

July 1-7, 2022

## MUSINGS...

by Pastor John Bethard



*For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore,  
and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.*

Galatians 5:1

It is Independence Day weekend in our country. Because July 4<sup>th</sup> falls on a Monday, this year, the weekend will be marked by cookouts, fireworks, and all manner of gatherings and celebrations to mark the fragile freedom our country enjoys. I hope all of us can find ways to celebrate this weekend.

As Christians, we are blessed by an even greater freedom, the freedom we have in Christ. Before we knew Christ as Lord, we were slaves to sin. That is not a welcome thought for any of us. We hear that and think, "Wait a minute. I wasn't a slave to anyone or anything! I make my own choices!" I totally get that. I used to think that way myself before I was a Christian. But that's how pervasive and deceitful sin can be. It enslaves us, but then makes us think we're our own person with our own agency.

The verse above comes from Galatians, a letter Paul wrote to some Christians who were struggling with a particular issue. Jewish converts to Christianity had come along and convinced some of them that to truly be saved, one must also obey all facets of the OT Law, including circumcision. What that kind of thinking does is it confuses obedience with the saving work of Christ. The moment anything we do in obedience to Christ becomes something we must do to be saved; we are adding to the work of Christ. We are saying that his grace is not enough. It is critical to remember that we are obedient *because* we are saved, not *in order to be* saved. Otherwise, those things we think we must do begin to enslave us. It is an easy trap in which to find us.

The freedom we have in Christ is freedom from sin, freedom from the wrath of God that Christ took for us, freedom from the twisted and selfish thinking of the world. It is glorious and wonderful. And while our freedom as Americans is important and wonderful, it is but a shadow of the freedom we have in God through Christ.

As we give thanks and celebrate our country's freedom and independence this weekend, let us remember also to celebrate the glorious freedom we have in Christ.

In Christ,

Pastor John





Kid's Summer Olympics!  
July 16<sup>th</sup>, 3PM-5PM  
Games! Prizes! Water Balloons!

Charles Town Presbyterian Church  
220 E. Washington Street  
Charles Town, WV 25414

Email [garthstevensjennings@ctpres.org](mailto:garthstevensjennings@ctpres.org)  
for information or 304-725-5316

Ages 3-Rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade, no registration fee



Quest for the Armor of God  
with the  
Knights of North Castle  
Vacation Bible School!  
July 18-22<sup>nd</sup>, 9AM-12PM

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220 E. Washington Street  
Charles Town, WV 25414

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## Celebrations this week

## Sunday @ CTPC

### Birthdays

Jessica Wells  
Donna Staniec  
Allison Howard  
Camden Wilson



### Anniversaries

Henry & Karen Christie

10:30am-Worship Celebration FaceBook

For a complete listing of all of the church activities, please click [here](#).



## CTPC Zoom Meetings this week

To join any of the Zoom meetings listed below, please email the church office at [ctpres.org](mailto:ctpres.org) for contact information.

- **The Faithweavers** is a blended Sunday School class with in person and virtual options led by Margaret Kursey.
- **Yokefellows Sunday School Class.** The Class will begin with a short business meeting from 8:45 am to 9:00 am at which time prayers will be offered for class members, family and friends who are ill or otherwise in distress. At 9:00am until 9:35 am a lesson will be taught by the class teacher from the Adult Bible Studies series. Anyone wishing to visit the class on ZOOM should contact the following class members to receive a ZOOM "invite": Gary Scott at email: [gary3042795296@gmail.com](mailto:gary3042795296@gmail.com) or James Mackenzie at email: [mackenzie48708@gmail.com](mailto:mackenzie48708@gmail.com)



**The church office** will be closed on Monday, July 4th! Have a safe holiday.

Charles Town Presbyterian Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

# Kid's Group!

### **Bring out your Bricks: DFM Lego drive!**

Do you or someone you know have any old Legos collecting dust in an attic or storage room? Donate them to the Youth and Children's Ministry, where they will be used for a number of upcoming events, including the creation of model of Charles Town Presbyterian Church and contests to recreate iconic Bible scenes! Contact Garth for more info, or drop your donations by his office.'

### **Summer Olympics! Saturday, July 16th, 3-5PM**

To kick off our time with Vacation Bible School this summer we will be throwing a Summer Olympics party for kids of all ages! Come and compete in various events to win prizes and bragging rights!

### **Vacation Bible School! Monday, July 18th -- Friday, July 22nd, 9-Noon**

The theme for our Bible School this year is the Knights of North castle. Come join us for a week of learning fun, knights, and dragons! We are still looking for volunteers to run the program, if you are interested in helping contact Garth Stevens-Jennings at [garthstevensjennings@ctpres.org](mailto:garthstevensjennings@ctpres.org).

Any questions, please feel free to contact Garth Steven-Jennings (304-725-5316 or [garthstevens-jennings@ctpres.org](mailto:garthstevens-jennings@ctpres.org)).

## 🎵 MUSIC NOTES 🎵 from Miss Penny

### *“Attitude of Gratitude”*

#### **I speak the name of Jesus over you**

In your hurting, in your sorrow  
I will ask my God to move  
I speak the name 'cause it's all that I can do  
In desperation, I'll seek Heaven  
And pray this for you

#### **I pray for your healing**

That circumstances would change  
I pray that the fear inside would flee in Jesus name  
I pray that a breakthrough would happen today  
I pray miracles over your life in Jesus name, in Jesus name

#### **I speak the name of all authority**

Declaring blessings, every promise  
He is faithful to keep  
I speak the name no grave could ever hold  
He is greater, He is stronger  
He's the God of possible

#### **I pray for your healing**

That circumstances would change  
I pray that the fear inside would flee in Jesus name  
I pray that a breakthrough would happen today  
I pray miracles over your life in Jesus name  
In Jesus name

#### **Come believe it**

Come receive it  
Oh, the power of His Spirit is now forever yours  
Come believe it  
Come receive it  
In the mighty name of Jesus, all things are possible

#### **I pray for your healing**

That circumstances will change  
I pray that the fear inside will flee in Jesus name  
I pray that a breakthrough  
Would happen today  
I pray miracles over your life in Jesus name  
I pray for revival  
For restoration of faith  
I pray that the dead will come alive in Jesus name  
In Jesus name



Blessings and Love, Penny



**Pastor's Help Fund.** During the pandemic, there were few requests for help. That has changed with the winding down of the pandemic phase of Covid and the dramatic increase to the cost of living. The help fund provides assistance for people who are in danger of eviction or have gotten behind in their utilities. The fund is now significantly low, and we need some donations to build it back up. Donations to the help fund can be given through the regular Sunday offering or mailed to the office. Note on memo line: help fund.



### **Friendship Ministry Meal**

Several years ago, we changed the name of the meals served from "Homeless Meals" to "Friendship Ministry Meals." We did this because we realized that many who were coming for a meal were not homeless, but they were hungry. For many of our guests it is the only meal they will have that day. Some of our guests live in a single hotel room with their entire family with no ability to cook a hot meal.

Matthew 25:35 says, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in." Feeding the hungry is an expectation Jesus has of his followers. Now more than ever our Christian family needs to step up to help with this community mission. Everything is extremely expensive right now. I wonder as I pay for our weekly groceries how others who are less fortunate are able to buy food for their family. You can help by volunteering your time and monies. We serve meals only twelve times a year. We serve the first Saturday of each month at 5:30pm. Our servers plan the meal and arrive at 4:30pm to begin packing the meals in carry out containers.

These are the servers for the rest of this year. July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ruth and Gary Scott. August 6<sup>th</sup>, the Deacons. September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the choirs. October 1, George Tabb and Jason Mullens. November 5<sup>th</sup>, the Yokefellow's Sunday school class. December 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Mission and Outreach committee. Each and everyone of these groups could use help. It might be just bringing a case of water or bringing cookies. Of course, you could stop by and donate your time by helping to fix carryout containers. It only takes about an hour. Pray about how you can help and then volunteer. Many hands make fast work!



Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preven-

tive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Charles Town Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, July 5, 2022. A package of five screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered:

**Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque).** An ultrasound is performed to screen the carotid arteries (a pair of blood vessels in the neck that deliver blood to your brain) for buildup of fatty plaque. This buildup, called atherosclerosis, is one of the leading causes of stroke.

**Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening.** An Ankle-Brachial Index (ABI) test is performed using blood pressure cuffs on the arms and legs. It is important to screen for PAD because it increases the risk of coronary artery disease, heart attack, or stroke.<sup>1</sup>

**Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA).** An ultrasound is performed to screen the abdominal aorta for the presence of an enlargement or aneurysm. AAA can lead to a ruptured aortic artery, which is a serious medical emergency.

**Atrial Fibrillation.** A 6-lead electrocardiogram (EKG) is performed by placing sensors on the arms and legs to screen for Atrial Fibrillation. AFib can lead to blood clots, stroke, and heart failure, and other heart-related complications.<sup>2</sup>

**Osteoporosis Risk.** An ultrasound is performed to measure the shin bone for abnormal bone mass density. This can help assess the risk of osteoporosis, a disease where bones become weak and brittle.

These 5 vital screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6441, text the word "circle" to 797979 or online at <https://llsa.social/HS>

**These Days** daily devotionals for July/August/September are available in the information racks located in the narthex and by the church office.



### Weekly Congregational Giving:

Needed to Meet Expenses Budget: \$6,934. Sunday's Receipts: \$2,391; Special Offerings: Help Fund—\$400; Sunday School—421; Hunger—\$60.

Checks can be mailed to:

CTPC, PO Box 89,  
Charles Town, WV 25414

**For electronic giving, please scan here:**



Online giving helps you to bring your offering before God. In addition to the no-fee Facebook

donations and nominal fee Paypal service, we set up online giving through the Presbyterian Foundation. **Money donated via any of these services gets deposited to our church bank account.**

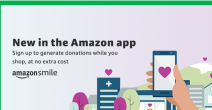
By going through the Foundation, the fee they charge actually helps the mission of their organization, which is to help Presbyterian churches to be excellent stewards of their gifts and resources. The exciting part about working with the foundation is that we are able to use a mobile app that is connected to our account. The app is called Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement on the Google Play or Apple App Store. You can set up for weekly, monthly or one time giving! Note: If you were previously using the "Give Plus" app, that has been superseded by the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement as of January 31, 2022. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you.



**The flower chart for 2022** is available for sign up. It is located on the bulletin board by the church office or call at 304-725-5316. If you would like to donate your flowers for the deacons to deliver to a shut-in or someone in the hospital, please call the church office.

**For those who wish to continue** with the Bible reading plan in 2022, you can access or download the document [here](https://www.navigators.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/navigators-bible-reading-plan.pdf). This plan is a little different than the 2021 plan. The 2021 plan had only five readings per week, and we were able to finish the entire New Testament. The 2022 plan has two readings every day, and they are a little longer, but we will read through the whole Bible in a year. If you read through the 2021 plan, it is okay to use this plan but skip the New Testament readings. These are the readings from which Pastor John will do his daily devotions each morning on the church Facebook page.

<https://www.navigators.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/navigators-bible-reading-plan.pdf>



Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you?

Simply follow the instructions below to select "Charles Town Presbyterian Church" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us. How it works:

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
3. Select "Charles Town Presbyterian Church" as your charity
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app



JCCM Food Pantry needs. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated: hot dogs, ground beef, eggs, shelf stable/powdered milk, jelly, powdered coffee creamer, salt, sugar, cooking oil, dish soap, laundry detergent, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, paper towels, cat and dog food. Thank you, Kari Dean, Food Pantry Coordinator, JCCM



Know. Grow. Serve.