

Kentucky *Caller*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

KENTUCKY ROAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

JULY 2026

Freedom. It is a fascinating topic as we celebrate America's 250th anniversary. Why are we a country? We experienced taxation without representation as one of the defining factors of why Americans rose up against Great Britain. The irony is that the amount of taxes that were in question would be around 1-1.5% of their income. Now, granted, there were other taxes on items, and also the lack of representation in Parliament for the colonies.

That being said, do we pay more than the colonists did in taxes??? Yeah. It's a bit more. I think if Thomas Jefferson or Benjamin Franklin could see America now, there are some things that would amaze them and some things that would drive them crazy. Any and all nations change over the years, and often freedoms tend to shrink with time. Yet we are one of the freest countries in the world, still today. We can mostly say what we want and do quite a bit of what we want to do. But even in a "free" society, there are rules and expectations in order to give everyone the same freedoms. Why do we have these freedoms? Because people died in order to defend and protect those freedoms from outside aggressors.

That being said, we have freedom in and through Jesus because He gave up His life to provide freedom. But this was no normal freedom. It was freedom from being enslaved to sin. The irony of that is that sin feels freeing, just do whatever you want! But in truth, what does sin actually lead to? Suffering, pain, heartbreak, and eventually death and torment.

Take John 8 for example:

John 8:31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. **32** Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." **33** They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" **34** Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. **35** Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. **36** So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Or Romans 8:

Romans 8:1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, **2** because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. **3** For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, **4** in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

It is important to note that freedom does not always mean that you are free to do anything and everything. It often means that you have more freedom to make life decisions. Freedom in Jesus means that you are not tied down to what sin and death would take you to. The freedom in Christ is the freedom that you find in and through the fruits of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-control. It is still that there are expectations inside of the Lord's freedom, but it is freedom that comes from a good that impacts everyone for the better who follows it.

Are you free in Christ from sin and death, or still locked into a path that feels more "freeing" but will destroy you? Does freedom in Christ mean we can just do whatever we want? Well, if we study Scripture, there are still rules that apply to Christians today. Should we murder? Scripture tells us no, but Jesus even says that if you are angry with someone... You are guilty. That doesn't sound very freeing, does it? What it means, though, is that the world would be kinder, more open, and calmer, and therefore more able to experience freedom if everyone treated each other with dignity, love, respect, and truth.

I hope that, as we celebrate America's 250th year of freedom, we do not forget the freedom we have in Christ ever since almost 2,000 years ago!

Offering

June 2026

Offering YTD - \$98,332.05

Budget Needs YTD - \$113,688

Attendance

6/07	6/14	6/21	6/28
101	143	120	115

Upcoming Events

July:

7/03—Red, White, + Blueberry Pie (4pm); Bring a pie or ice cream to share!

7/06—Willing Workers; Join the ladies to work on quilts for those in need.

7/12-7/18—Passion Camp for 6th-12th grad students. Pray for them and their trip!

7/16—Oldies but Goodies; The older part of our church gathers for a meal and fellowship here at the church at noon. Join them for a great time of fellowship and caring for one another.

7/18—Men's Breakfast (8am); Breakfast and fellowship? Absolutely!

7/25-8/02—VBS prep; Getting things set up for VBS

August:

8/03-8/07—VBS; K-6th grades here at the church to have a blast and learn about Jesus and the saving grace found in Him. Please join us to help kids know Jesus more! See Serena Paragas for more information.

8/15—Men's Breakfast (8am); Breakfast and fellowship? Absolutely!

8/20—Oldies but Goodies (12pm)

8/30—Fall Kickoff + 5th Sunday Fellowship; We start up our fall schedule of Wednesday night services.

Happy
Birthday!

7/02 Robin Hall

7/05 Phil Niekamp

7/08 Ron Salmons

7/10 Tiffannie Nitcher

7/13 Matt Van Schyndel

7/15 Ashley Barnett

7/16 Frances Mantle

7/16 Taylor Gutermuth

7/19 Mike Nichols

7/20 Ryan Gish

7/23 Travis Shramek

7/25 Bob Phipps

7/28 Kevin Barnett

7/29 Betty Ball

7/31 Aaron Hull

Happy
Anniversary

7/11 Tiffannie & Bobby Nitcher

7/26 Gary & Erma Wrye