

FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH

July 1, 2021

Volume 2, Issue 7

Pastor's Word

The word for July is "freedom." Freedom has a broad range of meaning and application.

In July we recognize its meaning and application as a nation in the celebration of our independence from the rule of another country. We celebrate the penning and signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

As Christians we celebrate another declaration of independence written with the blood of Christ and sealed with the declaration "It is finished" and the last breath of Jesus. It is freedom from the rule of sin and the penalty of death it bears. To receive Jesus as your Savior is to receive freedom from the rule of sin and the death penalty it brings.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23 NLT

To know Jesus through faith in His redemptive work at Calvary is to know the One who is truth, the One who is the Truth that sets you free.

"And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:32 NLT

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free." John 8:35-36 NLT

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me." John 14:6 NLT

While we may celebrate our freedom as a nation in July, we cherish that freedom every day. Likewise in Christ we celebrate the freedom He secured and will cherish it each day forever.

Join me in saying: "Thank you, Lord Jesus, for loving us and securing for us freedom from sin and death. We love you!"

Pastor Jerry



The church family is encouraged to continue to mail in their tithes and offerings, drop them off at the church office during the hours listed, or bring them on Sundays when you come for worship! Thank you so much for your faithfulness in giving.

July Verse of the Month

"For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love."

Galatians 5:13 NLT

First Southern Baptist Church

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Office Hours are Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

North American Mission Board

Prayer Calendar – July 2021

Richard and Faith Anderson

*Chaplain / Command Chaplain,
Colonel, USAF*
Air Force Special Operations Command
Hurlburt Field, FL



Pray that my family and I will faithfully fulfill the Lord's plan and purpose for our lives.

Hangje (Tim) and Myoung-Hui (Grace) Cho

Church Planter
Grace New York Korean Baptist Church
Bayside, NY



Pray that we will glorify God all the time through our lives, family, ministry and Grace New York Korean Baptist Church. Pray that God helps Grace New York Korean Baptist Church be filled with hungry worshipers and more focused to save neighbors.

Isaac and Hannah Surh

Church Planter
Chroma Church
Columbus, OH



Pray that God would use Chroma Church to be a light in the darkness and a voice for justice in the city and that Chroma would be a home to people of many colors.

Ricardo and Menya Barber

Church Planter
One H.O.P.E. Fellowship
Portland, OR



Pray for One H.O.P.E. as we promote unity in diversity in love here in Portland. Pray that as we witness to our community, disciples who make disciples will be formed.

Follow us on the church's Facebook page at **First Southern Baptist Church**:

- "Worship and Word" broadcast at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays by Pastor Jerry; upon viewing you are encouraged to **Share** and **Like** so that it will be available to your friends on FB

Livestreaming of Wednesday's Bible study at 6:00 p.m. led by Pastor Jerry and Janice Lanford.

A Pinned Note from the Pastor's Wife



I was trying to think of something profound to say for this month but I wasn't really sensing something new. I really sensed the Holy Spirit sending me back to something I wrote in June 2020 on Facebook.

The post was a reminder (to myself) that sometimes you need to eat some 'humble pie' and get back to the fact that you're just an ordinary person living an ordinary life with an **extraordinary God!**

I was reminded that to keep humble, and to keep my fellowship with God consistent and fresh I need to practice what it says in 1 John 1:9-10 where it says,

"⁹ But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts."

When I do what it says in verse 9 I fully embrace the truth that God is faithful to forgive me but I have to have that truly repentant heart.

And then I experience God's blessing!

I've had enough 'humble pie' for today. How about you?

Have a great month 😊

**Opportunities
available to study
God's Word together:**

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

Friday 11:00 a.m. (women)

JOIN US 📖

For more information call the church office at 781-1641.

