

THE GATHERING is the Senior Adult Newsletter of  
First Baptist Church  
PO Box 176 | 490 Morrow St.  
Dresden TN 38225  
[www.dresdenfbc.org](http://www.dresdenfbc.org)



Spaghetti w/meat sauce, black eyed  
peas, rolls, berries & stars trifle & drink  
Cost \$5.00

Reservations/Cancellations  
364-2212 | [fbcddresden@gmail.com](mailto:fbcddresden@gmail.com)  
by July 10, 2025

# THE GATHERING of



*In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. Ephesians 3:12*

Independence Day, commonly called The Fourth of July, we Americans celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence. On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress approved the final wording of the Declaration, thus affirming the independence of the United States from Great Britain.

For over two hundred years, citizens of the U.S. have celebrated our independence on The Fourth of July. We fly the flag; put up red, white, and blue decorations; march in parades; and enjoy picnics. Throughout all of our celebrations, we are reminded of the gift of our freedom as a nation. Indeed, we are blessed in the United States with exceptional liberty, for which we ought to thank the Lord.

Ephesians 3:12 celebrates another kind of freedom, a freedom that is even more amazing than the freedoms guaranteed by the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. This verse reads: "In Christ and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence." In Christ, you have the freedom to draw near to God, to tell God anything you wish, without holding back. You can express to God not only your joys but also your sorrows, not only your assurance but also your doubt, not only your pleasure but also your anger. This is an amazing freedom.

Of course it's a freedom that we Christians can easily take for granted, even as citizens of various countries can hold their political freedom too lightly. When we're used to praying to God at any time, in any place, with any words, we can forget the stunning nature of our access to God. Think about it. The God who created the universe, the King of kings and Lord of lords, the God of all wisdom and justice, this God invites you to speak your mind, to share with him your thoughts, your feelings, your fears, and your dreams. The more you reflect on this invitation, the more you'll come to realize just how amazing it is.

Let's take time to thank God for the freedom we have in this country. Consider the freedom Christ has given us to approach God with deep confidence. Let's thank God together for this amazing freedom he has given us.



Dale Hutcherson was elected to the office of Weakley County Mayor on August 1, 2024 and took office for his first term on August 19, 2024. Dale Hutcherson is a life-long resident of Weakley County and attended school in Dresden.

Dale is married to Samantha Hutcherson. They have one child, Mila. He and his family attend First Baptist Church in Dresden.

We hope you make plans to join us for JOY in July as we welcome Dale to share with us the news, the activities, and the status of our great county.



Weakley County—Pray 4TN gathering  
Fri. July 25 | 12:00 pm |  
Dresden First Baptist Church  
[pray4tn.us](http://pray4tn.us)  
*Join Believers across the state in the unity Jesus prayed for in John 17. Let's stand together, hand-in-hand, for a Ninevah moment... for healing of our families, cities, state, and nation. We need Jesus!*

**SAVE THE DATE**

**FRI. JULY 25 @ 7PM**

**Annual Good Old Gospel**  
**Singing will take place at**  
**DFBC.**

**J.O.Y. Report for June 2025**

**Enrollment 114**

**Attendance 46**

**Offering \$43.63**

**July-Aug-Sept offering will go to Jack Gallimore Foundation**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

2nd Helen Nevil  
10th Jean Higgs  
21st Tommy Moore  
24th Kelley Swearingen  
26th Theresa Ryan  
29th Sherryl McCulley  
31st Sheila Swearingen



*Have a blessed day!*