

The Dover Dove



*July 2015 Newsletter of Dover Baptist Church Phone (804) 784-5681
635 Manakin Road - P. O. Box 96 - Manakin-Sabot, VA 23103
Dr. Todd Kube, Pastor*

In 1776 John Adams predicted in a letter to his wife that every year the people of the United States would joyously celebrate their nation's independence with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of the continent, he said, to the other. On the Fourth, it is easy to predict that the festivities and merriment that Adams foresaw, will be apparent throughout the width and breadth of our country – remembrances that have a special place in the hearts of all who love liberty.

It is this love of liberty, at the heart of our national identity that separates our celebration of independence from those of most other nations. It's what made the struggle of our forefathers, a little over 200 years ago, different from any conflict that has ever happened before. Down through history, there have been many revolutions, but virtually all of them only exchanged one set of rulers for another set of rulers. Ours was the only truly philosophical revolution. It declared that government would have only those powers granted to it by the people.

It was a 33-year-old Thomas Jefferson who penned the words and constructed the phrases that captured the essence of it all. He wrote: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. – That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed – that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it. . . ."

It was this revolutionary concept of representative government and individual rights, as well as the cause of national independence, to which the Declaration's signers pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor. Each generation has done the same, and tomorrow we'll make that pledge again. Let no one charge, however, that ours is blind nationalism. We do not hide our shortcomings. Yes, we have our imperfections, but there are no people on this planet who have more reason to hold their heads high than do the citizens of the United States of America.

Our countrymen have the courage of conviction and an uncommon commitment to truth and justice; we as a people will not bow before dictator or king, but we kneel in prayer and gratefully acknowledge, as Jefferson so eloquently stated, that the God who gave us life also gave us liberty. Our society reflects decent and humane values that were passed to us by the settlers of a new land; Americans can be counted on to be generous -- it's our way. We know these things, and we also know the United States of America remains the greatest force for human freedom on this planet, and we're darn proud of it.

We're still Jefferson's children, still believers that freedom is the unalienable right of all of God's children. It's so precious, yet freedom is not something that can be touched, heard, seen, or smelled. It surrounds us, and if it were not present, as accustomed to it as we are, we would be alarmed, overwhelmed by outrage, or perhaps struck by a sense of being smothered. The air we breathe is also invisible and taken for granted, yet if it is denied even for a few seconds, we realize instantly how much it means to us. Well, so, too, with freedom.

Freedom is not created by government, nor is it a gift from those in political power. It is, in fact, secured, more than anything else, by those limitations I mentioned that are placed on those in government. It is absence of the government censor in our newspapers and broadcast stations and universities. It is the lack of fear by those who gather in religious services. It is the absence of official abuse of those who speak up against the policies of their government.

Jefferson so fervently believed that limited government was vital to the preservation of liberty that he used his influence to see to it that the Constitution included a Bill of Rights, 10 amendments that spelled out specific governmental limitations. "Congress shall make no law," the first amendment begins. And thus, the basic law of our land was meticulously constructed to limit government and, in doing so, secure the political rights of the people.

Inextricably linked to these political freedoms are protections for the economic freedoms envisioned by those Americans who went before us. While the Constitution sets our political freedoms in greater detail, these economic freedoms are part and parcel of it. There are four essential economic freedoms. They are what links life inseparably to liberty, what enables an individual to control his own destiny, what makes self-government and personal independence part of the American experience.

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~Continued~

First is the freedom to work -- to pursue one's livelihood in one's own way, to choose where one will locate and what one will do to sustain individual and family needs and desires. Second of those freedoms is the freedom to enjoy the fruits of one's labor -- to keep for oneself and one's family the profit or gain earned by honest effort. Third is the freedom to own and control one's property -- to trade or exchange it and not to have it taken through threat or coercion. Fourth is the freedom to participate in a free market -- to contract freely for goods and services and to achieve one's full potential without government limits on opportunity, economic independence, and growth.

Just as Jefferson understood that our political freedoms needed protection by and from government, our economic freedoms need similar recognition and protection. Those who attain political power must know that there are limits beyond which they will not be permitted to go, because beyond that point their intrusion is destructive of the economic freedom of the people. We must insist, for example, that there be a limit to the level of taxation, not only because excessive taxation undermines the strength of the economy but because taxation beyond a certain level becomes servitude. And in America, it is the Government that works for the people and not the other way around.

Now, in the same vein, regulation of an individual's business or property can reach a degree when ownership is nullified and the value is taken. Property rights are central to liberty and should never be trampled upon. The working people need to know their jobs, take-home pay, homes, and pensions are not vulnerable to the threat of a grandiose, inefficient, and overbearing government -- something Jefferson warned us about 200 years ago. It's time to finish the job Jefferson began and to protect our people and their livelihoods with restrictions on government that will ensure the fundamental economic freedom of the people. I'm certain if Thomas Jefferson were here, he'd be one of the most articulate and aggressive champions of this cause. The reason I'm certain is that in 1798 he wrote: "I wish it were possible to obtain a single amendment to our Constitution. I would be willing to depend on that alone for the reduction of the administration of our government to the genuine principles of its Constitution; I mean an additional article taking from the Federal Government the power of borrowing."

The centerpiece of economic freedom is a long-overdue constitutional amendment to require the Federal Government to do what every family in America must do, and that is live within its means and balance its budget -- to help secure the blessings of liberty. Taxation, for example, is more than mathematical calculations. It is the harnessing of free people; it is forced labor; and if it goes beyond reasonable bounds, it is a yoke of oppression. Raising taxes, then, should be serious business. It should not be done without a broad national consensus. Every American's paycheck be protected -- as part of a balanced budget amendment -- by requiring that tax increases must be passed by both Houses of Congress by more than a mere majority of their Members.

Our forefathers fought for personal and national independence, yet 200 years later, our own overly centralized government poses a threat to our liberty far beyond anything imagined by the patriots of old. Reduce the size and scope of the Federal Government. This is an ongoing battle. But the Federal Government's role was severely limited; the future was in the hands of the people, not the Government. And that's the way our forebears wanted it. Jefferson, in his first inaugural, spoke for his countrymen when he said: "A wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, which shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned. This," he said, "is the sum of good government." Well, that vision of America still guides our thinking, still represents our ideals.

Ours is a vision of limited government and unlimited opportunity, of growth and progress beyond what any can see today. A saying in colonial times suggested there are two ways to get to the top of an oak tree, where the view is much better. One is to climb; the other is to find an acorn and sit on it. It's time to roll up our sleeves and start climbing. Thank you all. God bless you all.

President Ronald Reagan remarks announcing America's Economic Bill of Rights at an Independence Day celebration at the Jefferson Memorial -- July 3, 1987. Edited by Pastor Kube.

Nursing Home Worship and Bible Study Ministry
July 2015

God has proven time and time again his love for his people as undeserving as we are. God's word tells us – *“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.”*(John 1:12 – 13). As God's children we are all set apart (made Holy) and called to serve him according to his purposes. Our talents and abilities may be grand or limited yet God judges our service according to our faithfulness to Him, not our skills or adequacy.

We often feel so inadequate and unprepared when accepting the challenges of our Heavenly Father. We who minister at Lexington Court are no different and must be totally dependent on the Father. Through his loving grace and mercy he sustains and empowers us to do his work and even on occasion leaves us with signs letting us know that he has accepted our service with pleasure.

Several months ago the residents requested that we study the biblical sacrificial system during the twice monthly Friday Bible Study. On July 12th we studied the first Passover (Exodus 12). God led us to relate that early Passover Story to the sacrament of the Lord's Supper during our worship Sunday on July 21st.

Equipped with one communion tray with 33 servings (better to have too much rather than too little), the service was opened with a prayer. Knowing God's promise, *“For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.”*(Matthew 18:20), we didn't ask for the Holy Spirit to be present, He already was. We asked the Spirit of God to help us to prepare our hearts that we each would experience His presents among us.

As Jackie used her talents to offer songs of praise and thanksgiving, we were blessed by a resident who had no voice but wanted to praise God anyway. He blessed us all when he stood next to the piano and signed each praise song and bowed his head and folded his hands with each prayer. Robyn and Bobby not only served the sacraments but also helped those who needed help in partaking of the Lord's Table. Following the example in scripture we sang a hymn and ended with a time of personal fellowship and prayer among the residents. It was also noticed that everyone in the room was served and that number was exactly 33. God in his wisdom provided what was needed, no more, no less and His Spirit made Himself known to all who were there.

What a blessing it is to serve our Father in Heaven.

Our July schedule for July is: **10 and 24 July at 10:30 am for Friday Bible study** and **19 July at 2:00pm. for Worship and Praise.** If God is calling you to serve Him in this or any other ministry, please stand up and step out and follow Him. Jesus said to Peter and Andrew, *“Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men”.* (Matthew 4:19). Let's go fishing!

In His Name,
Bob Gearheart

KID'S STUFF
By Donna Martin
Youth & Children's Director

What a great time I had at VBS with all of you. We learned so much about God's plan. During Team Kids we will continue with the Truth Lab theme for awhile. I hope you can join us at 7:00pm. Currently, we are able to support K-5th grade.

We will not do an outing this month as we have a mission trip to plan and attend. Corey Marshall, Thomas Vance, Todd Vance, Gabrielle Kube, Charlotte Dryden and myself will attend. We leave July 19th after church. This years' theme is Demonstration. We will discuss how we demonstrate God's love and act it out while doing home improvements in the Virginia Beach area. Thanks to an awesome loving and caring congregation that made it possible. Fund-raising eliminated the burden of parents having to pay for the trip. Please pray for us while we are on the mission trip.

God Bless,
Donna

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

There will be a Quarterly Business Meeting on July 19th immediately after church service. A light lunch will be provided. Please bring a dessert if you are able.

WMU

The **WMU** will meet on July 14th at 11:00 am in the church Library.

The **WMU** Project for July will be to take a meal to the volunteers at the Goochland Free Clinic.

We are also continuing to collect greeting cards and note paper, envelopes and stamps for the inmates at the Womens' Prison. Please see Ethel Javins or Barbara Stone for more information.

DEACONS' MEETING

The Deacons will meet on July 13th at 7:00 pm in the church Library.

DEACON OF THE MONTH

GARY TOLLEY

COMMUNION SERVERS

Gary Tolley	Jennifer Napier
Todd Vance	Joanie Collins
*Suzanne Mills	

BELL RINGERS

July 05	Lindsay Roberts
July 12	Elijah Higgs
July 19	Genna Hammack
July 26	Dakota Higgs

NURSERY WORKERS

July 05	Pat Heffinger Tom Heffinger
July 12	May Higgs Gail Cochran
July 19	Joanie Collins Sara Rowe
July 26	Janice Gordon Jean Eyrolles



The Fragrant Rose

I smelled the sweetest fragrance
Coming from the garden bed
But all I saw were weeds and thorns
Faded flowers limp and dead
The roots of bitterness had grown
To such a tremendous size
All around were weeds of hypocrisy
Ungratefulness and pride
But still I smelled the fragrance
Like perfume in the air
Deep inside that garden
I knew a flower must be there
I asked the Lord to show me
As I got down on my knees
Immediately we went to work
Removing weeds, thorns, and debris
There stood in the garden
No longer hidden from one's view
A beautiful precious lovely rose
All covered with beads of dew
Jesus, the Rose of Sharon
Whispered so serene
If others are to see me
Then your garden must be clean

~ Cheryl A. Mariano ~

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July 2015

Dover Baptist Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 9:00 AM Prayer Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service & Communion Service	6	7	8 6:00 PM Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 6:30 PM Youth & Children's Choir 7:00 PM Adult Choir & Team Kids	9	10 10:30 AM Lexington Court Bible Study	11
12 9:00 AM Prayer Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service	13 7:00 PM Deacons' Meeting	14 11:00 AM WMU Meeting	15 6:00 PM Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 6:30 PM Youth & Children's Choir 7:00 PM Adult Choir & Team Kids	16	17	18
19 9:00 AM Prayer Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service Luncheon 2:30 PM Nursing Home Ministry	20	21	22 6:00 PM Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 6:30 PM Youth & Children's Choir 7:00 PM Adult Choir & Team Kids	23	24 10:30 AM Lexington Court Bible Study	25
Y O U T H M I S S I O N T R I P						
26 9:00 AM Prayer Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service	27	28	29 6:00 PM Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 6:30 PM Youth & Children's Choir 7:00 PM Adult Choir & Team Kids	30	31	



Dover Baptist Church

2015 Daily Bible Reading Plan



[] July 1	[] July 6	[] July 11	[] July 16	[] July 21	[] July 26	[] July 31
• Joshua 3	• Joshua 8	• Joshua 14-15	• Joshua 23	• Joshua 24	• Joshua 28	• Joshua 31
• Psalms 126-128	• Psalms 139	• Psalms 146-147	• Acts 3	• Acts 4	• Acts 9	• Acts 13
• Isaiah 63	• Jeremiah 2	• Jeremiah 7	• Jeremiah 12	• Jeremiah 13	• Jeremiah 18	• Jeremiah 26
• Matthew 11	• Matthew 16	• Matthew 21	• Matthew 26	• Matthew 27	• Mark 4	• Mark 12
[] July 2	[] July 7	[] July 12	[] July 17	[] July 22	[] July 27	[] July 30
• Joshua 4	• Joshua 9	• Joshua 16-17	• Joshua 17	• Judges 5	• Judges 6	• Judges 13
• Psalms 129-131	• Psalms 140-141	• Psalms 148	• Acts 4	• Judges 7	• Acts 6	• Acts 17
• Isaiah 64	• Jeremiah 3	• Jeremiah 8	• Jeremiah 13	• Acts 10	• Acts 12	• Acts 18
• Matthew 12	• Matthew 17	• Matthew 22	• Matthew 27	• Jeremiah 19	• Jeremiah 21	• Jeremiah 27
[] July 3	[] July 8	[] July 13	[] July 18	[] July 23	[] July 28	[] July 31
• Joshua 5:1-6:5	• Joshua 10	• Joshua 18-19	• Judges 1	• Judges 7	• Judges 13	• Judges 14
• Psalms 132-134	• Psalms 142-143	• Psalms 149-150	• Acts 5	• Acts 11	• Acts 17	• Acts 18
• Isaiah 65	• Jeremiah 4	• Jeremiah 9	• Jeremiah 14	• Jeremiah 20	• Jeremiah 26	• Jeremiah 27
• Matthew 13	• Matthew 18	• Matthew 23	• Matthew 28	• Mark 6	• Mark 7	• Mark 13
[] July 4	[] July 9	[] July 14	[] July 19	[] July 24	[] July 29	[] July 31
• Joshua 6:6-27	• Joshua 11	• Joshua 20-21	• Judges 2	• Judges 7	• Judges 12	• Judges 14
• Psalms 135-136	• Psalms 144	• Acts 1	• Acts 6	• Acts 11	• Acts 16	• Acts 18
• Isaiah 66	• Jeremiah 5	• Jeremiah 10	• Jeremiah 15	• Jeremiah 21	• Jeremiah 25	• Jeremiah 27
• Matthew 14	• Matthew 19	• Matthew 24	• Mark 1	• Mark 7	• Mark 11	• Mark 13
[] July 5	[] July 10	[] July 15	[] July 20	[] July 25	[] July 30	[] July 31
• Joshua 7	• Joshua 12-13	• Joshua 22	• Judges 3	• Judges 8	• Judges 13	• Judges 14
• Psalms 137-138	• Psalms 145	• Acts 2	• Acts 7	• Acts 12	• Acts 17	• Acts 18
• Jeremiah 1	• Jeremiah 6	• Jeremiah 11	• Jeremiah 16	• Jeremiah 21	• Jeremiah 26	• Jeremiah 27
• Matthew 15	• Matthew 20	• Matthew 25	• Mark 2	• Mark 7	• Mark 12	• Mark 13
[] July 6	[] July 11	[] July 16	[] July 21	[] July 26	[] July 31	[] July 31
• Joshua 8	• Joshua 14	• Joshua 20-21	• Judges 3	• Judges 8	• Judges 13	• Judges 14
• Psalms 139	• Psalms 148	• Psalms 149-150	• Acts 7	• Acts 12	• Acts 17	• Acts 18
• Jeremiah 1	• Jeremiah 6	• Jeremiah 11	• Jeremiah 16	• Jeremiah 21	• Jeremiah 26	• Jeremiah 27
• Matthew 16	• Matthew 21	• Matthew 25	• Mark 2	• Mark 7	• Mark 12	• Mark 13
[] July 7	[] July 12	[] July 17	[] July 22	[] July 27	[] July 31	[] July 31
• Joshua 9	• Joshua 15	• Joshua 21	• Judges 3	• Judges 8	• Judges 13	• Judges 14
• Psalms 140-141	• Psalms 149-150	• Acts 1	• Acts 7	• Acts 12	• Acts 17	• Acts 18
• Jeremiah 2	• Jeremiah 7	• Jeremiah 12	• Jeremiah 16	• Jeremiah 21	• Jeremiah 26	• Jeremiah 27
• Matthew 17	• Matthew 22	• Matthew 25	• Mark 2	• Mark 7	• Mark 12	• Mark 13
[] July 8	[] July 13	[] July 18	[] July 23	[] July 28	[] July 31	[] July 31
• Joshua 10	• Joshua 16-17	• Joshua 22	• Judges 3	• Judges 8	• Judges 13	• Judges 14
• Psalms 142-143	• Psalms 148	• Acts 1	• Acts 7	• Acts 12	• Acts 17	• Acts 18
• Jeremiah 4	• Jeremiah 9	• Jeremiah 14	• Jeremiah 16	• Jeremiah 21	• Jeremiah 26	• Jeremiah 27
• Matthew 18	• Matthew 23	• Matthew 25	• Mark 2	• Mark 7	• Mark 12	• Mark 13
[] July 9	[] July 14	[] July 19	[] July 24	[] July 29	[] July 31	[] July 31
• Joshua 11	• Joshua 17	• Joshua 23	• Judges 3	• Judges 8	• Judges 13	• Judges 14
• Psalms 144	• Psalms 153	• Acts 1	• Acts 7	• Acts 12	• Acts 17	• Acts 18
• Jeremiah 5	• Jeremiah 10	• Jeremiah 15	• Jeremiah 16	• Jeremiah 21	• Jeremiah 26	• Jeremiah 27
• Matthew 19	• Matthew 24	• Matthew 25	• Mark 2	• Mark 7	• Mark 12	• Mark 13
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• Psalms 145	• Psalms 154	• Acts 1	• Acts 7	• Acts 12	• Acts 17	• Acts 18
• Jeremiah 6	• Jeremiah 11	• Jeremiah 16	• Jeremiah 16	• Jeremiah 21	• Jeremiah 26	• Jeremiah 27
• Matthew 20	• Matthew 25	• Mark 2	• Mark 2	• Mark 7	• Mark 12	• Mark 13

Suggested daily prayer from 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and Hebrews 4:12 ... Dear LORD, Help us to understand. Help us to understand that all Scripture is "GOD-breathed" and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that YOUR people may be complete, equipped for every good work. For YOUR word is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.