

## America the Beautiful

Liberal media, courts, politicians, celebrities, and so forth, are increasingly turning America the Beautiful into America the Bad. What God has described as unlawful abominations, "abortion/homosexuality" (Prov. 6:16-17; Lev. 18:22), our insolent nation has redefined as legal and acceptable. All across the fruited plain, from sea to shining sea, decency and morality are steadily eroding away. Through educational policies (Bible/prayer banning), God is fading away. Because of prosperity and Bible ignorance, the acceptance of absolute truth, is vanishing away (John 1:17; 14:6; 17:17; Eph. 4:21). And consequently, hope as God would have it, is drifting away (1 Pet. 1:3-4; Heb. 6:18-20).

America, America, God shed his grace on thee!!! Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Shall we continue to do evil that good may come? God forbid!!! (Rom. 3:8; 6:1-2). God crowned thy good with brotherhood, for we are all His offspring (Acts 17:26-28). "Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves" (Ps. 100:3) Let us return to our Maker. Let us return to His Mandates. "Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people" (Prov. 14:34; Ps. 119:172; 2 Tim. 3:16; Rom. 5:21; 1 John 3:7).

Let us extol the beauty of heaven's precepts all across our spacious skies and emulate them in our lives!! "And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it" (Ps. 90:17). "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord..." (Ps. 33:12).

- Richard Stevens III, Hawn Freeway Church of Christ, Dallas, TX (*Bulletin Digest*) -

### In God We Trust

In God we trust - a rustic phrase was coined in our colonial days.  
But now it has become passe'; just empty words to nobly say.  
The founding fathers had a plan; freedom, respect for every man;  
And under God, a right to stand as builders of a growing land.

Too soon we grew to be too great, our trust in God did soon abate.  
Too quick to greed, to lust and hate; too slow to love, appreciate.  
Babylon made the same mistake, she chose the road of sin to take.  
And if the same mistake we make, we too will ultimately break.

The Romans and Egyptians too did lust and greed and war pursue.  
Their epitaphs are nothing new; an object lesson we might view.  
Our God is great and good and just. 'Twas He who raised us from the dust.  
Return to Him! Return we must! And really say, "In God we trust."

- James E. Donelson -

"... our liberty springs from and depends upon an abiding faith in God."

- Ronald Reagan, 40th President of the United States -

### News & Notes

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:** Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m., and Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. The Covid-19 restrictions apply (masks & distancing).

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To Jeremy & Karen Main on the birth of a daughter.

**PANTRY:** Potato chips, pretzels, popcorn.

**CONTINUE TO SEND CARDS:** Cheryl Renfro Walker, 229 Belgium Lane, Chester, WV 26034. Josh Morrison, 428 Burnside Rd., Canonsburg, PA 15317.

**REQUEST FOR PRAYERS:** For Katelyn Gorby (niece of Iris Durbin). Katelyn has serious health problems.

**SICK & SHUT-IN: AT HOME:** Tim Martin, Beulah Walker, Marilyn Miller, Barb DeLong, David McCoy, Marlene Evans, Russell Martin, Emma Rine, Alex Harless, Rick Beck. **CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE:** Sarah Miller (Room 6). **VALLEY OAKS CARE CENTER:** Fred Larrimore (Room 210). **IN TENNESSEE:** Steve Higginbotham. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

### Picture Gallery Of Past Members

A picture gallery of past members of the Chester church is being established and placed in the glass-doored cabinets in the basement. Photographs of previous members are being collected and displayed. Black and white or colored, framed photographs will be displayed with names and dates of your family members or friend of this congregation.

The purpose is to link those who previously worked in the church with current members and establish a visual history of the church at Chester. Give your pictures to David Malcomson.



On July 2, 1776, the Continental Congress approved the wording for the Declaration of Independence. On July 4, 1776, delegates of the Continental Congress voted to accept it. Congress ordered it engraved in script on parchment and on August 2, 1776, the members of Congress signed the parchment copy.

We often forget that, in declaring independence from an earthly power, our forefathers made a forthright declaration of dependence upon Almighty God. The closing words of this document solemnly declare: "With a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

- Sources: America's God and Country Encyclopedia of Quotations, William J. Federer; and The Rebirth of America, The Arthur S. DeMoss Foundation. -

### On this ...

day of devotion to country, **let us first be devoted to God.**

day of awesome fireworks, **let us see the awesomeness of creation.**

day of celebrating political freedom, **let us understand freedom from sin.**

day as we remember the Declaration that began our country's destiny, **let us make our own declaration of eternal destiny.**

day of patriotism, **let us practice holiness.**

day of picnics, **let us hunger and thirst for righteousness.**

day of flag-waving, **let us hold up the cross.**

day of sparklers. **let our light shine.**

special day for Americans, **let us be Christians.**

- Gary Greene, Midtown Church of Christ, Victoria, TX -