gatherings, summer sunshine, and especially Independence Day. This year carries a particularly meaningful milestone as our nation celebrates its 250th anniversary on July 4, 2026. For two and a half centuries, the United States has stood as a place where liberty, hope, and opportunity have taken root.

As people of faith, we recognize that true freedom is not only found in the founding of a nation, but in the grace of God. Scripture reminds us:

“For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore...” — Galatians 5:1

While we give thanks for the courageous individuals who helped establish our country, we also acknowledge that our ultimate allegiance is to God’s Kingdom. The freedoms we enjoy—worship, assembly, and expression—are blessings that allow us to live out our faith openly and serve others boldly. This anniversary offers us a moment to reflect:

- **On gratitude** for the sacrifices made throughout history
- **On responsibility** to use our freedoms wisely and lovingly
- **On unity** as we seek to love our neighbors, even amid differences

In our community and congregation, we are called to be a light—demonstrating compassion, justice, humility, and grace. The Gospel reminds us that love of country finds its highest purpose when it reflects the love of Christ.

As you celebrate July 4th with fireworks and fellowship, take a moment to also offer a prayer:

- For our nation’s leaders
- For peace and wisdom in times of challenge
- For renewed commitment among believers to live out the teachings of Jesus

May this historic 250th anniversary inspire us not only to celebrate where we have been, but to prayerfully consider where God is leading us next.

Jeff Connell
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In this newsletter
you can expect:

Sunday
School &
WNBC

XYZ Group

Ladies
Summer
Book Club

Birthdays &
Anniversaries

Missions

VBS Recap

This Month at Woodlawn



Sunday School

Happy 4th of July. This is such an exciting time for our country to be able to celebrate 250 years of our independence. However that independence did not come free it was bought by lives of brave men and women. Thankfully with that freedom we are able to worship our heavenly Father without fear of retribution. Please don't take that freedom for granted, come to Sunday School to learn more about our Savior. Invite your friends and family so we can all take advantage of these hard fought freedoms.

*In Christian Love,
Janice & Jim Patrick*



XYZ Group

The XYZ Group enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship during our June 28 gathering in the Fellowship Hall.

We invite all adults age 50 and older to join us for our next meeting on July 26th. Guests and family members visiting with you are always welcome. We look forward to another great time together!

Ruth Ann McSwain



WNBC

Wednesday Night Bible Club is a special time for our children to grow in their faith while having fun together. Each week, children learn Bible lessons, discover how God is working through missions around the world, and enjoy activities that help build lasting friendships. We would love for your child to join us on Wednesday nights this summer!



Summer Book Club

Ladies are invited to join our Summer Book Club as we enjoy a season of reading and encouragement together! In July, we will read "My Jesus" by Anne Wilson, followed by "Happy" by Lisa Harper in August. At the end of each month, we will gather one evening for food, fellowship, and discussion. If you are interested please contact Lori Hutson.



Birthdays

- 1 - Dansby Patrick / Delma Slagle
- 2 - Katie Shaffer
- 3 - Connie Clark / Marshall Hutton / Sara Beth Wheeling
- 5 - Richard Wampler
- 6 - Laura Patrick
- 9 - Natasha Kerns
- 12 - Mandy Hughes / Rhys Pickard
- 15 - Lanny Kerns
- 18 - Tony Durham
- 19 - John Sproles
- 20 - Lindsey Slagle
- 21 - Beckett Pickard
- 22 - Beckie Miller
- 23 - Bryson Snyder
- 25 - Kristi Cross
- 29 - Melanie Peters
- 30 - David Burnette / Sharon Cortner

Anniversaries

- 6 - Brad & Angela Fulton
- 10 - Trevor & Erin Holmes
- 11 - Jeff & Kim Connell
- 14 - Aaron & Molly Hutton
- 16 - Tony & Gail Blakley
- 25 - Lanny & Susan Kerns

Missions & More

WMU NEWS

The Bristol Emergency Food Pantry was served on June 9, with 135 donated items delivered from our church. 11 families representing 35 individuals received assistance through the pantry. In addition, for our June project we helped provide food and supplies for Vacation Bible School. A special offering raised \$696 to support these efforts.

Be sure to watch the July bulletins for information about this month's mission projects and opportunities to serve.

Continue to pray for our mission projects, our church, our community and our Nation.

Brenda Harklêroad, WMU Director

**Operation Christmas Child items to collect this month:
school supplies**

YOU ARE AN
AWESOME
Volunteer!

Vacation Bible School was a wonderful week filled with fun, learning, and growing in faith! We were blessed to have the opportunity to teach the children and show God's love to each of them. Thank you to all of our teachers, leaders, kitchen workers, decorators, registration volunteers, and everyone who gave their time and talents to make VBS a success. Your dedication, prayers, and servant hearts made a lasting impact on the lives of our children. We are grateful for each of you and for the many ways you helped share God's love throughout the week.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Our VBS was filled with fun, laughter and learning as children explored God's Word through Bible stories, music, crafts, games and meals. Throughout the week they discovered more about Jesus and how

he loves and cares for them.

These photos capture just a few of the special moments from an exciting week of growing in faith together.

Through the VBS lessons this year, children learned that God has uniquely gifted each of them and can use their talents and spiritual gifts to serve Him and others.



Please note: the church office hours are
Monday through Thursday from 8:00am to 1:00pm.



True Freedom in Christ

As we celebrate Independence Day this July, we are reminded of the many freedoms we enjoy as Americans. We are grateful for those who have sacrificed to protect our liberty and the blessings we experience as a free nation.

Yet, as Christians, we know that our greatest freedom is found in Jesus Christ. Through His death and resurrection, we have been set free from the power of sin and given the gift of eternal life.

God's Word reminds us, ***"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36).***

Christian freedom is not simply the ability to do as we please, but the privilege of living for Christ with joyful obedience. Because of His grace, we are free to worship, serve, love others, and share the hope of the Gospel.

This month, as flags wave and fireworks light the sky, may we give thanks not only for our nation's freedom but also for the everlasting freedom we have through Jesus Christ.

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Change Service Requested
